



Essex County Council

Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee

10:30	Thursday, 20 June 2019	Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH
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For information about the meeting please ask for:

Lisa Siggins, Democratic Services Officer

Telephone: 033301 34594

Email: democratic.services@essex.gov.uk

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1	Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest	5 - 6
2	Minutes To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2019.	7 - 10
3	Questions from the Public A period of up to 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make representations on any item on the agenda for this meeting. On arrival, and before the start of the meeting, please register with the Democratic Services Officer.	
4	Future Libraries Strategy – Petitions Update To receive report (PSEG/12/19) from Peter Randall Senior Democratic Services Officer regarding petitions received by Essex County Council that relate to the Future Libraries strategy.	11 - 12

- 5 Apprenticeships in Essex**
To receive a presentation from Cllr Ray Gooding, Cabinet Member for Education & Skills on apprenticeships in Essex. Also presenting will be Dominic Collins, Director of Economic Growth and Localities.
- 6 Essex Country Parks**
To receive a presentation From Cllr Mark Platt, Deputy Cabinet Member for Waste and the Environment on Country Parks. Also presenting will be Dominic Collins, Director of Economic Growth and Localities.
- 7 Date of Next Meeting**
To note that the next Committee meeting will be on Thursday, 18th July 2019 at 10.30am in the Council Chamber.
- 8 Urgent Business**
To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

Exempt Items

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

The following items of business have not been published on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Members are asked to consider whether or not the press and public should be excluded during the consideration of these items. If so it will be necessary for the meeting to pass a formal resolution:

That the press and public are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the specific paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A engaged being set out in the report or appendix relating to that item of business.

- 9 Urgent Exempt Business**
To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

All Council and Committee Meetings are held in public unless the business is exempt in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972. If there is exempted business, it will be clearly marked as an Exempt Item on the agenda and members of the public and any representatives of the media will be asked to leave the meeting room for that item.

The agenda is available on the Essex County Council website, <https://www.essex.gov.uk>. From the Home Page, click on 'Your Council', then on 'Meetings and Agendas'. Finally, select the relevant committee from the calendar of meetings.

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Access to the meeting and reasonable adjustments

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The Council Chamber and Committee Rooms are accessible by lift and are located on the first and second floors of County Hall.

Induction loop facilities are available in most Meeting Rooms. Specialist headsets are available from Reception.

With sufficient notice, documents can be made available in alternative formats, for further information about this or about the meeting in general please contact the named officer on the agenda pack or email democratic.services@essex.gov.uk

Audio recording of meetings

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If you are unable to attend and wish to see if the recording is available you can visit this link <https://cmis.essexcc.gov.uk/Essexcmis5/CalendarofMeetings> any time after the meeting starts. Any audio available can be accessed via the 'On air now!' box in the centre of the page, or the links immediately below it.

Should you wish to record the meeting, please contact the officer shown on the agenda front page

Agenda item 1

Committee: Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Enquiries to: Peter Randall, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

Recommendations:

To note

1. Membership as shown below
2. Apologies and substitutions
3. Declarations of interest to be made by Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct

Membership

(Quorum: 5)

Councillor I Grundy
Councillor B Aspinell
Councillor T Cutmore
Councillor A Erskine
Councillor I Henderson
Councillor S Hillier
Councillor P Honeywood
Councillor D Kendall
Councillor B Massey
Councillor R Moore
Councillor C Pond
Councillor R Pratt
Councillor W Schmitt
Councillor C Weston

Chairman

Minutes of the meeting of the Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee, held in Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH on Thursday, 23 May 2019

Present:

Councillor I Grundy (Chairman)	Councillor D Kendall
Councillor B Aspinell	Councillor R Moore
Councillor T Cutmore	Councillor R Pratt
Councillor A Erskine	Councillor W Schmitt
Councillor S Hillier	Councillor L Scordis
Councillor P Honeywood	Councillor C Weston

1 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

The report of the Membership, Apologies and Declarations was received, and it was noted that

1. The membership of the Committee had changed since the last meeting with the membership as set out in the report. The Chairman welcomed Councillors Moore and Henderson to the Committee.
2. Councillors C Pond, T Cutmore and I Henderson had sent their apologies,
3. A Code interest was declared by Councillor D Kendall with regards to Agenda Item 7 Passenger Transport – Sunday and Evening Bus Services in that he is Chairman of Brentwood Community Transport.

2 Appointment of Vice-Chairmen

The Chairman advised the Committee that the current vice-chairmen Councillors Hillier and Pond had agreed to be renominated for the two Vice Chairman posts

Both Councillors Hillier and Pond were nominated by Councillor Massey and seconded by Councillor Erskine.

By general consent, it was agreed that Councillors Hillier and Pond were each re-elected as a Vice Chairman of the Committee.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th April were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Questions from the Public

There were none

5 Future Libraries Strategy – Petitions Update

Members received and noted report (**PSEG/08/19**) from Peter Randall Senior Democratic Services Officer regarding petitions received by Essex County Council that relate to the Future Libraries strategy.

6 IPRC Update

Members received and noted report (**PSEG/09/19**) from Peter Randall Senior Democratic Services Officer regarding IPRC update.

7 Passenger Transport – Sunday and Evening Bus Services

The Committee received a presentation from Helen Morris, Head of the Integrated Passenger Transport Unit on Sunday and evening bus transport proposals. Councillor Ray Gooding and Andrew Cook, Director Highways and Transportation were also present for this item.

Ms Morris reminded Members that the consultation which concerned proposals for Sunday and evening bus services opened on 19th December 2018 and closed on 22nd March 2019. She advised that 3330 responses were received.

Members discussed the draft report circulated to members ahead of the meeting.

The proposals were - Refresh of the bus strategy: Getting Around in Essex:

- Shaping the bus network around usage
- Flexible delivery: encouraging innovation and maximising service levels
- Devolution: having the right services commissioned at the right level

Following the presentation, Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and the issues raised included:

- Pre-booking – at present this involves a 2 hour booking window which is phone based. However, there are proposals to promote this service further.
- Age of respondents – it was confirmed that details will be included in the final report.
- Why respondents disagreed with the proposals – it was stated that the responses indicated that they wanted services to continue in the current way.
- Breakdown by district – it was confirmed that it will be possible to provide details for each district
- Size of vehicles – some members commented that often large vehicles are used with few passengers on board. Members were

advised that it was hoped that going forward smaller vehicles would be used and possibly more frequent services as a result.

- Next steps including the opportunity for further scrutiny – Members were advised that a report will be submitted to Cabinet in June regarding the Sunday and evening services policy. Ms Morris advised that the report submitted will include full details of the routes involved and the recommended changes. In July there will be procurement reflecting flexible delivery models options. With regards to the devolution option this will be developed as part of review of all other services

8 **Air Quality Task and Finish Report – Cabinet member response**

Members received report (**PSEG/10/19**) and a PowerPoint presentation from Councillor Simon Walsh, Andrew Cook Director Highways and Transportation, John Meehan Head of Sustainability & Resilience and Graham Thomas Head of Planning.

The final Air Quality Task and Finish report was submitted to cabinet on the 3 March 2019 at the request of the Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee Chairman.

The report was sent to the following Members of the Cabinet:

Cllr Simon Walsh – Cabinet Member for Waste and the Environment

Cllr Kevin Bentley – Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure

Cllr John Spence – Cabinet Member for Adults and Health

Cllr Ray Gooding – Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

The Political Leadership Team appointed Cllr Simon Walsh as Air Quality Champion, tasked with taking forward the recommendations set out in the report.

The presentation outlined the initial cabinet member response to each of 22 recommendations in the above-mentioned report.

In several instances and in response to Member's questions it was confirmed that work is still ongoing and further information would be given to the Committee in due course.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Walsh and the officers for their contribution.

9 **Ringway Jacobs Task and Finish Group - Final Report**

Members received and noted report (**PSEG/11/19**) noting the final report of the Ringway Jacobs Task and Finish Group, submitted to the Cabinet Member on Monday 15 May 2019.

The Chairman thanked all those members involved for their contribution.

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Date of Next Meeting

The Committee noted that the next activity day will be on Thursday, 20 June 2019.

There being no urgent business the meeting closed at 12.30 pm

Chairman

AGENDA ITEM 4		PSEG/12/19
Committee:	Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	20/06/2019	
Report title:	Future Libraries Strategy – Petitions Update	
Enquiries to:	Peter Randall, Senior Democratic Services Officer Peter.randall@essex.gov.uk	

Purpose of report

This report provides an update on petitions received by Essex County Council that relate to the Future Libraries Strategy.

Members are asked to note the table and information below.

Petitions overview

The table below details an overview of current petitions and the areas they concern. Further information, such as petition text etc. is available upon request.

Please direct all enquiries relating to petitions to Jasmine.Carswell@essex.gov.uk

Library	Petitions Received	Total Signatures Gained
Rochford	1	13
Waltham Abbey	1	73
Coggeshall	2	2278
Great Tarpots	2	2538
Hadleigh	3	1730
Hockley	2	8028
Ingatestone	1	310
Manningtree	2	1852
Shenfield	3	8789
South Benfleet	2	1214
West Mersea	1	284
Wivenhoe	2	1226
Buckhurst Hill	2	3043
Chigwell	2	1662

Fryerns		
Great Wakering	3	532
Hatfield Peverel	1	227
Holland	2	755
Hullbridge	2	1141
Kelvedon	2	407
Mark Hall	1	444
Prettygate	1	28
Silver End	1	650
Thaxted	1	898
Tye Green		
Vange		
Writtle	1	695
Brightlingsea	2	527
Joint Library petitions		
Fryerns and Vange - joint	2	1620
Mark Hall and Tye Green	1	79
Potential Cross cutting		
38 Degrees - Save Tendring's Public Libraries	1	877
Non-Area Specific		
SOLE (Save our Essex Libraries)	5	15382
Defend your local library	1	246
Stop the loss of our libraries	1	139
Save our Essex Libraries (Lib Dem)	1	2259
Essex Libraries	1	36
	56	59982