



Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Time and Date

2.00 pm on Wednesday, 20th September, 2017

Place

Committee Room 3 - Council House

Public Business**1. Apologies and Substitutions****2. Declarations of Interest****3. Minutes** (Pages 3 - 8)

(a) To agree the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 September, 2017

(b) To consider any Matters Arising

4. Fire Safety in High Rise Buildings (Pages 9 - 10)

To consider a Briefing Note and presentation.

Representatives from the following organisations have been invited to attend:-

West Midlands Fire Authority
Coventry University
Whitefriars Housing

5. Outstanding Issues

All outstanding issues are included in the Work Programme.

6. Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Work Programme 2017/2018 (Pages 11 - 16)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

7. Any Other Items of Public Business

Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

Private Business

Nil

Martin Yardley, Deputy Chief Executive (Place), Council House Coventry

Tuesday, 12 September 2017

- Notes:1) The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Suzanne Bennett, Democratic Services, Council House, Coventry, telephone 7683 3072, alternatively E-mail: suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk
- 2) Council Members who are not able to attend the meeting should notify Suzanne Bennett no later than 1.00 p.m. on the day of the meeting, giving their reasons for absence and the name of the Council Member (if any) who will be attending the meeting as their substitute.
 - 3) Scrutiny Board Members who have an interest in any report referred to this meeting, but who are not Members of this Committee, have been invited to notify the Chair by 12 noon on the day before the meeting that they wish to speak on a particular item. The Member must indicate to the Chair their reason for wishing to speak and the issue(s) they wish to raise.

Membership: Councillors N Akhtar, A Andrews, R Brown (Chair), J Clifford (Deputy Chair), D Gannon, J McNicholas, M Mutton, G Ridley and R Singh

By invitation:-

Councillors L Bigham, Cabinet Member for Community Development, G Duggins, Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership, C Thomas, Deputy Cabinet Member for Community Development

City Council Representatives on West Midlands Fire Authority and Whitefriars Housing:- Councillors L Harvard, R Lakha, P Male, C Miks, K Taylor, C Thomas, S Walsh

Please note: a hearing loop is available in the committee rooms

If you require a British Sign Language interpreter for this meeting
OR if you would like this information in another format or
language please contact us.

Suzanne Bennett Governance Services - Telephone: 024 7683 3072
E-mail: suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee held at 10.00 am on
Wednesday, 6 September 2017

Present:

Members: Councillor R Brown (Chair)
 Councillor N Akhtar
 Councillor J Clifford (Deputy Chair)
 Councillor J McNicholas
 Councillor M Mutton
 Councillor G Ridley
 Councillor R Singh
 Councillor K Taylor

Other Members: Councillors G Duggins, J O'Boyle and D Welsh

Employees (by Directorate):

V Castree, Place Directorate
D Cockroft, Place Directorate
N Hart, People Directorate
L Knight, Place Directorate

Apologies: Councillor A Andrews and D Gannon

Public Business

10. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Mal Mutton and McNicholas declared interests in Minute 12 below headed 'City Centre Redevelopment including Friargate, City Centre South, Station Master Plan, Leisure Centre and 50m Pool' in so far as the discussion related to the Canal Basin. They remained in the meeting during the consideration of this item.

11. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th July, 2017 were signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

12. City Centre Redevelopment including Friargate, City Centre South, Station Master Plan, Leisure Centre and 50m Pool

The Committee received a presentation and briefing note on Friargate and other City Centre developments including City Centre South, the Station Master Plan and the new leisure centre. The presentation also featured the new 50m pool. Councillor Duggins, Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership and Councillors O'Boyle and Welsh, Cabinet Member and Deputy Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration attended the meeting for the consideration of this item.

The presentation set out the importance of regeneration and the redevelopment of the city centre which would create rates income, attract increased investment, attract new jobs, attract and retain skills and attract new visitors and customers as well as increasing the attractiveness of Coventry as a destination. Detailed information was provided on the financial implications of the regeneration which involved a total spend of £276m with additional funding from the private sector.

The station masterplan involved a new station building to complement the existing listed building with 5 retail units in this new building. There would be a 640 space multi-storey car park and a new bus interchange on the Central 6 side of Warwick Road. Work had started on site in March 2016 to construct the pedestrian link under Warwick Road.

Attention was drawn to the potential 14 office space buildings for the Friargate development with shops, restaurants and bars. There was space for 2 hotels, up to 400 new homes, vastly improved public space and 15,000 new jobs once complete. Business rates income was estimated at £23m. Further information was provided on the first completed Friargate building and the plans for the second building.

The presentation provided an overview of the City Centre South development which along with the retail offer included student and residential accommodation and a 5 screen cinema. A timeline for the development was provided. To date the public sector funding had been confirmed and terms were being agreed for the anchor store. Completion of the development was anticipated for October 2022.

Contractors were currently on site for the new leisure attraction in New Union Street, demolition works had been completed and the opening of the new facility was anticipated for 2019. Additional information was provided on the new 50m swimming pool at the Alan Higgs Centre. The timeline for the new pool was set out which indicated an opening date of May 2019.

Reference was made to other developments in the City Centre including the student housing scheme, residential apartments and an extension to the Premier Inn at the Belgrade Plaza; a further five restaurants in phase 2 of the redevelopment of Cathedral Lanes, new student units at Bishopsgate and Millenium View; and the redevelopment of the former Co-op building.

Members raised a number of issues in response to the presentation and responses were provided, matters raised included:

- The importance of growing and developing the City Centre to increase Business Rates to fund services in the future and the current uncertainty around the final detail of this due to it's omission from the Queen's speech.
- The amount of purpose built accommodation being built in the City Centre and opportunities to increase revenue to the Council from these blocks, the rate of university growth and whether family homes were being freed up in residential areas – the Committee were informed that this was to be an agenda item for a future Committee meeting later in the municipal year and had been included on the Committee's work programme
- The benefit to the City of student spend power, particularly in improving the City's retail and leisure offer

- The timescales for the opening of the City Centre Destination Leisure Facility and new 50m pool and the closure of the facilities at Fairfax Street
- Potential implications for the city of a new water park at the Belfry
- Further redevelopment of Cathedral Lanes and the improved street scene between it and Salt Lane Car Park
- The Cooperative building and plans to break the market with high-end apartments
- Concerns that Historic England may list further parts of the City Centre significantly altering some of the redevelopment plans, reference being made to what happened to the Round Cafe
- Why the Canal Basin was not included in the presentation as it had still not fulfilled it's potential with current businesses looking to relocate elsewhere
- Whether there was sufficient capacity within the organisation to support all these projects and ensure that negotiations with developers were of a high quality and would take place in a timely way
- Whether Coventry was being sufficiently marketed as a great place to base a business
- Opportunities for future developments using WMCA money
- Details about the risk registers for these new developments
- The suggestion that the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) be asked to look at options to develop the Canal Basin and improve access, as this project was not referred to during the presentation.

RESOLVED that:

(1) The content of the presentation be noted.

(2) Cabinet be requested to take the opportunity to explore the options to raise additional finance from student accommodation in the city by:

a) Building on the work being done in Lambeth to look at charging Council Tax at 'student' properties outside of the university term time

b) Working with other University Cities, for example Liverpool, to lobby for a change in legislation so that Student Accommodation Management Companies become liable for Business Rates and Corporation Tax.

(3) The Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership be supported in his approach to address the challenges to the City Centre redevelopment which may arise as a result of any additional buildings in the City Centre being listed by Historic England.

(4) The Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration be requested to review the list of current development projects in the City, along with the relevant timelines to ensure that the City Council has sufficient staff capacity and resource to allow projects to be delivered on time and with high quality outcomes for the city.

(5) The options to develop the Canal Basin, including improved access, be referred to the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) for investigation.

13. **Civic Visit to Dresden 27th to 29th April 2017**

The Committee received a report of Councillor Lindsley Harvard, Lord Mayor in 2016/17, concerning his civic visit to Dresden from 27th to 29th April, 2017. The Lord Mayor was invited to represent the City of Coventry at the re-opening of The Kulturpalast Civic Centre 'Palace of Culture' and the inaugural performance of the Dresden Philamonic Orchestra concert.

RESOLVED that the report of the Lord Mayor's civic visit to Dresden, accompanied by the principal private secretary to the Lord Mayoralty, and the positive outcomes of the visit be endorsed.

14. **Civic Visit to Kiel 16th to 19th June 2017**

The Committee received a report of the Lord Mayor, Councillor Tony Skipper, concerning his civic visit to Kiel from 16th to 19th June and the associated Kieler Woche (Kiel Week) celebrations. Kiel Week was the largest summer festival in northern Europe and the largest sailing sports event in the world, comprising both sailing and cultural events. Attendance provided the opportunity to raise Coventry profile at a European and International level.

RESOLVED that the report of the Lord Mayor's civic visit to Kiel and the associated Kieler Woche (Kiel Week) celebrations be endorsed.

15. **Outstanding Issues**

The Committee noted that all outstanding issues had been dealt with in the Committee's work programme.

16. **Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Work Programme 2017/2018**

The Committee considered their work programme for the current municipal year. The Chair, Councillor Brown, informed of his meeting with Andy Street, West Midlands Mayor on 12th October and of his intention to invite him to attend a future Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee meeting.

RESOLVED that:

(1) The work programme be noted.

(2) Consideration be given to scheduling Selective Licensing for the Private Rented Sector and Student Accommodation and University City Development on the work programme timetable.

(3) The Chair's intention to invite Andy Street, West Midlands Mayor, to a future meeting of the Committee be noted.

17. **Any Other Items of Public Business**

There were no additional items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 11.40 am)

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Coventry City Council

Briefing note

To: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Date: 20th September 2017

Subject: Fire Safety in High-rise Buildings

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To propose recommendations for Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee on the matter of Fire Safety in High-rise Buildings.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee are recommended to:
- 1) Consider the content of the presentation to be delivered at the meeting on the 20th September 2017
 - 2) Identify any recommendations for the appropriate Cabinet Member or partner organisation.

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 Following the tragedy at Grenfell Tower in Kensington and Chelsea, an informal briefing for all Members was provided on 29th June 2017, involving Council officers as well as representatives from West Midlands Fire Service and Whitefriar's Housing.
- 3.2 The Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee requested an item to the Committee as a progress report, involving the organisations represented at the informal briefing as well as a representative from Coventry University who are responsible for several high-rise buildings in the city.

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Agenda Item 6

SCRUCO Work Programme 2017/18

Last updated 12/9/17

Please see page 2 onwards for background to items

14th June 2017 (informal briefings)
Air Quality Community Safety Public Health
12th July 2017
Council Performance Report 2016/17 WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback
6th September 2017
City Centre Redevelopment including Friargate, City Centre South, Station Master Plan, Leisure Centre, 50m Pool Civic Visits to Dresden and Kiel
20th September 2017 <u>PM</u>
Fire Safety in High-Rise Buildings
18th October 2017
WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback Local Policing Emergency Planning and Resilience
22nd November 2017
WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback – verbal update Student Accommodation and University City Development
20th December 2017
Council Plan progress April – September 2017
24th January 2018
WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback – verbal update
28th February 2018
-
28th March 2018
WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback
18th April 2018
-
Date to be determined
Selective Licensing for the Private Rented Sector – consultation outcomes (Priority – awaiting date confirmation) Vulnerable Persons Strategy Air Quality Prevent Strategy Renewal Plan

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
14th June 2017 (informal briefings)	Air Quality		
	Community Safety		
	Public Health		
12th July 2017	Council Performance Report 2016/17	To consider the Council's performance report. To include, as recommended by SCRUCO in 2016/17, simple information on the reduction in funding imposed on the Council and the impact that this has had on performance.	Andy Baker/ Si Chun Lam
	WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback	Council representatives on the WMCA overview and scrutiny committee to feedback on the work of the committee	Cllr Brown Cllr J Mutton
6th September 2017	City Centre Redevelopment including Friargate, City Centre South, Station Master Plan, Leisure Centre, 50m Pool	A report on how several developments are interlinked and how they will support the regeneration of the city. Meeting to take place at Eaton House and a visit to Friargate.	David Cockroft David Nuttall Cllr O Boyle Cllr Welsh Cllr Duggins
	Civic Visits to Dresden and Kiel	Reports from the Lord Mayor on recent visits to Dresden and Kiel	No officers required
20th September 2017 <u>PM</u>	Fire Safety in High-Rise Buildings	To discuss with the Fire Service and Whitefriars, Coventry University to consider fire prevention and safety for high-rise buildings	Andrew Walster Cllr Duggins WMFS Whitefriars Coventry University Council rep on outside bodies
18th October 2017	WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback	Council representatives on the WMCA overview and scrutiny committee to feedback on the work of the committee	Cllr Brown Cllr J Mutton

SCRUCO Work Programme 2017/18

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
	Local Policing	An item to cover issues including effectiveness of current PSPO's, Police and Crime Plan, rough sleepers, enforcement powers.	
	Emergency Planning and Resilience	To review the arrangements for emergency planning and resilience in the city to minimise risks, respond to emergencies, ensure effective communication and provide reassurance.	Michael Enderby Cllr Duggins
22nd November 2017	WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback – verbal update	Council representatives on the WMCA overview and scrutiny committee to feedback on the work of the committee	Cllr Brown Cllr J Mutton
	Student Accommodation and University City Development	To look at demand and supply of purpose built and private rented student accommodation and whether HIMO's have been returned to family use. Plans for CC1-4 site and the impact of Brexit on University finances.	Coventry University Craig Hickin Mark Andrews Cllr Bigham/O'Boyle
20th December 2017	Council Plan progress April – September 2017	Progress on the Council Plan report for 2017-18, which will go to Cabinet in January 2018	Si Chun Lam Cllr Duggins
24th January 2018	WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback – verbal update	Council representatives on the WMCA overview and scrutiny committee to feedback on the work of the committee	Cllr Brown Cllr J Mutton
28th February 2018	-		

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
28th March 2018	WMCA Overview and Scrutiny feedback	Council representatives on the WMCA overview and scrutiny committee to feedback on the work of the committee	Cllr Brown Cllr J Mutton
18th April 2018	-		
Date to be determined	Selective Licensing for the Private Rented Sector – consultation outcomes (Priority – awaiting date confirmation)	To consider the outcomes of the consultation and recommendations to the Cabinet Member following a scrutiny task and finish group recommending implementation in St. Michael's Ward.	Davina Blackburn Tracy Miller Cllr O'Boyle
	West Midlands Combined Authority	To consider engagement with the West Midlands Combined Authority, particularly its Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Cllr Mutton and Cllr Brown are the City Council's nominated representatives on the Committee for 2017/18.	Cllr Duggins Martin Reeves
	Business Rates	Members requested information on the current position on business rates retention and the WMCA pilot considering the Local Government Finance Bill was not in the Queen's Speech. This was received during July 2017. Once further information is available, the Board would like an agenda item on Business Rates.	Barry Hastie Paul Jennings Cllr J Mutton
	<i>Review of Scrutiny</i>	<i>To review the current Scrutiny procedures and to consider whether improvements could be made.</i>	<i>Adrian West Cllr Brown /Cllr Duggins</i>
	Vulnerable Persons Strategy	This will take a strategic approach to a range of issues affecting vulnerable people. It will incorporate the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy as well as addressing issues such as modern day slavery, hate crime, Female Genital Mutilation, forced marriage and sexual violence. This will provide Scrutiny with an early opportunity to review the new proposed approach.	Liz Gaulton/Craig Hickin Cllr A Khan

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
	Air Quality	Scrucro will consider this issue which cuts across several areas including health, transportation, planning and public realm etc. The Board wishes to address issues and identify solutions. A potential task and finish group.	Liz Gaulton/Andrew Walster
	Prevent Strategy	To receive an update on the Prevent Strategy and duties associated with it.	Chief Superintendent Danny Long Geoff Thomas
	Renewal Plan	SCRUCO will invite WMCA Mayor, Andy Street, to discuss his renewal plan.	

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