MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLACE SERVICES & ECONOMIC GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD AT COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD ON 29 MAY 2014

Present:

Councillor S Walsh (Chairman) Councillor A Bayley Councillor G Butland Councillor A Erskine Councillor C Guglielmi Councillor T Hedley Councillor I Henderson Councillor D Kendall Councillor C Pond Councillor S Robinson Councillor A Wood

Councillor K Bobbin was also in attendance.

1. Membership

The Committee noted its membership as set out below:

Councillor S Walsh (Chairman)	Councillor I Henderson
Councillor A Bayley	Councillor D Kendall
Councillor G Butland	Councillor V Metcalfe
Councillor T Cutmore	Councillor C Pond
Councillor A Erskine	Councillor S Robinson
Councillor C Guglielmi	Councillor K Twitchen
Councillor T Hedley	Councillor A Wood

The Committee noted that Councillor Simon Walsh had been appointed as Chairman of this Committee at Full Council in May 2014.

2. Apologies and Substitution Notices

Apologies were received from Councillors K Twitchen, V Metcalfe and T Cutmore.

3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

Councillor A Wood was nominated as a Vice-Chairman and with the agreement of the Committee was duly appointed.

Councillor D Kendall was nominated as a Vice-Chairman and with the agreement of the Committee was duly appointed.

With reference to the appointment of a vice chairman from the minority political groups, it was agreed that that position would be rotated annually in the following order: 2013/2014 was a Labour nominee, 2014/2015 is a Liberal Democrat nominee, and moving forward, 2015/2016 will be an Independent Group nominee, and 2017/2018 a UKIP nominee.

4. Minutes

The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 10 February 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

6. Questions from the Public

No members of the public had registered their interest in asking a question on any of the items to be considered at the meeting.

7. Work Programme

The Committee noted report PSEG/17/14 concerning its Work Programme.

Christine Sharland, Scrutiny Officer, confirmed that an informal meeting of the Chairman and Group Spokesmen was taking place later that day to discuss topics being considered for inclusion in the work programme. A report seeking the Committee's approval of a programme for the next year would be presented to the next formal meeting of the Committee scheduled for 26 June 2014.

The Chairman stressed the need to adopt a more disciplined approach to the way that Committee resources are deployed in order to develop its overall effectiveness, and part of that process was to use topic selection criteria to produce a viable work programme.

8. Skills and Employment: Engagement with National Agencies and Programmes

The Committee noted report PSEG/18/14 reporting on the Committee Briefing held on 27 March 2014 on the County Council's engagement with national agencies and programmes in relation to skills and employment.

It was also noted that these issues were being fed into the topic selection process for possible inclusion in the Committee's future work programme.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The Committee noted the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 26 June 2014 at 10am in Committee Room 1. It was noted that the Committee's activities were likely to go into the afternoon on this date.

There being no urgent business the meeting closed at 10.08am.