



CABINET

MEETING : Wednesday, 12th October 2016

PRESENT : Cllrs. James (Chair), D. Norman and Organ

Others in Attendance

Anne Brinkhoff

Jonathan Lund

Anthony Wilson, Head of Planning

Pauline Astbury, Committee Clerk

APOLOGIES : Cllrs. Watkins, Noakes and Cook

30. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

31. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

32. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were no public questions.

33. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

There were no petitions or deputations.

34. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH GROUP ON EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN GLOUCESTER

The Chair welcomed Cllr Hampson to present the findings and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group on employment and skills opportunities for young people in Gloucester.

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Councillor Hampson reported that the Task and Finish Group operated between November 2015 and February 2016 to specifically look at employment and skills opportunities for young people in Gloucester. They had hoped to talk directly to young people, but the tight timescales prevented this. Councillor Hampson summarised the report and highlighted some of the main areas considered by the Group as well as drawing particular attention to their conclusions regarding the barriers to young people reaching their potential.

Councillor Norman (Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources) welcomed the work of the Task and Finish Group and its recommendations, particularly noting the potential to work in partnership with the County Council and other interested bodies in the area of careers advice and guidance.

Councillor Organ (Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning) asked whether there was any evidence to support the finding that poor housing was a challenge for young people. He stated that the report was interesting and noted the clear findings.

Councillor Hampson explained that the finding in respect of poor housing being a barrier for young people was anecdotal and agreed that without proper evidence this should be removed from the report.

The Chair thanked the Task and Finish Group for their work and welcomed the findings and recommendations as a helpful prompt for wider issues.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Group, as set out in Appendix 2 to this report, be addressed and matters that can be actioned without the need of a further report be implemented at the earliest opportunity and that those recommendations requiring more detailed consideration be the subject of a further report to Cabinet as necessary.

35. ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT UPDATE

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods updating Members on the work done by Gloucester City Council to support current and ex-service personnel as part of the Gloucestershire Armed Forces Community Covenant and to seek ongoing endorsement of such activity.

RESOLVED:

- (1) Activities to support current and ex-service personnel as part of the Council's ongoing commitment to the Covenant be endorsed;
- (2) An annual update of achievements against the covenant continues to be received and that this is timetabled into the Cabinet Forward Plan.

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36. SHOPFRONTS, SHUTTERS AND SIGNAGE - DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR GLOUCESTER FOR CONSULTATION

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning seeking approval of the draft design guidelines for Shopfronts, Shutters and Signage for a period of public consultation.

Councillor Norman (Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning) endorsed the report and stated that it would be welcomed by local businesses and would help improve the aesthetic of the City. He requested that the consultation document be simple and easy to understand. The Head of Planning confirmed that a summary guidance leaflet would be sent out.

The Chair noted that the updated Design Guidelines struck an appropriate balance between conservation and advice for local businesses.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Shopfronts, Shutters and Signage – Design Guidelines for Gloucester, be approved for a 6 week period of public consultation.

Time of commencement: 6.00 pm

Time of conclusion: 6.32 pm

Chair