

**NORTH DEVON COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held at the Brynsworthy Environment Centre, Barnstaple on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 2 p.m.

PRESENT: Members

Councillor Greenslade (Chair)

Councillors Bonds, Chesters, Ley (present for minutes 99 to 102), Mathews, Patrinos and Worden.

Also Present:

Councillor Moore (present for minutes 96 to 101).

Officers:

Head of Corporate and Community Services (KM), Head of Operational Service (RM), Head of Environmental Health and Housing (JM), Business Information Systems (BIS) Manager (NL), Economic Growth Manager (EV), Housing Services Manager (TR), Public Protection Manager (KN) and Corporate and Community Services Officer (KJ).

**96 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Meadlarkin, Webber and White.

**97 MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 2017 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**98 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest announced.

**99 BARNSTAPLE ASSET REVIEW**

The Chairman addressed the Economic Growth Manager in relation to the Barnstaple Asset Review, with particular reference to the overview of the Car Park Strategy.

The Economic Growth Manager confirmed that:

- Her team had been looking into the Asset Review for 18 months.
- The masterplan had now been agreed for the future of Seven Brethren. This would now be primarily residential. The plan would

consider provision for car parking, transport movements and future requirements.

- The study had been commissioned from Hydrock. It ran from April 2017 to the end of the summer. Businesses and other users had been consulted. The final report would be presented to Executive in due course.
- Barnstaple Councillors had been consulted during a number of individual briefings.
- The report highlighted the need to increase the level of car parking by 14% and to retain the long stay provision.
- The opportunity of consolidating some of the smaller car parks in to a larger single location (e.g. a multi-storey) would free-up those smaller car parks to be utilised for residential purposes.

The Chair questioned whether the Planning team had been involved in the process. He also stated that the issues would also affect those outside of Barnstaple.

The Economic Growth Manager confirmed that the Planning Policy Officers had been involved throughout and their feedback on the draft report had been fed back to Hydrock.

Councillor Mathews expressed concerns over the planned entrance to the car park at the Cattle Market, Barnstaple. He had concerns that the entrance should be via Tuly Street as he was concerned over the safety of the proposed access.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

## **100 SERVICE PLANS 2018/19**

The Chairman addressed the Committee and advised that the Vice Chairman had met with the Head of Corporate and Community Services to discuss the service plans 2018/19.

The Head of Corporate and Community Services advised that the service plans had been presented in the same format to the Committee as previous years. He outlined the structure of the service plans and how they were developed by the Heads of Services.

Councillor Patrinos requested that a later Committee meeting be held to give members the opportunity to look at the service plans. He stated that he had not received all the plans in advance of the meeting today.

The Committee confirmed that all service plans had been emailed out to Members in advance of the meeting.

The Head of Corporate and Community Services confirmed that in agreement with the Chair and Vice Chair prior to the Committee the Heads of Service or Business Managers that had been selected to attend the Committee. It had been agreed that the Head of Operational Services, Head of Environmental

Health and Housing Services, Economic Development Manager, BIS Manager and the Chief Planning Officer be invited to attend the Committee to present their service plans.

(a) OPERATIONAL SERVICES

The Committee welcomed the Head of Operational Services to the meeting.

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for Operational Services (circulated previously).

The Head of Operational Services advised that:

- The work for the new year concerned the continuation of the processes which had been implemented in 2017/18 in relation to the delivery of the service.
- The recycling rounds were being re-modelled.
- The remodelling of the 'black bin' routes would create a reduction on service costs.
- The customer base for green bin collections was now settled.
- The service would be looking at ways to increase income.
- New staff had been employed. This had reduced agency costs.

In response to questions from the Committee, the Head of Operational Services confirmed that:

- He had sourced some heavier-weighted hessian sacks which would be trialled. The aim would be to prevent waste being blown around in high winds.
- Staff had been consulted in relation to the remodelling of the recycling rounds. Once the rounds for the Black bin collections were remodelled the staff would be involved at that point.
- Once remodelling had been completed the majority of the work would then involve the maintenance of the database.
- The remodelling was due to the desire to streamline the whole service and achieve increased efficiency and savings. It was not as a response to any complaints.
- The Local Authority were advised of new builds once they were occupied. Each household was then provided with the relevant receptacles. They were not provided with a green waste bin at that point.

The Committee thanked the Head of Operational Services for his information regarding the service plan.

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND HOUSING SERVICES

The Committee welcomed the Head of Environmental Health and Housing Services, Housing Services Manager and Public Protection Manager to the meeting.

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for Environmental Health and Housing Services (circulated previously).

The Public Protection Manager outlined three new objectives, which were as follows:

- Action FS1 – Objective 2: Ensuring the Authority delivers the Food Standards Agency’s (FSA) programme of improving food control called ‘Regulating Our Future’ (ROF):
  - The FSA had highlighted the need to be flexible and adapt to the new market conditions.
  - There had been no recent information regarding this so no further progress had been made.
  
- Action L1 – Objective 3: DEFRA proposes to introduce secondary legislation under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, which would introduce a single ‘Animal Establishment Licence’.
  - This would involve the adoption of a new model licence conditions and fees.
  - This would include legislation for kennels, pet shops, etc. Many of these had licences which expired at the end of December 2017. Any new licences issued could cover a longer period that previously allowed. This would eliminate problems with renewals at each year-end. The proposal to enable licenses to be issued for two to three years would reduce administration.
  
- Action EP1 – Objective 1: To implement Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) in response to the issues affecting North Devon Communities regarding street drinking and dogs.
  - The existing Dog Control Orders and Drink Control Orders became PSPOs in October 2017.
  - The proposal seeks to streamline the existing controls and ensure appropriate regulation was in place by 2020.
  - Measures will be designed to enable the Local Authority to monitor behaviour.

The Housing Services Manager outlined the following:

- Action H1 – Objective 1: The development of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) and loans to secure adaptations and improvements in residential properties.
  - The works would be covered under the Homelessness Reduction Act.
  
- Action EH/H1 and EH/H2 Creating a better Private Rented Sector and Greater focus on efforts to prevent homelessness.
  - The implementation of the Housing and Planning Act and the

Homelessness Reduction Bill 2016-17.

- Emphasised the actions to be taken with a new customer.
- The need to monitor, manage and update the register.
- Extension to the time that a customer must be treated as under threat of homelessness (from 28 to 56 days).
- Duty on public services to notify a local authority (LA) if they came into contact with someone they thought might be at risk of becoming homeless.
- Right of a customer to dispute a decision made by a LA in relation to their case.

The Head of Environmental Health and Housing added that the report had been presented to the Executive in January, requesting additional resources to enable the service to implement the new legislation. They needed to develop their delivery scheme to reduce the time involved in implementing the legislation to reduce the impact on resources. Less stages of the process would result in less opportunity for challenge.

In response to a number of questions, the Housing Services Manager advised of the following:

- The LA had already been delivering its service within the ethos of the legislation as it had always recorded each stage of the review, however, this would now be undertaken in greater detail.
- The new legislation would improve the service to the customer and make it more consistent with other LAs.
- The criterion for an eligible person would change under the new legislation and 'Local connections' would no longer be a requirement.
- If a person presents as homeless with a priority need the Council would have a legal duty to provide them with accommodation.
- The LAs would be on a more equal playing field when making their decisions. They could no longer hide behind their own policies.

The Head of Environmental Health and Housing added that this change to the criteria could result in the situation where a person may present as homeless to a Local Authority of their choice, which may be seen as giving more favourable decisions. He noted that the Act was presented to Government prior to the General Election.

In response to questions from the Committee regarding the possibility of the LA providing its own hostel, the Housing Services Manager advised the following:

- The possibility had been considered, however, much more work into the financial viability and cost implications would be required before such a decision could be made.
- The purchase of the temporary accommodation housing stock was made possible by the Flexible Home Grant.
- In January 2017 there were 12 households in temporary accommodation across North Devon. By December that had increased to 45 households.

- The number of those in placements with specific needs, for example , those with substance abuse problems or habitual rough sleepers, would suggest a model would need to be considered to provide more units for temporary accommodation in future which would meet their needs.
- The LA previously relied on nine units of private sector leasing. 17 Castle Street, Barnstaple was now in use and helped reduced this reliance. However, the national trend of increased need for these types of properties was unlikely to reduce. The most cost-effective model for this type of accommodation was the 'shared-model' as operated in Boyton House.
- Eight North Devon Homes units at Beaufort Walk were being considered.

The Head of Environmental Health and Housing Services outlined the following objective:

- EH/H4 – Establish a North Devon Council Housing Development Company.
  - The aim of this was to get LAs considering the idea of building and owning properties again and becoming Housing Companies.
  - This could be done with another LA or Registered Social Landlord (RSL).
  - The LA would not be competing with Housing Authorities (such as North Devon Homes) as the need for property was so high at present.
  - Some LAs have been setting up Housing Companies for the private market and using the profits from this to subsidise their temporary accommodation costs / statutory duties.
  - It has not been looked at in sufficient detail yet. This was ongoing.

The Committee thanked the Head of Environmental Health and Housing Services for his attendance at the meeting.

### (c) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Committee welcomed the Economic Growth Manager to the meeting.

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for Economic Development (circulated previously).

The Economic Growth Manager advised that a number of smaller projects were included in the Service Plan. These included the link between the railway station and the town centre. She added that all of the initiatives were working towards the Growing North Devon corporate objective.

The Economic Growth Manager advised the Committee of the following points:

- Action 1, Objective one – North Devon Growth – Post 2031 The second workshop was held on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2018. A vision now needs to be

developed and agreed. An appraisal would be undertaken on the various options for growth. It was noted that the Councillors were fully informed on the project and had been actively involved.

- Action 2, Objective one – Participate in Devon OPE – Surplus Public Land Regeneration Programme. The aim was to regenerate surplus public sector assets.
  - The focus was on Chivenor, Barnstaple and Ilfracombe.
  - Barnstaple and Ilfracombe – assets to be logged on ePIMS, objectives to be agreed, master planning and project development/delivery required.
  - Chivenor – Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) funded Economic assessment study required.
  - Project to take a couple of years to complete.
  - Looking to partner with Devon County Council (DCC) on the project.
  - £75k of funding had been secured for Ilfracombe and Barnstaple, £50K for Chivenor.
  - Aim was to look at brownfield sites collaboratively and create strategic links.
  - There were various public-owned brownfield sites in the area that were owned, for example, by the National Health Service, the court, Devon County Council (DCC), the Department for Works and Pensions, Network Rail etc.
  - The Government was keen to emphasise that compulsory purchase powers could be utilised in future. Rules relating to such purchases have been relaxed over the past five to six years.

The Committee considered the Civic Centre site as a brownfield site. The Chairman advised that he was under the impression that it was being marketed by DCC.

The Head of Corporate and Community Services advised that the withdrawal of North Devon Council from the Civic Centre had not been finalised (although the Council was not liable to make any further payments).

- Action 3, Objective one – Barnstaple Growth – Short to Medium Term. This objective included the following:
  - Development of Seven Brethren for waterfront residential scheme, with long stay parking and fair relocated within site.
- Action 5, Objective one – Up to date Strategic Economic Framework. This objective included the following:
  - Economic Strategy, Inward Investment Strategy and Digital Strategy (new).
  - Joint working would be required with Torridge District Council to cover 'Northern Devon'. Use of internal and North Devon + resource.
  - A steering group would need to be established to include key stakeholders.

(d) PANNIER MARKET

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for the Pannier Market (circulated previously).

The Economic Growth Manager confirmed that the new alarm system for the Pannier Market was being installed next week. Once this work was complete the doors of the market would be locked overnight. This would enable stall-holders to leave their stalls set up overnight without need to arrive early each day to set-up. Once this had been completed, the next stage would be to look into the financial viability of the market and whether it may be prudent to hold fewer weekly markets.

The Committee considered that the low foot-fall of the market needed to be addressed advised that Traders felt that this may be affected by the lack of toilets. This was preventing customers from staying in the market for any length of time. They considered that the South Molton market was profitable and perhaps this could be looked at to see if any lessons can be made from comparing the two.

The Economic Growth Manager emphasised that South Molton ran fewer markets which was likely to be a key factor regarding profitability.

The Committee thanked the Economic Growth Manager for her attendance at the meeting.

(e) ICT

The Committee welcomed the BIS Manager to the meeting.

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for ICT (circulated previously).

The BIS Manager addressed the Committee and explained that the Service Plan for ICT may need further revision subject to seeing all other service plans. The results and actions from all those plans would need to be finalised before the ICT plan could be finalised. This was explained in ICT 05 – Objective 1.

She provided the following information to the Committee:

- ICT 01a (New 2018) Objective one –Re-tender our Microsoft Subscription Licence. Microsoft had significantly raised their prices. The Council needed to establish the features of this licence package to ensure the Council did not pay for functionality that was not required and gain maximum value for this package.
- ICT 01b (New 2018) Objective one –Feasibility of moving emails from Outlook to Office 365 and overcome the loss of GCSX mail in April 2019. The use of a cloud-based solution would enable end-users a larger mailbox size. Although email recovery would be limited to one year. Central Government expected Councils to move to a cloud based

solution and this would overcome encryption issues. Migration would be fairly simple. Staff would be discouraged from relying on the email system to save messages, as any important documents would, and should, be copied onto their team or corporate directories.

- ICT 02 (New 2018) Objective one – Replacement programme of our existing Wyse/PCs with upgraded Wyse termina or alternative, eg Chrome book / tablet. This would result in a greater level of flexibility. ICT would work with the teams to ensure the new system met their needs. This action is closely aligned to replacement of our desktop solution, the project would be initiated this month.

In response to a question regarding Wyse boxes, the BIS Manager advised that the existing boxes would still be useable until 2020 but the team were looking into the possible options in good time.

In response to a further question, she confirmed that the specification for the new planning system was currently being reviewed by the Planning team to ensure that the needs of the Planning team would be met by the selected system. She also confirmed that the option of attending Committee meetings remotely (eg via video conferencing), although possible, would not be legal. The Head of Corporate and Community Services confirmed that current legislation does not allow this to be done.

The Head of Corporate and Community Services advised the Committee that the Senior Management Team (SMT) would look at the service plans together, and ensure that they were not considered in isolation. The plans would be co-ordinated and considered with the ICT team in order for a cohesive plan to be created. This would enable ICT to ensure the resources were available to meet the demand of all the teams and time-table the required work.

The Committee thanked the BIS Manager for her attendance at the meeting.

(f) PARKS, LEISURE AND CULTURE

The Committee welcomed the Head of Corporate and Community Services to the meeting.

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for Parks, Leisure and Culture (circulated previously).

The Head of Corporate and Community Services advised the Committee that the objectives within the plan were the same as the previous year.

He noted the following updates:

- PL&C 02 - Objective one –Provision for replacement of North Devon Leisure Centre. The Leisure Centre project was now in the second phase (of four phases) of the procurement process.
- PL&C 15 - Objective one –Build a major extension to the museum. This was a new objective. The tender was due at the end of this month.

Construction was due to start in March 2018, with completion due January 2019.

- PL&C 20 - Objective two – Prepare and tender a long term operational contract for the Queen’s and Landmark Theatres. A report will be presented to the Executive regarding the theatres to propose the extension of the existing contract with Parkwood Leisure to January 2019. The extension to the contract would enable the events programme for the Landmark to be considered as initially the events at the Queens Theatre had been the priority.

The Committee thanked the Head of Corporate and Community Service for his information regarding the service plan.

(g) ELECTORAL SERVICES AND LAND CHARGES

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for Electoral Services and Land Charges (circulated previously).

The Head of Corporate and Community Services advised of the following:

- In relation to Action 1 – Revised Ward Boundary Changes for North Devon Area and Action 2 – Community Governance Review the revised ward boundaries had been considered at the meeting of full Council, on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Suggestions had been received for possible changes to Parish boundaries. These had included changes in the Gunn and Goodleigh areas.
- Action 3 – Land Registry Takeover of Land Charges Register Function. The cost implications of this objective could not be calculated until the end-date was known.
- Action 4 – Household Canvas 2017. Canvas forms would be sent to 46,000 households to collate information for the New Register of Electors to be published on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018. The cost to be met by budget and cabinet office funding if received.

The Committee thanked the Head of Corporate and Community Service for his information regarding the service plan.

(h) CUSTOMER AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for Customer and Corporate Communications (circulated previously).

The Head of Corporate and Community Services advised of the following:

- Action 2018/19 - 01 – Objective 2: Annual Green Bin Renewals and Action 2018/19 - 02 – Objective 2: Communications and Customer Support for round remodelling. The Communications team were heavily involved in the changes to the Waste and Recycling Service.
- Action 2018/19 - 03 – Objective 2: New contact centre system. New telephony systems would be considered. The hope was that the reduction of telephone calls to operators would produce a cost saving.

Greater automation would be required and the increase of customer contact via the website/online services, including email and web-chat could enable this to happen. Response time would also be reduced for the customer.

- Action 2018/19 - 04 – Objective 2: Train investigating officers on the new Covalent feedback module. Staff were being trained to use the system to respond to customer feedback using the system.

In response to a question regarding out of hours calls to the Council, the Head of Corporate and Community Services advised that this service was monitored 24 hours a day by the CCTV control room.

The Committee thanked the Head of Corporate and Community Services for his information regarding the service plan.

(i) LEGAL

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for Legal (circulated previously).

The Head of Corporate and Community Services advised of the following:

- LS1 – Objective 2 Review delegated powers and feed into overarching review of Constitution. This was previously reviewed four years ago and was now a primary objective.
- LS2 – Objective 2 Increase income from external clients. Works were being carried out for Parish Councils at cost price. This work would continue but was not expected to generate a large income. Approximately £2,000 per annum was expected
- LS3 – Objective 2 Investigate polygon requirements of the Council. Invite Land Registry to present available options to SMT, then complete purchase of identified polygon set. Polygons (electronic file/maps) would need to be purchased. These would be used to enable the online provision of more easily accessible information regarding the Council's land holding. This information could then be interactive.
- LS4 – Objective 2 Purchase of case management system This would reduce the requirement for paper storage. The expected completion date was December 2018.
- LS5 – Objective 2 Implementation of GDPR This was ongoing. Many of the staff had now received the training. Members had also been invited to attend training. A final training session had been arranged for any Members who had not yet attended.

The Committee thanked the Head of Corporate and Community Services for his information regarding the service plan.

(i) CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Committee considered the Service Plan for 2018-2019 for Corporate and Community Services (circulated previously).

The Head of Corporate and Community Services advised of the following:

- CC3 (16/17) Objective 2: Introduce integrated Committee administration system. A new Committee Administration system was being considered. The supplier would be invited to visit the site to discuss requirements.
- CC4 (17/18) Objective 2: Introduction and roll-out of IT tablets for Councillors to access minutes and agendas. Noted that the agreed system would need to be introduced for all Members and that a system where some used the IT and some requested paper files could not be used.
- CC5 (17/18) Objective 2: Introduce webcasting/recording of meetings. This was currently being tested. A microphone system had been purchased. The recording and editing software was being tested.
- CC7 (17/18) Objective 2: Introduce a paperless office system for administration of the Councillors grants and Town and Parish grants schemes. Potential to use Firmstep or Civica for the back office system needs to be considered. Both schemes could now be applied for online via Firmstep.
- CC9 (17/18) Objective 2: A review of governance and democratic arrangements. The governance and Committee Structure would be considered as part of the 21:21 programme.
- CC10 (17/18) Objective 2: Introduce new online consultation and engagement software system. This works would be in conjunction with the Communications team.

The Committee thanked the Head of Corporate and Community Services for his information regarding the service plan.

The Chairman noted that there were no queries relating to the remaining Service Plans presented.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the Corporate and Community Services Officer email those Councillors who were thought to have been unable to contact the out of hours service.
- (b) those officers attending be invited to provide any additional information regarding their service plans to the Committee.
- (c) that further, or more in-depth questions from the Committee, were to be forwarded to the Corporate and Community Services Officer by end of business on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018, who would collate those queries and pass them to the Chairman in order to consider whether a further meeting was required.
- (d) The Service Plans 2018/19 be noted.

**101 SCHOOL FUNDING**

Councillor Worden addressed the Committee with a presentation regarding School Funding. He made reference to a Government report on the State of the Nation 2017 - Social Mobility in Great Britain.

In summary he advised:

- It reports that those divisions take many forms. Class, income, gender, race. In recent years, each had been the subject of much scrutiny. But one form of division that had received far less attention was that based on geography.
- Disadvantaged children were 14 percentage points less likely to be school-ready at age five in coldspots than hotspots: in 94 areas, under half of disadvantaged children reach a good level of development at age five.
- A common feature of local authority areas in the lowest 10 per cent was that substantially fewer children on free school meals attend secondary schools rated 'good' or 'outstanding', compared with those who attend 'good' or 'outstanding' primary schools.
- Schools in deprived or remote areas often struggle to recruit teachers.
- Coastal rural areas, which were highly deprived, have one and a half times the proportion of unqualified secondary teachers than inland rural areas with low levels of deprivation have (7 per cent compared with 4.6 per cent).
- The South West did poorly in terms of working life outcomes. Seven of the 36 Local Authorities in the region were in the bottom list of performers for this life stage. The worst performers were all located on the coast – West Somerset, Weymouth and Portland, Torbay, Torrington, North Devon, Cornwall and Purbeck.
- The issue of social mobility was enormously concerning in North Devon - North Devon was 238 out of 324 in the country. Top of the pile were the London schools. Money was not being allocated properly because North Devon was not spending enough effort embarrassing Westminster.
- Schools in North Devon were getting minimal increases: Chulmleigh and South Molton were in effect getting 0% in the next two years. Both against a background of below inflation rises for years and redundancies.
- South Devon's schools which were doing okay obscure the fact that North Devon schools were not on Progress 8 and the budget for education in Devon was not a good response to that.
- The National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services had announced a pay offer for staff employed under the NJC agreement, which included support staff in schools. The final pay offer made to the Trade Unions covered the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2020 and consisted of an increase in the lower salary points to comply with the National Living Wage increases planned for April 2018 and April 2019, and a 2% increase for all other salary points.
- This pay offer had not yet been agreed but, bearing in mind the budgetary implications for schools, schools have been advised of this

latest development so that they can consider it as part of their budget planning. Schools like Chulmleigh and South Molton would need to find over £50,000 extra and for larger schools like Pilton and Park would need in excess of £100,000 a year.

The Committee considered the presentation and, in discussion, noted that:

- Our North Devon schools were underfunded.
- Councillor Hart (DCC) was trying to secure further funding.
- The average funding per pupil was £266 per annum for North Devon Schools.
- The increase in numbers of pupils recorded as having 'special needs' was noted and the Committee queried whether this had an effect on funding received by the school.
- Many children were not 'school ready' when they start school. This was on the increase and added to the pressure on teachers in the classroom (i.e. children not toilet-trained).

RESOLVED that:

- (a) Councillor Worden's presentation be emailed to the Committee;
- (b) The Chairman approach representatives from local schools to attend a future Committee meeting;
- (c) The presentation be noted.

## **102 RMB CHIVENOR**

The Chairman advised the Committee with regards to RMB Chivenor, that he was aware that the Secretary of State for Defence had visited the region recently (for a visit to Appledore Shipyard) and felt that it had been a missed opportunity for the Committee to request a visit by the Secretary to North Devon Council.

The Committee discussed the issues regarding the Marines and RMB Chivenor and noted that:

- It had been reported that the closure of the site was now a certainty, and that this would happen in 2027. The Committee had not been aware that any final decision had been agreed.
- The withdrawal of the Marines from the base would have an effect on funding of local schools.
- The Committee had been under the impression that the creation of a 'Super base' at Plymouth had been disregarded as the city could not accommodate it.

RESOLVED that the Chairman write to the Secretary of State for Defence for confirmation of any decisions made.

**103 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSION UPDATE**

The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel would be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018. The Committee will be updated at the February Committee meeting.

There were no further updates at present.

**104 NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE SUCCESS REGIME**

The Chairman addressed the Committee regarding the National Health Service Success Regime.

The Committee considered the issues faced by the NHS and noted:

- They had concerns over the loss of nurses from the local region.
- The loss of EU Nationals (who worked within the NHS) from the UK.
- Their concerns over the apparent 'dividing up' of the NHS services which may facilitate the selling off of the smaller parts to the private sectors.
- News in the press recently which stated that there had been a drop in the average life expectancy of males in Devon (which had dropped by one year).
- There were problems locally in recruiting and retaining consultants.
- There may not be the level of work available in a specific field to enable a consultant to maintain accreditation.

**105 WORK PROGRAMME/FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee considered the Work Programme / Forward Plan (circulated previously).

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the item Accountable Care System be added to the work programme for April 2018;
- (b) the work programme be noted.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 4.30 p.m.

**NOTE:** These minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of the Committee.