

Time Commenced – 6.00 pm
Time Finished – 6.52 pm

Supporting Derby's Workforce Overview and Scrutiny Board 27 July 2015

Present: Councillor Jackson (Chair)
Councillors Barker, Carr, Dhindsa, Grimadell, Whitby and Winter

01/15 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies were received.

02/15 Late Items

There were no late items.

03/15 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

04/15 Items Referred from Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board

There were no items referred.

05/15 Remit, Work Programme and Topic Reviews

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on the Remit, Work Programme and Topic Reviews and asking them to receive a report agreed by Council on 20 May 2015 that set out the new arrangements for Overview & Scrutiny. The Board were asked to discuss and agree the future work programme and topic review for the forthcoming municipal year. It was noted that further discussion of this item would be pertinent at Item 7 of the agenda, as further detail was available to Members at that point.

Resolved to note the report.

06/15 Employee Commission

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on the Employee Commission – Employment Charter. It was reported that the Employee Commission was formed in late 2014, to agree a commitment pledge by the Council around key areas that would ensure the Council and City employers were supporting Derby's workforce by providing fair pay and conditions to all employees and offering opportunities to improve skills and motivation. This resulted in the development of an Employment Charter, which identified ten aspirational commitments.

It was reported that Members would receive updates on the work and progress of the Charter as it expands at each scheduled Board meeting.

The Board noted that they welcomed the Employment Charter and the positive aspirations it would bring to the City in the future.

Resolved to note the Employment Charter that had been approved by the Council Cabinet and support the work of the Commission in delivering its commitments.

07/15 Scoping Report for Supporting Derby's Workforce Overview and Scrutiny Agendas

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on the Scoping Report for the Board. It was reported that the paper set out information on potential discussion items, relating to the Employee Commission and commitments in the Employment Charter, to be considered by the Board as potential topic reviews over the municipal year.

Members considered both options put to them in the report and were in agreement that the review they wished to take forward was the reduction in the use of agency workers and external consultants.

The Board noted that the scope of the topic review would include but were not limited to:

- Identifying, evaluating and profiling the current use of agency workers/consultants, and consider whether there are any opportunities to change the existing usage or improvements that could be made;
- Understand internal and external factors that may influence the demand for access to agency staff/external consultants;
- Identify opportunities for reducing unnecessary demand of agency workers / external consultants and maximising the use of cost effective channels;
- Work with the services to develop strategies for maximising fair employment contracts and minimising reliance on both.

Resolved to agree the topic review – the use of agency workers and external consultants for this municipal year.

MINUTES END