

Scrutiny Chair Cycle 3 Report to Council

The Committee met on 10th December with a very heavy agenda to get through!

the Committee received a presentation from the Provost of UCLAN Burnley which outlined plans to increase student numbers from 400 to 4000 by 2025. The Committee found the Provost's presentation illuminating and far reaching in its potential to bring a new dimension to Burnley on many different fronts. A question and answer session took place with members and the Provost responded setting out his vision and its consequential benefits to our town.

We also received reports on the Food Safety and Health and Safety delivery plans for the coming year. These plans ensure the Council meets its regulatory obligations and also provide an opportunity to review some of the work that has been undertaken over the previous twelve months, including the Food Hygiene Ratings Scheme, inspection of premises and incident investigation, and enforcement action.

The Committee reviewed the latest suite of budget reports - both noting the capital and revenue budget position as at 30th September and the mid-year update on the Council's Treasury Management activity in order to fulfil statutory obligations and meet the requirements of the CIPFA code of practice. The Committee then considered the annual fees and charges report, which is part of the budget setting process for 2019/20.

The Scrutiny Review Group looking at Dementia Services met recently and received a very informative presentation from Inspector Duncan Arthur from Lancashire Police. He outlined the work undertaken by Police in relation to the Herbert Protocol, which is used to assist in searching for missing persons living with dementia. The protocol is a paper form completed by family or carers which collates information useful to search teams and is supplied to them when required. Information such as previous addresses, medical information, methods of transport available are all useful information to the search team. The review group is now considering ways that they and other local organisations can support the scheme and encourage wider take up and will report to the Executive in the New Year.

In the private items section of the meeting the committee received:

- a report on workforce planning from the Chief Operating Officer which noted the latest update to the staffing structure which continues to deliver services across the borough.
- A report presented by the Chief Operating Officer, outlined plans by the Council's partner Burnley Leisure to further invest in the delivery of quality leisure services at the St Peter's Centre.
- The Chief Executive introduced a very important report on the Council's strategy, with partners, for the Pioneer Place development. The report, following questions from members, was well received and unanimously endorsed by the committee.
- The final report, also presented by the Chief Executive, was regarding phase 4 of the 'On The Banks' development and its development of student accommodation to complement the actions already outlined to the committee following the Provost's presentation and the all member briefing held on the same night. Members took the opportunity to ask questions on the report and endorsed it unanimously.

Clr Andy Tatchell