

CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE – INFORMATION REPORT

Background

1. Following most Committee meetings the Chair writes a letter to the relevant Cabinet Member or officer, summing up the Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the issues considered during that meeting. At the Committee meeting on 1 April 2015 Members received a report detailing the Committee-related correspondence sent by, and received by, the Committee relating to committee meetings held on 3 December 2014, 4 February and 4 March 2015. This report provides an update since then.

2. Members will find copies of the following letters attached in full in **Appendix A**:
 - i. Letter from Councillor Groves, Chair, to Councillor De'Ath, regarding the Quarter Three Community Safety performance report considered at Committee on 4 March 2015 – response awaited.
 - ii. Letter from Councillor Groves, Chair, to Councillor Elsmore, regarding items that fall within her portfolio considered at Committee on 4 March 2015 - responses received and attached, with Health and Social Care issues being addressed in the letter dated 23 March 2015 and Communities issues being addressed in the letter dated 23 April 2015.
 - iii. Letter from Councillor McGarry, Acting Chair, to Councillor Elsmore, regarding the Assessment and Care Management Business Process Review item considered at Committee on 4 March 2015 – response received and attached.

- iv. Letter from Councillor Groves, Chair, to Councillor Elsmore, regarding Health and Social Care issues, dated 15 April 2015 – response received and attached.

Way Forward

3. During their meeting, Members may wish to reflect on the letters sent and received by the Chair. In particular, they may wish to consider how far the recipients have responded to the Committee's letters.

Legal Implications

4. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

5. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with

recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to note the content of the letters contained in the appendices.

Marie Rosenthal

County Clerk and Monitoring Officer

30 April 2015