



NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday 6 December 2017

Time: 2.00 pm

Place: Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham,
NG2 3NG

Councillors are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business

Corporate Director for Strategy and Resources

Senior Governance Officer: Laura Wilson **Direct Dial:** 0115 8764301

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**
- 3 MINUTES** 3 - 8
To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2017
- 4 DISCUSSION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR LEISURE AND CULTURE** 9 - 10
Report of the Head of Legal and Governance
- 5 COMMERCIALISM** 11 - 12
Report of the Head of Legal and Governance
- 6 FLY-TIPPING IN NOTTINGHAM** 13 - 18
Report of the Head of Legal and Governance
- 7 WORK PROGRAMME** 19 - 22
Report of the Head of Legal and Governance
- 8 JANUARY 2018 MEETING DATE**
To agree to change the date of the next meeting from 3 January 2018 to 10 January 2018

IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING

CITIZENS ATTENDING MEETINGS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE MEETING TO BE ISSUED WITH VISITOR BADGES

CITIZENS ARE ADVISED THAT THIS MEETING MAY BE RECORDED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. ANY RECORDING OR REPORTING ON THIS MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S POLICY ON RECORDING AND REPORTING ON PUBLIC MEETINGS, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.NOTTINGHAMCITY.GOV.UK. INDIVIDUALS INTENDING TO RECORD THE MEETING ARE ASKED TO NOTIFY THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE IN ADVANCE.

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 8 November 2017 from 2.02 pm - 4.18 pm

Membership

Present

Councillor Brian Parbutt (Chair)
Councillor Anne Peach (Vice Chair)
Councillor Azad Choudhry
Councillor Josh Cook
Councillor Georgina Culley
Councillor Mohammed Ibrahim
Councillor Patience Uloma Ifediora
Councillor Gul Nawaz Khan
Councillor Jackie Morris

Absent

Councillor Sue Johnson
Councillor Ginny Klein
Councillor Carole McCulloch
Councillor Mohammed Saghir
Councillor Marcia Watson

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Councillor Sam Webster – Portfolio Holder for Business, Education and Skills
Councillor Leslie Ayoola – Executive Assistant for Business and Employment

Robert Dixon – Head of Business Growth and International Strategy
Titu Hayre-Bennett – Head of Transformation
Alvin Henry – Head of Waste Services
John Marsh – Head of Street Scene and Grounds Maintenance
Noel McMenamin – Governance Officer
Steve Stott – Anti-Social Behaviour Manager
Laura Wilson – Senior Governance Officer

27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Sue Johnson – other Council business
Councillor Ginny Klein – personal
Councillor Marcia Watson – work commitments

28 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

29 MINUTES

Subject to recording Councillor Woodings' attendance, the minute of the meeting held on 6 September 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and they were signed by the Chair.

30 DISCUSSION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR BUSINESS, EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Councillor Sam Webster, Portfolio Holder for Business, Education and Skills, updated the Committee on the priorities and challenges in respect of the business and skills elements of his portfolio. Councillor Leslie Ayoola, Executive Assistant for Business and Employment, and Robert Dixon, Head of Business Growth and International Strategy, were also in attendance.

Councillor Webster highlighted the following:

- (a) Nottingham has been able to offer all 18-24 year olds a job, training place or Further Education place. Over 950 young people have received targeted support, and European Social Fund has been secured to provide the service until December 2019;
- (b) Creative Quarter and Growth Hub support has helped Nottingham establish itself as a hotbed for fast-growing businesses, and there was lots of activity in respect of creating additional creative, digital and clean technology hubs at no.2 Science Park and Basford Hall;
- (c) while Nottingham's rate of new business VAT registration needed improving, new business survival rates were higher than in 6 of the other 7 Core Cities;
- (d) progress continued to be made with establishing the Nottingham Skills Campus, with a final delivery date of the summer of 2020;
- (e) while there has been an improvement, Nottingham continues to have the lowest rate of graduate retention among Core Cities, and with Good to Great funding ending in March 2017, the target of 2,400 by 2020 will be difficult to achieve.

During discussion, the following points were raised:

- (f) a lot of developmental activity currently relies on European funding streams, and Councillor Webster expressed concern about where alternative funding might come in the longer term;
- (g) Councillor Webster acknowledged the need for greater local recruitment to Nottingham's universities in order to boost graduate retention rates. Only 17% of those receiving free school meals went on to University, and widening local participation was key to delivering better graduate retention rates;
- (h) it was confirmed that the Creative Quarter has historically been defined geographically to tie in with funding requirements, but as existing funding arrangements ended other creative business hubs, such as that on Derby Road, could become incorporated into the Quarter;
- (i) the next bidding round will focus on engaging with hard-to-reach groups, including emerging communities. With the roll-out of Universal Credit, it will be become more difficult to gauge the effectiveness of engagement over time;

- (j) the Committee was reassured that investment by the Local Government Pension Scheme in the Midlands Engine's Local Investment Fund represented a very small and closely regulated proportion of the overall pensions pot;
- (k) Councillor Webster advised that Nottingham Futures has a walk-in centre on Maid Marian Way, offering a range of help to support those of working age in getting into employment, including help with transport costs and interview skills.

RESOLVED to thank Councillor Webster for the information provided.

31 FLY-TIPPING IN NOTTINGHAM

John Marsh, Head of Street Scene and Grounds Maintenance, Alvin Henry, Head of Waste Services and Steve Stott, Anti-Social Behaviour Manager, attended the meeting to provide evidence and answer councillors' questions on combatting fly-tipping in Nottingham. The committee had received previous information at its September 2017 meeting – minute 25 dated 6 September 2017 refers.

Mr Marsh, Mr Henry and Mr Stott provided the following information:

- (a) in response to previous requests for costings information, it was estimated that waste management cost £28 per household, Street Scene services cost £38 per household. The average cost of fly-tipping clear-up was estimated at £56, but there was a wide variation, depending on the size and materials involved;
- (b) Nottingham had an additional 4,500 households in the period 2011-16, and delivered better-value service on a cost-per-head basis than any other Core City, despite a reduction in capacity;
- (c) the only difference between litter and fly-tipping was the scale of material involved. Overall, there has been a downward trend in recent years, with a temporary increase each summer. A relatively recent increase in bulky waste fly-tipping appears to have coincided with the linking of the free bulky waste disposal service to being on the electoral register;
- (d) during the Council's Keep it Clean campaign earlier this year, there was a 4% drop in fly-tipping incidents. The team managed to clear 94% of reported fly-tipping incidents within 48 hours of being reported, which was just below the 95% target;
- (e) work was ongoing to reduce bin contamination, with a focus on student areas at this time of year.

The following points were made during discussion:

- (f) it was confirmed that fly-tipping hotspots did not feature on NOMAD, but were mapped from jobs recorded. Those wards with higher incidents of fly-tipping, including Arboretum, Berridge, Radford and St Ann's, often had a more transient population;

- (g) on enforcement, the choice between considering an issue to be littering or fly-tipping could be made on an individual basis. Littering could be prosecuted quickly, but where the incident significant, enforcement colleagues would press for a full prosecution;
- (h) fly-tipping was by definition a crime of stealth, and often the material was not easily identifiable as belonging to an individual. Enforcement colleagues could not rely on hearsay – prosecutions went to Court, where those giving evidence would be open to cross-examination;
- (i) it was confirmed that private sector landlords had been charged where student material had been identifiable to a particular property. It was also stated that landlord behaviour was improving, with more and more using skips and other appropriate means of getting rid of bulky waste:
- (j) the Team also passed intelligence on to the Licensing Team where it was suspected that houses were in multiple occupation on an informal basis;
- (k) it was confirmed that there were 250 volunteer litter champions across the city.

RESOLVED to thank Mr Marsh, Mr Henry and Mr Stott for their attendance at the meeting.

32 CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE

Titu Hayre-Bennett, Head of Transformation, gave a presentation on the City Council's response to the Corporate Peer Challenge findings arising from the 3-day challenge event in May 2017. Ms Hayre-Bennett highlighted the following points:

- (a) the Corporate Peer challenge examined the Council's approach to priority setting, leadership of place, financial planning, capacity, leadership and governance, performance management, systems, processes Citizens at the Heart and the Council's transformation journey;
- (b) key positive messages emerging from the Challenge included recognition that it is a good, innovative effective Council with a talented 'can do' loyal workforce, the permeation of Citizens at the Heart throughout the organisation, strong and consistent leadership and positive councillor/colleague relations;
- (c) less positive observations included a tendency to create an unsustainable over-dependency culture among its citizens by trying to directly deliver solutions, and needing to tackle the future in innovative ways;
- (d) the Peer Team made a number of recommendations, focussing on enhancing the role of the Council in Nottingham, revising long-term planning arrangements revising governance arrangements;

- (e) in response, the Council was working with a range of partners on delivering a suite of strategies and programmes, including the Metro Strategy, the City of Culture 2023 bid, an emerging Digital Strategy and Agile Working Programme;
- (f) steps were also being taken to de-risk and provide longer-term financial planning, maximise income and procurement opportunities, develop statutory performance indicators and a revision of the existing Scheme of Delegation

The Committee commended the overall positive outcomes, and raised the following issues during discussion:

- (g) Ms Hayre-Bennett advised that with graduate retention, the local economy had capacity to support first and second jobs and positions, but that senior positions were at a premium, making senior retention more difficult;
- (h) in response to a question on the Metro strategy, Ms Hayre-Bennett said that Derby and Nottingham can each be centres of excellence within their areas of expertise, providing skill-sharing opportunities for both councils. She did acknowledge that successful devolution remained a significant and ongoing challenge;
- (i) the Committee signalled its willingness to be involved with any action plans being drawn up to address the Peer Team's recommendations.

RESOLVED to thank Ms Hayre-Bennett for her update.

33 WORK PROGRAMME

Laura Wilson, Senior Governance Officer, introduced a report setting out the Committee's work programme for 2017/18.

RESOLVED to note the report.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 DECEMBER 2017
DISCUSSION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR LEISURE AND CULTURE
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To hear from the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture on his red and amber Council Plan priorities, and budget challenges.

2 Action required

- 2.1 To use the information received at the meeting from Councillor Dave Trimble, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture, to inform questioning and identify potential areas for future scrutiny.

3 Background information

- 3.1 On 9 November 2015, the Council Plan was formally approved by full Council, and guides the Council's services and approach to support the delivery of its key priorities for the city until 2019.
- 3.2 The Council Plan 2015-19 identifies the following for Councillor Dave Trimble:
- aims over the 4 years covered by the Plan:
 - help families get on in life by providing a good range of leisure activities, free and cheap events and excellent public services, as well as creating a development plan for the new Central Library;
 - attract more visitors to the city, for example by investing in making Nottingham Castle a world-class visitor attraction;
 - provide more opportunities for participation and excellence in disability sport;
 - the key things that will be done are:
 - rejuvenate Nottingham Castle Quarter as a major national heritage attraction;
 - make Nottingham the fastest growing city for disability sports participation in England;
 - work with local people to deliver more Green Flag Award winning parks and open spaces than any other council in the country.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 None.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Council Plan 2015-19.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

8.1 Laura Wilson
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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 DECEMBER 2017
COMMERCIALISM
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review the effectiveness of the commercialism agenda in generating income to support the Council's budget.

2 Action required

- 2.1 To consider the information provided at the meeting and make recommendations, where appropriate.

3 Background information

- 3.1 At its meeting in April 2017, the Committee decided to look at the effectiveness of the commercialism agenda in generating income to support the Council's budget.
- 3.2 Government grant funding for council services in Nottingham has been cut by £82m over the last four years. Government Revenue Support Grant for Nottingham City Council has reduced from £126 million in 2013/14 to £44 million in 2017/18.
- 3.3 Commercialism for the Council is about everyone taking a business-like approach to the services the Council delivers, and challenging and changing the way things work to become more efficient to meet citizen's needs with the reducing grant funding.
- 3.4 The Council has already embedded a commercial approach to many of its services, and colleagues from the Business Development and Commercial Innovation Team will be in attendance at the meeting to outline the current work being undertaken, the future work planned, and how this is supporting the Council's budget to ensure that citizens need can still be met.
- 3.5 The Committee will need to use the information provided at the meeting to decide whether any recommendations should be made.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 None.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 None.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

8.1 Laura Wilson
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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 DECEMBER 2017
FLY-TIPPING IN NOTTINGHAM
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To conclude the review of how the Council's waste services work together to combat fly-tipping in Nottingham.

2 Action required

- 2.1 To agree the recommendations in the attached report.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The Committee carried out a review of how the Council's waste services work together to combat fly-tipping in the city at its meetings on 6 September and 8 November 2017.
- 3.2 The summary report attached details the outcome of the review.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Outcome of the fly-tipping in Nottingham review.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Fly-tipping in Nottingham - Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports and minutes - 6 September and 8 November 2017.

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All.

8 Contact information

- 8.1 Laura Wilson
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Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Review of Fly-Tipping in Nottingham

6 September and 8 November 2017

Outcome Report

Background

At its meeting in April 2017, when the Committee was discussing its work programme for the 2017/18 municipal year, many of the councillors on the Committee found that fly-tipping and waste management appeared to be a common theme in all of the wards they represent.

The Committee took the decision to review the effectiveness of Council services working together to combat fly-tipping, manage waste, and deal with enforcement action.

Evidence gathering

The Committee has based its findings and recommendations on desk-top research, background information and presentations made at the meetings held on 6 September and 8 November 2017, by the following contributors:

Richard Antcliff	- Chief Licensing, Trading Standards and Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
Alvin Henry	- Head of Waste Services
John Marsh	- Head of Street Scene and Grounds Maintenance
Steve Stott	- Anti-Social Behaviour Manager
Tamazin Wilson	- Solicitor

Key findings

1 Fly-tipping

- 1.1 The Council collects around 8,000 tonnes of fly-tipping and street waste each year.
- 1.2 The Council has a target to collect 95% of fly-tipped waste within 48 hours of when it is reported. The team cleared 94% of reported fly-tipping incidents within this target in 2016/17.
- 1.3 The number of fly-tips has reduced annually, which may be down to improved knowledge of citizens on the subject or the free bulky waste collection that the Council offers.

- 1.4 The Council's recent Keep it Clean campaign seen a 4% drop in fly-tipping,
- 1.5 The majority of fly-tips reported are small scale, for example a single black bag or a single fridge. However, some can be on a much larger scale and require considerable Council resources.
- 1.6 Nationally the levels of fly-tipping are increasing. In Nottingham the levels are high but reducing. Fly-tipping hotspots are not featured on NOMAD, but are mapped from jobs recorded, and the majority of fly-tips are found in the inner-city areas such as Arboretum, Berridge, Radford and St Ann's where the population is more transient.
- 1.7 There is a temporary increase in fly-tipping each summer.
- 1.8 A relatively recent increase in bulky waste fly-tipping appears to have coincided with the linking of the free bulky waste disposal service to being on the electoral register.

2 Waste Management

- 2.1 The city has around 135,000 households from which it collects 113,192 tonnes of waste a year.
- 2.2 Side waste is excess, unauthorised bags left at the side of the wheelie bin on collection day and, as the Council has no policy on side waste, it collects this with wheelie bins on collection day. However, side waste goes straight to landfill.
- 2.3 The Council runs a free bulky waste collection service which is a weekly kerbside collection. The collections are distributed across 5 collections zones based on ward boundaries. Most other local authorities charge for bulky waste collection.

3 Trade Waste

- 3.1 A Council run programme called Operation Cleansweep takes place once a quarter and is a multi-agency operation targeting unlicensed vehicles transporting trade waste illegally.
- 3.2 The Council collects trade waste outside of the city as a commercial enterprise.

4 Costs

- 4.1 It is estimated that waste management costs £28 per household and Street Scene services cost £38 per household. The average cost of fly-tipping clear-up was estimated at £56, but there is wide variation depending on the size and materials involved.

- 4.2 Nottingham had an additional 4,500 households to collect waste from in the period 2011-16, which is expected to grow by 2,000 per year going forward, and delivered a better-value service on a cost-per-head basis than any other Core City, despite a reduction in capacity.

5 Enforcement

- 5.1 When a fly-tip is reported, Community Protection Officers will photograph it, examine it to check whether the offender can be identified, knock on doors and examine CCTV footage. There must be proof beyond reasonable doubt to prosecute an offender.
- 5.2 There are four routes of prosecution for fly-tipping: warnings, fines, fixed penalty notices or prosecution. Fines are unlimited and fixed penalty notices are set at £300 in Nottingham.
- 5.3 The difference between considering an issue to be littering or fly-tipping is made on an individual basis. Littering is prosecuted quickly, but where the incident is significant, the enforcement team will try to ensure there is full prosecution.
- 5.4 Private sector landlords have been charged where student material has been identifiable to a particular property, although landlord behaviour is improving, with more using skips and other appropriate means of getting rid of bulky waste.
- 5.5 Citizens can be fined if they pay an unlicensed company to remove waste from their premises.

6 Education

- 6.1 Work is ongoing to reduce bin contamination, with a focus on student areas at key times in the year.
- 6.2 There are 250 volunteer litter champions across the city.
- 6.3 There are 3 Waste Advisors that cover the city. They visit citizens when there have been issues with contaminated waste, bins left on the street, etc, to provide the relevant information to ensure that the citizen knows how to use the facilities available to them correctly.

Conclusion

From the evidence provided, the Committee concluded that the services work well together to combat any issues with waste in the city, particularly given the decreasing resources available to them, and that there is very little that could be done differently.

The Committee commends the work of the services, particularly the Waste Advisors and, had resources not been an issue, would have recommended

that the number of Waste Advisors be increased to build on the good work already carried out.

Recommendations

That the Head of Waste Management, and Head of Street Scene and Grounds Maintenance:

- (1) work with Area Committees to discuss individual ward needs/issues in regard to waste management, and ascertain how/if ward budgets could contribute to specific projects within the wards;
- (2) investigate possible ways of data sharing between all relevant services to ensure that issues are reported and dealt with;
- (3) provide a response to the recommendations at the February 2018 meeting of the Committee.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 DECEMBER 2017
WORK PROGRAMME
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

1.1 To consider the Committee's work programme for 2017/18.

2 Action required

2.1 To note the work that is currently planned for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year, and make amendments to the programme as appropriate.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The Committee is responsible for setting and managing its own work programme.
- 3.2 In setting a programme for scrutiny activity, the Committee should aim for an outcome-focussed work programme that has clear priorities and a clear link to its roles and responsibilities. The work programme needs to be flexible so that issues which arise as the year progresses can be considered appropriately.
- 3.3 Where there are a number of potential items that could be scrutinised in a given year, consideration of what represents the highest priority or area of risk will assist with work programme planning. Changes and/or additions to the work programme will need to take account of the resources available to the Committee.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2017/18 Work Programme.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 None.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

- 8.1 Laura Wilson
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DATE	ITEMS
10 January 2018	<p>Discussion with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Heritage To consider an update from the Portfolio Holder on red and amber Council Plan priorities and budget pressures</p> <p>Crime and Policing To review the work of Nottinghamshire Police in combatting the increase in crime in the city</p> <p>Commercialism Agreeing recommendations</p> <p>Work Programme To agree the work programme for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year</p>
7 February 2018	<p>Discussion with the Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration To consider an update from the Portfolio Holder on red and amber Council Plan priorities and budget pressures</p> <p>Discussion with the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services and Local Transport To consider an update from the Portfolio Holder on red and amber Council Plan priorities and budget pressures</p> <p>Air Quality To receive an update on the review the work taking place with partners to develop and implement actions to improve air quality</p> <p>Fly-tipping in Nottingham Response to recommendations</p> <p>Work Programme To agree the work programme for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year</p>
7 March 2018	<p>Work Programme 2018/19 Development To discuss the work programme for 2018/19</p>
4 April 2018	<p>Cycling Strategy in Nottingham To receive an update on the previous review of the Cycling Strategy in Nottingham</p> <p>Traffic Enforcement To receive an update on the previous review of traffic enforcement, especially in the city centre and around schools</p>

	<p>Commercialism Response to recommendations</p> <p>Work Programme To agree the work programme for the 2018/19 municipal year</p>
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