

Report of the Chair

Special Scrutiny Programme Committee – 9 February 2015

EVIDENCE SESSION: SCRUTINY OF GYPSY & TRAVELLER SITE SEARCH PROCESS

Purpose	The ninth evidence session will enable the committee to hear from: Jack Straw, Chief Executive Phil Roberts, Director – Place Patrick Arran, Head of Legal, Democratic Services & Procurement
Content	The report provides a background / introduction to the evidence session.
Councillors are being asked to	Gather information as part of the committee's review of the process and ask questions.
Lead Councillor(s)	Councillor Robert Smith, Vice-Chair of Scrutiny Programme Committee.
Lead Officer & Report Author	Brij Madahar, Scrutiny Coordinator Tel: 01792 637257 E-mail: brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Since February 2014 a series of special meetings of the Scrutiny Programme Committee have been held to review the process adopted to date in the search for a second gypsy and traveller site.
- 1.2 The committee's role has been to consider whether the process, leading up to the report to Council on 21 October 2013, was robust. The committee is looking at the quality of that process, and may identify any learning points about the process, and recommend any changes for the future as appropriate.

2. Evidence Session – 9 February

- 2.1 The Chief Executive, Director – Place, and Head of Legal, Democratic Services and Procurement will attend to assist the committee by addressing some of the key issues that have emerged during the review, and deal with any outstanding questions.
- 2.2 This is anticipated to be the final evidence gathering session with officers.

3. Further Evidence Gathering

- 3.1 The committee has indicated that an evidence gathering session with councillors should be arranged before evidence gathering is concluded.
- 3.2 The exact nature of the session, questions to be put, and who this may need to involve, is to be determined by the committee.
- 3.3 Already identified by the committee to give evidence Councillor Nick Bradley, who was chair of the 2nd Gypsy & Traveller Site Task & Finish Group, has confirmed his availability to attend a future meeting.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no specific legal implications raised by this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications raised by this report.

Background Papers / Appendices: None

Legal Officer: Nigel Havard

Finance Officer: Carl Billingsley