

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

7 April 2021

Update on the Action Plan in response to the Report in the Public Interest on Nottingham City Council's governance arrangements for Robin Hood Energy

Report of the Head of Legal and Governance

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an update on progress being made to implement the action plan created in response to recommendations of the Report in the Public Interest on Nottingham City Council's governance arrangements for Robin Hood Energy (PIR).

2. Action required

- 2.1 To consider the information provided, use it to inform questioning, make recommendations where appropriate, and decide any future issues for scrutiny.

3. Background information

- 3.1 In August 2020 the External Auditor published the report in the public interest relating to the Council's governance arrangements in respect of Robin Hood Energy Ltd, the not-for-profit company set up by the authority to tackle fuel poverty in the city.
- 3.2 The report outlined a number of recommendations for action by the Council including (a) to urgently determine the future of Robin Hood Energy (RHE), with options properly evaluated and risks assessed; (b) review the approach to how councillors are best used and supported on the boards of subsidiary companies; and (c) ensure all board members have the required knowledge and experience to challenge the management of the companies.
- 3.3 The Council accepted the findings of the report and has agreed a comprehensive series of actions to improve governance arrangements at the Council as well as for Robin Hood Energy and other Council companies.
- 3.4 Councillors and colleagues attended Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings in December 2020 and February 2021 to provide information on the review recommendations, the work of the Nottingham City Governance Improvement Board and the action plan developed in response.
- 3.5 Councillor David Mellen, Leader of the Council, will be in attendance at this meeting to present a further update on progress made to date to deliver the action plan and to respond to queries from the Committee.

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 Reports and minutes of the Nottingham City Council meetings held on 27 August 2020, 9 November 2020 and 11 January 2021. Reports and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 9 December 2020 and 3 February 2021.

7. Wards affected

7.1 All

8. Contact information

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