

## Chair of Scrutiny Report -14 April 2021 Full Council

This is my fifth and final report of the 2020/21 Municipal year.

At our last meeting the Committee welcomed the Chief Executive of Burnley Leisure who presented the Trust's 2019/20 final accounts and gave a presentation on the collaborative work the Trust had been involved in during the 2020 pandemic. He outlined the impact of the pandemic and the measures taken to ameliorate them and set out the road-map for re-opening the facilities in the coming months and the steps for recovery over the next 18 months.

Members were able to scrutinise the accounts and commended the Leisure Trust staff for their work to help combat the effects of Covid on the community, in particular their work with the Burnley Together Partnership.

Members did raise concerns over the tone of the annual report regarding the Trust's relationship with the Council and also the trustees' position in relation to risk of insolvency but were reassured that the trustees had been kept informed of the potential for insolvency at all times and that no personal liability would be incurred in the event of any debt. The Chief Executive also explained the letter of the support from the Council had not been received at the time the report had been written and that the good relationship with the Council would be reflected in the next report.

The Committee also received reports on the Council's Tree Management Policy and the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and were happy to recommend both to the Executive for approval.

Members also considered the Food Safety and Health and Safety Intervention Delivery Plans for the coming year. These plans ensure the Council meets its regulatory obligations and Members were able to review some of the work that has been undertaken during the previous year and complimented Officers for their sterling efforts in carry out their roles throughout the pandemic.

We also considered a late report which sought to extend the bulky waste priced reduction for a further six months and were able to support this proposal.

Our Vice Chair Councillor Marcus Johnstone gave an update on the Housing Repairs Review Group and that the Managing Director of Calico had agreed to attend the next meeting of the review group in March.

I was also able to update members on the outcome of the first meeting of the review group to consider a comprehensive review of Burnley Market Hall.

As this was the last meeting of the Committee in this municipal year both these reviews will be carried over into the new municipal year in May.

And finally, I would like to thank my colleagues of all political parties, for their support and often forbearance as Scrutiny Chair for the past six years.

I would also like to thank our first-class Democracy Officers (Chris, Imelda, Alison, Eric and Saima) who were always there ready to assist and offer valuable advice whenever needed.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure.

Councillor Andy Tatchell

Scrutiny Committee Chair

April 2021