

Subject:	Report of the Seafront Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel		
Date of Meeting:	20 October 2014		
Report of:	Assistant Chief Executive		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Karen Amsden	Tel: 29-1084
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 In July 2013 OSC agreed to establish a scrutiny panel to explore issues relating to the seafront infrastructure. The panel was chaired by Councillor Gill Mitchell, with Councillors Vanessa Brown and Ian Davey and Dr Angela Benson, Principal Lecturer: Sustainable Tourism Development from University of Brighton (co-optee).
- 1.2 The scrutiny panel report is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report, and the current draft city Seafront Strategy (including maps of the seafront) as **Appendix 2**.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the OSC endorses the scrutiny panel report on seafront infrastructure (**Appendix 1**) and refer it on for consideration by the appropriate policy committee(s)

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 In July 2013, OSC agreed a request from the council's Executive Leadership Team for a scrutiny panel to be set up looking at the seafront infrastructure, identifying the highest priority areas for work and seeking to agree on how this work might best be funded and delivered.
- 3.2 A panel consisting of Councillors Mitchell, Davey, Brown and Dr Benson was established, with Councillor Mitchell agreeing to chair. The panel held three public evidence-gathering meetings, speaking to the Brighton and Hove Economic Partnership, representatives from local conservation groups, seafront businesses, Hastings Borough Council, and a range of officers within the city council.
- 3.3 The panel members also held a well-attended drop-in event for seafront traders and other stakeholders and a workshop event with the Brighton & Hove Tourism Advisory Board.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 The OSC has the option to decline to endorse the scrutiny panel report.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

5.1 The panel members spoke to a wide range of partners; please see the report for full details.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 In line with normal procedure, we are asking that the OSC endorses this report and refers it on to the appropriate BHCC Policy Committee(s) for consideration.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

7.1 The financial implications of the recommendations from the scrutiny panel will be assessed in the context of the Council's budget strategy when the recommendations are considered by the policy committees.

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 29/01/14

Legal Implications:

7.2 Once OSC has agreed its recommendations based on the work of the scrutiny panel, it must prepare a formal report and submit it to the council's Chief Executive for consideration at the relevant decision-making body.

7.3 If OSC cannot agree on one single final report, up to one minority report may be prepared and submitted for consideration by the relevant policy committee with the majority report.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 29/01/14

Equalities Implications:

7.4 None identified.

Sustainability Implications:

7.5 None identified.

Any Other Significant Implications:

7.6 None identified.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. The report of the Seafront Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel
2. The current draft city Seafront Strategy

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None