



Minutes of the Special Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) Overview and Scrutiny Committee

*Minutes of a meeting held on 13 August 2019
in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Fareham*

Members:

Councillors

Cllr Alan Glass (Chairman)
Cllr Ray Bolton
Cllr Bruce Tennent (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Dan Fitzhenry
Cllr Malcolm Johnson
Cllr Peter Davies
Cllr Phil Bundy
Cllr Dominic Hiscock

Authority Represented:

New Forest DC
Hampshire CC
Eastleigh BC
Southampton CC
East Hants DC
Fareham BC
Test Valley BC
Winchester CC

**Also in
Attendance:**

Paddy May
Richard Ivory

PUSH
Fareham & Southampton Legal Partnership

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND CHANGES IN OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

An apology of absence was received from Councillor Tom Davies (Fareham BC), with Councillor Peter Davies deputising.

Appointments to Committee:

Councillor Dianne Lloyd (Havant BC) and Councillor Dominic Hiscock (Winchester CC) have both been formally appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 26 June 2019, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements made at this meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared at the meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. PfSH Overview and Scrutiny

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report from the PfSH coordinator, Paddy May concerning the operation of the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee functions.

The Chairman invited Members to consider each recommendation in turn. In respect of the recommendation being presented to the Joint Committee as to whether the time of the PfSH Overview and Scrutiny meetings should change, Members discussed the merits of future meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee taking place in the daytime, specifically mornings, which having been proposed by Councillor A Glass and seconded by Councillor M Johnson was CARRIED unanimously.

In respect of the recommendation 1(b) in the report, Members considered the move of Overview and Scrutiny Meetings to take place prior to the Joint Committee meetings. Members discussed the benefit of pre-scrutiny and how their recommendations would be considered by the Joint Committee. Options presented to Members by the PfSH Co-ordinator were that the authors of reports could prepare a briefing note on the matters which were going to be received by the Joint Committee and those report authors could attend the Overview and Scrutiny meetings to give a verbal overview of the item.

Members, overall, supported the move to pre-scrutiny but Councillor Johnson raised concerns that pre-scrutiny could be seen as doubling-up on work and that his view was he wouldn't want the Committee to be seen as pre-empting decisions of the Joint Committee.

Members discussed when the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should meet to assist them in making timely and well-informed recommendations to the Joint Committee and the Chairman stated that he would be happy to attend the Joint Committee meetings to provide Members with any recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Having been proposed by Councillor B Tennent and seconded by Councillor D Hiscock it was CARRIED by 7 votes in favour and one abstention that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee moves its meetings to take place within 14 days, where possible, prior to the meetings of the Joint Committee to conduct pre-scrutiny.

Turning to recommendation 1(c) as to what else could be done to improve the effectiveness of scrutiny, Members were advised, on request, that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee could ask the Joint Committee to consider specific matters if they wished. The view of Members was that contribution to effective scrutiny could take place by pre-scrutiny meetings and attendance by the Chairman at the Joint Committee meetings.

Councillor B Tennent suggested the Overview and Scrutiny Committee reviews the changes and overall effectiveness of the PfSH scrutiny function in six months which was agreed by the Committee.

RESOLVED that having CONSIDERED the report, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: -

1. MOVES the times of the Overview and Scrutiny meetings to daytime meetings;
2. RECOMMENDS that the Joint Committee NOTES the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will meet prior to Joint Committee meetings;
3. RECOMMENDS to the Joint Committee that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairman attends Joint Committee meetings to provide any recommendations as made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and
4. AGREES the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will review the effectiveness of pre-scrutiny in six months' time.

(The meeting started at 10:30am and ended at 11:15am)