

**REGENERATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

(Committee Rooms A/B - Neath Civic Centre)

Members Present:

1 March 2019

Chairperson: Councillor S.K.Hunt

Councillors: J.Evans, C.J.Jones, R.L.Taylor, S.M.Penry,
S.Bamsey and S.Pursey

**Officers In
Attendance** S.Brennan, K.Davies, N.Pearce, N. Jones,
J.Woodman-Ralph

Cabinet Invitees: Councillor D.Jones and A.Wingrave

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

It was with great sadness that the Chair announced the passing of Councillor D.W.Davies Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Sustainable Development, and Community Safety and Public Protection. As a mark of respect Members stood for a two minute silence.

The following Members made a Declaration of Interest at the agenda item.

Councillor S.Pursey: Re: Tourism report – appendix 2 as he is a Member of the Plaza group.

Councillor R.Taylor: Re: Tourism report, her spouse is a trustee of the YMCA who will be responsible for running of the Plaza.

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Committee approved the minutes for accuracy.

3. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee chose to scrutinise the following Cabinet Board items:

Cabinet Board Proposals

3.1 Tourism Update

The Committee received information in relation to Tourism as contained within the circulated report.

Members asked how the new Destination Management Plan was to be complied. Officers explained that at the plan would be in line with the agreed remit for the tourism team and consultation would be undertaken with the tourism industry to identify industry priorities. Members suggested a workshop specifically for members to put forward suggested actions. Once consultation was complete a draft of the new Destination Management Plan would be presented to cabinet board for approval.

Members asked in relation to the redevelopment of the Plaza, and queried when would work start to take place. Officers explained that it would take approximately 14 months. Members stated officers were doing an excellent job and it was great to see efforts to increase tourism in the area.

Members queried whether there could be a mobile phone app for cyclists which would provide more information in relation to the cycle routes. Officers informed the committee that it might be possible to develop an app at some point in the future, but officers were currently prioritising the development and updating of the new destination website to as a base for future marketing campaigns.

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

3.2 Key Performance Indicators 2018/2019 – Quarter 3 Performance (1 April 2018 – 31 December 2018)

The Committee received information in relation to the Key Performance Indicators 2018/2019 – Quarter 3 Performance as contained within the circulated report.

Members asked what the progress was in acquiring the former Carnaud/Metal Box premises in Neath, as it would have a positive impact on employment in the area. Officers explained that they were due to sign the contract soon, and the committee would be informed as soon as practicable.

Members queried the Performance Indicators and questioned if there would be a change to the way they were monitored. Officers informed the Committee that the Red Amber Green status system was a part of the programme. Officers explained that the red indicators might turn green throughout the year and would not show the true reflection. Officers explained that the narratives were very important and the committee should note them for information.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

4. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19**

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme for 2018/19.

5. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: that pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following item of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

6. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee chose to scrutinise the following item:

Cabinet Board Proposals

6.1 Harbourside Strategic Employment Site Port Talbot

The Committee received information in relation to the Harbourside Strategic Employment Site, Port Talbot as contained within the circulated report.

Members asked was there an approved application for workshop training centre and was there a demand issue in terms of development of the site. Officers explained there was demand, but the issue was around funding and making development available.

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

CHAIRPERSON