

SEDGEMOOR DISTRICT COUNCIL

JOINT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee held in a Virtual Meeting Room on Monday 20 March 2023 at 2.30pm

Councillors

Present:

Brian Smedley

Hilary Bruce

Bob Filmer

Liz Scott

Kathy Pearce

Barrie Crow

Liz Leavy

Graham Godwin-Pearson

Also Present: Jamie Jackson (SCC), Cllr Gill Slocombe

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN
(Agenda Item 1)**

Resolved

To appoint Cllr B Smedley for the duration of the meeting.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENSE
(Agenda Item 2)**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rachael Lilley, Phil Harvey and Paul Fineran.

**3. MINUTES
(Agenda Item 3)**

The minutes of the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Advisory Committee held on 10 January 2022, the Community Scrutiny Advisory Committee held on 23 January 2023 and the Corporate Scrutiny Advisory Committee on 30 January 2023 were confirmed as a correct record.

**4. URGENT BUSINESS
(Agenda Item 4)**

None.

**5. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME
(Agenda Item 5)**

None.

**6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
(Agenda Item 6)**

None.

**7. SOMERSET SCRUTINY
(Agenda Item 7)**

The Scrutiny Manager from Somerset Council County gave an overview of the current Scrutiny arrangements at the County Council, and the task and finish group recommendations, which had established views and recommendations on how Scrutiny should function and operate post Vesting Day at Somerset Council.

The proposed scrutiny arrangements for Somerset Council from April 2023 were:

- Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee
- Scrutiny for Policies, Adults and Health Committee
- Scrutiny for Policies, Corporate & Resources Committee
- Scrutiny for Policies and Communities Committee
- Scrutiny for Policies, Climate and Place Committee

Members understood that the working group's recommendations had included a dedicated scrutiny resource to support the five committees. It was confirmed that initially there would only be an interim staffing structure, with the hope to establish a dedicated resource later in the year.

The Committee welcomed the update.

Resolved

To note the report.

**8. SEDGEMOOR SCRUTINY
(Agenda Item 8)**

The Scrutiny Officer gave an overview of how Scrutiny began at Sedgemoor District Council in 2001, the system which predated, and how the current Scrutiny Committees had been in the present format since 2007.

Members were given scrutiny statistics and a summary of scrutiny topics covered within the last quadrennium.

Resolved

To note the report.

The Chairman of the Committee thanked the Committee Members, current and previous Chairmen, and officers involved in the Scrutiny Committees for their involvement over the years.

The meeting ended at 3.12pm

CHAIRMAN