



***STREETSCENE AND ENGINEERING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE***

***10.00 am FRIDAY, 14 JULY 2017***

***COMMITTEE ROOMS A/B - NEATH CIVIC CENTRE***

**PART 1**

1. To receive any declarations of interest from Members
2. To receive the Minutes of the Streetscene and Engineering Scrutiny Committee held on 12 June 2017. *(Pages 3 - 6)*
3. To receive the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2017/18. *(Pages 7 - 8)*
4. To select appropriate items from the Cabinet Board Agenda for pre-scrutiny (Cabinet Board reports enclosed for Scrutiny Members).
5. Any urgent items (whether public or exempt) at the discretion of the Chairman pursuant to Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972

**S.Phillips**  
**Chief Executive**

**Civic Centre**  
**Port Talbot**

**6<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

**Committee Membership:**

**Chairperson:** Councillor S.M.Penry

**Vice  
Chairperson:** Councillor S.Jones

**Councillors:** A.R.Aubrey, N.J.E.Davies, R.Davies,  
W.F.Griffiths, C.James, H.Jones, A.McGrath,  
R.Thomas, J.Warman and R.W.Wood

**Notes:**

- (1) If Committee Members or non-Committee Members wish to have relevant items put on the agenda for future meetings, then please notify the Chief Executive/Chair eight days before the meeting.*
- (2) If non-Committee Members wish to attend for an item of interest, then prior notification needs to be given (by 12.00 noon on the day before the meeting). Non-Committee Members may speak but not vote, or move or second any motion.*
- (3) For pre scrutiny arrangements, the Chair will normally recommend forthcoming executive items for discussion/challenge. It is also open to Committee Members to request items to be raised - though Members are asked to be selective here in regard to important issues.*
- (4) The relevant Cabinet Board Members will also be invited to be present at the meeting for Scrutiny/ Consultation purposes.*
- (5) Would the Scrutiny Committee Members please bring the Cabinet Board papers with them to the meeting.*

## STREETSCENE AND ENGINEERING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Committee Rooms A/B - Neath Civic Centre)

**Members Present:**

**12 June 2017**

**Chairperson:** Councillor S.M.Penry

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor S.Jones

**Councillors:** A.R.Aubrey, N.J.E.Davies, R.Davies,  
W.F.Griffiths, C.James, H.Jones, A.McGrath,  
J.Warman and R.W.Wood

**Officers In Attendance** D.Griffiths, G.Nutt, M.Roberts, I.Davies,  
N.Evans, Miss.C.Davies and Ms.C.Plowman

**Cabinet Invitees:** Councillors E. V Latham and Mrs A Wingrave

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1. **MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 16 FEBRUARY 2017.**

The Scrutiny Committee noted the minutes.

2. **SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18.**

The Committee noted the forward work programme.

3. **PRE -SCRUTINY**

The Committee selected the following Cabinet Board items for Scrutiny:

3.1 Japanese Knotweed

Members considered a report that highlighted the Council's policy and procedures in relation to Japanese knotweed.

Members asked whether there was an update in relation to the trial of introducing a "superbug" that would kill the knotweed. Officers stated that the trial in other parts of South Wales had failed over the winter and was not a viable option.

Officers were asked if the policy would mean the Council would continue to give advice if the problem was found on private land or would it absolve all responsibility. It was confirmed that the Council will continue to offer advice but it would remain the responsibility of the land owner/complainant to pursue.

Members asked whether there was a specific issue in relation to communication between Network Rail and Natural Resources Wales. Officers confirmed that there could be a species control put agreement in place between the organisations but currently there was not. Members continued and asked whether there was a process in place to put pressure on Natural Resources Wales and officers confirmed that the Council could write to them to highlight their concerns.

Members requested data on where the locations of Japanese knotweed are within the County Borough and officers agreed that as this was being developed this could be shared with Members in the future.

Officers stated that in relation to private landlords the Council does not plan on visiting but a report will be presented to the next meeting which will identify potential income generation opportunities.

Members asked whether there are private companies in existence that offer this service. Officers stated that there are companies in existence..

Following scrutiny the Committee was supportive of the proposal to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

### 3.2 Proposed No Waiting, Loading or Unloading to the rear of 21-41 Station Road, Port Talbot.

Members were advised that the report had been written following complaints from local businesses.

It was suggested that a possible alternative may be to revise the traffic orders on Station Road itself. Officers advised that orders on Station Road were to be revised this year to accommodate a taxi rank following dialog between the local members and taxi fraternity in Port Talbot and an additional loading area could not be accommodated without the loss of further car parking on street.

Following scrutiny the Committee agreed to allow the Cabinet Board to take the relevant decision.

4. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEM(S) PURSUANT TO SECTION 100A(4) AND (5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE RELEVANT EXEMPT PARAGRAPHS OF PART 4 OF SCHEDULE 12A TO THE ABOVE ACT.**
5. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee selected the following private Cabinet Board items for scrutiny

5.1 Extension of Frameworks and Framework Agreements for the Occasional Hire of Operative Plant and for the Occasional Hire of 180 Back Hoe Loader

Members asked whether this was the most cost effective option or would the purchase of a machine be more cost effective. Officers stated that they would undertake an analysis and report back to the Member.

Following scrutiny the Committee was supportive of the proposal to be considered by the Cabinet Board.

**CHAIRPERSON**

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**Streetscene and Engineering Scrutiny Committee  
Forward Work Programme 2017/18**

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Officer
12 June 2017		
14 July 2017		
8 September 2017		
20 October 2017	Update on Side Waste Task and Finish Group	Scrutiny Officer/Mike Roberts

1 December 2017		
19 January 2018		
2 March 2018		
13 April 2018		