

Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee, held in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH on Tuesday 30 April 2019

Present

Cllr M Mackrory
Cllr J Beavis
Cllr M Buckley
Cllr M Garnett
Cllr M Hardware

Cllr I Henderson
Cllr V Metcalfe
Cllr J Moran
Cllr W Schmitt
Cllr A Turrell

Apologies

Cllr J Abbott
Cllr R Pratt

Cllr M Steptoe

Also present

Cllr S Hillier

Richard Buttress, Democratic Services Manager was supporting the meeting.

1. Membership, Apologies and Declarations

Apologies were received from Cllr J Abbott, Cllr R Pratt and Cllr M Steptoe.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26 March 2019 were approved as an accurate record, pending two grammatical changes which have since been made.

3. Questions from the public

None received.

4. Task and Finish Group: Ringway Jacobs contract

Cllr Mackrory welcomed the following to the meeting:

- Cllr Kevin Bentley, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure
- Cllr Lesley Wagland, Deputy Cabinet Member for Infrastructure
- Cllr Tony Ball, Chair of the Task and Finish Group
- Andrew Cook, Director for Highways and Transportation.

Cllr Ball made the following introduction:

- Thanked officers and Members for the time and input into this report
- Remained concerned that Essex County Council (ECC) is not in a position to re-procure, should the recommendation from the Task and Finish been that
- Emphasised the importance of recommendation 3 and 11, around the formation of the Ringway Jacobs and Essex Highways Working Group and a KPI around work carried out by utility companies.

It was noted that the Task and Finish Group did not have enough time to look into everything it wished to.

The committee were impressed with the breadth and depth of information provided by officers to the Task and Finish Group.

Concerns were raised around other ECC contracts that may be in a similar position in terms of not being in a position to re-procure.

Ongoing scrutiny is key and this is preparing the groundwork for re-procurement in five years' time.

It was noted there was a consistent theme throughout this work which is around customer service and perception.

Barriers between officers and Members came down as the Task and Finish Group progressed.

There seems to be an ongoing issue with IT integration which is hindering business delivery.

There seems to be a reluctance to use external advice before the process of starting a review commences.

Actions

- 1) Cllr Bentley to be formally invited to attend the committee's meeting in July 2019 to provide a response to the recommendations.

5. Work Programme

The updated work programme was noted by the committee.

6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28 May 2019 at 2:00pm.

7. Urgent business

None received.

8. Urgent exempt business

None received.

The meeting closed at 11:30am.

Chairman