

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Health and Public Protection Scrutiny Panel

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 18 January 2022

Venue: Council Chamber - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor Miss J Bull (Chairman)

Councillor Ms S Pankhurst (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs P M Bryant, Mrs T L Ellis, J M Englefield, Miss T G Harper and G Kelly

Also Present: Councillor T M Cartwright, MBE, Executive Member for Health and Public Protection



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received at this meeting.

2. MINUTES

An amendment to the minutes of the meeting held on 18 August 2021 was agreed to note that apologies were received from Councillor G Kelly.

RESOLVED that, subject to the amendment above, the minutes of the meeting of the Health and Public Protection Scrutiny Panel held on 18 August 2021 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OR ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

Councillor J M Englefield declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of item 7 as he works for the NHS.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

(1) Draft Agreement with English Heritage regarding charging at the Council's Portchester Castle car parks

There were no questions or comments for clarification in respect of this item.

7. EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE

Councillor J M Englefield declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of this item as he works for the NHS.

The Panel received a verbal update from Councillor T M Cartwright MBE, the Executive Member for Health and Public Protection, on matters relating to the Health and Public Protection portfolio.

Local Health Matters

Councillor Cartwright reported that the position with local health matters appears to be rather dismal at the moment with no improvement in tackling ongoing issues. Disappointingly, Covid-19 is being used as an excuse for the lack of progress. Sovereign Healthcare is the biggest concern at present, with unacceptable levels of service being reported by many residents. Meetings that were arranged in January and February to consider how improvements can be made have all now been postponed until March. Councillor Cartwright

reported that he has received a letter from Sarah Tiller, Associate Director for Community and Engagement for the Fareham & Gosport Clinic Commissioning Group (CCG) which talks about the support that the CCG is providing to Sovereign Healthcare and reports that they believe the practice is showing dedication in trying to move forward.

Councillor Cartwright advised the Panel that he would be attending the Portsmouth City Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting on Thursday. The agenda includes updates from the Portsmouth Hospital University Trust, the Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust and Public Health.

Councillor Cartwright gave an update on the South Central Ambulance Service, reporting that Sir Keith Willett has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Service. Councillor Cartwright was sad to report that the Service has received over 2,000 Hoax calls over the last 2 years.

Police and Crime Panel

Councillor Cartwright advised that Jason Kenney, the old District Commander for Fareham & Gosport has been appointed as the Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Mark Lewis, the current District Commander, will be leaving Fareham & Gosport to take up a Superintendent role in charge of the Response Team in Hampshire. A replacement District Commander appointment has yet to be made.

The Police and Crime Panel has asked to see baseline police officer figures since 2010 in order to verify whether the promised increase in numbers is being achieved. Councillor Cartwright was pleased to report that base line numbers are indeed increasing and are currently ahead of requirements. The Police and Crime Panel intends to ensure that this continues to be the case.

Councillor Cartwright advised members that there had recently been a series of thefts from cars in the Fareham area and was pleased to report that a local man was arrested on the 9th January this year and is now serving a 4-month custodial sentence.

At the instigation of the new Police and Crime Commissioner, Hampshire Constabulary has been renamed as Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary. There has not been any active re-branding and changes will take place over time to avoid any costs.

Councillor Cartwright advised that the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel will be held on Friday 28 January and that the precept for 2022/23 will be discussed. The consultation process has been completed in order that the Commissioner can request the maximum increase, and this is likely to be awarded.

Applications for grants from the Safer Communities Fund for 2022/23 have been received and there are 12 applications in this area, 3 of which will be supported by Fareham's Community Safety Manager as they are very helpful to the Community Safety Partnership.

RESOLVED that Councillor Cartwright, Executive Member for Health and Public Protection, be thanked for providing the update.

8. AVAILABILITY OF BURIAL PLOTS IN THE COUNCIL'S CEMETERIES

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor T M Cartwright, MBE addressed the Panel on this item.

The Panel received a presentation by the Head of Streetscene which outlined the availability of burial plots in the Council's cemeteries. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes as Appendix A.

Members raised concern that the new community at Welborne will erode the current provision at Wickham Road cemetery much more quickly than expected as there is no provision for burial plots made within the Welborne plans. As there is nothing in Planning Regulations that requires burial plot provision, it was agreed that this may be something to be considered further.

RESOLVED that having considered the presentation and asked questions for clarification, the Health and Public Protection Scrutiny Panel notes the content of the presentation.

9. HEALTH AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY PANEL PRIORITIES

In considering the Scrutiny Priorities for the Panel, it was agreed that a representative from the Portchester Crematorium be invited to attend the next meeting of the Panel to provide members with the opportunity to scrutinise how the Crematorium will move towards achieving zero carbon and to assess the level of resilience at the Crematorium in maintaining services if one of the burners malfunctions. The Panel agreed that the Director of Leisure and Community be authorised to complete the scoping report for inclusion in the invitation to the Crematorium so that as much notice as possible can be provided.

RESOLVED that the Health and Public Protection Scrutiny Panel agrees that:

- (a) the Director of Leisure and Community be authorised to prepare a scoping report based on the items outlined above; and
- (b) a representative of the Portchester Crematorium be invited to the next meeting of the Panel to answer the points raised on the scoping report.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 7.15 pm).