

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS) held in Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Thursday, 7 December 2023.

PRESENT: Councillor J E Kerr – Chair.

Councillors T Alban, M J Burke, S Bywater, S Cawley, S J Criswell, J E Harvey, N J Hunt, M Kadewere, C Lowe and D J Shaw.

APOLOGIES: An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor S R McAdam.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor S W Ferguson.

34. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

35. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

36. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

With the aid of a report by the Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme was presented to the Panel and the current Notice of Key Executive Decisions which had been prepared by the Executive Leader for the period 1st December 2023 to 31st March 2024 was noted.

37. NON-DOMESTIC RATES RURAL SETTLEMENTS LIST

By means of a report by the Revenue and Benefits Manager (a copy of which was appended in the Minute Book) the Non-Domestic Rates Rural Settlements List was presented to the Panel.

Following a question from Councillor Shaw, the Panel heard that there were no changes to the list from last year. It was also clarified that the map areas highlighted in blue were parts of urban areas which had been designated as defined rural settlements in order to support local businesses.

Councillor Criswell observed that due to there having been no change from the previous year, it may be prudent to pursue an alternative method of publishing the document. The Executive Councillor confirmed to the Panel that there was an option to do this via a delegated responsibility and that this would be investigated.

Following the discussion, it was

RESOLVED

that the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel be passed to Cabinet for their consideration when making a decision upon the recommendations contained within the report.

Chair