

Overview and Scrutiny Review Matrix

Review Topic: Sports Hub

Timescale

Start:

Finish:

Review Rationale:

To determine whether there was a strategically and financially sound business case for the Sports Hub, and whether reliable and consistent advice was given to members about the project to assist them in their decision-making roles.

Terms of Reference:

To determine whether the Sports Hub project was value for money.

To determine whether the project would have delivered on the council's strategic objectives.

To determine whether the project was well managed.

To determine whether reliable and consistent advice was given to members about the project to assist them in their decision-making roles.

To determine whether the council's decision to abandon the project in its original form was a strategically and financially sound decision.

To establish whether the council intends to deliver any elements of the original project at Monks Lane (bearing in mind planning permission remains and project funds are being carried forward).

To determine what lessons can be learned from this project.

Review Membership:

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Chairman:

Vice-Chairman:

Scrutiny Officer:

Information Required

Documents/Evidence:

Sports Hub business case and all associated costs

Playing Pitch Strategy including Stage E Review 2022 and documentation relating to the planned 2024 review

Sports Hub planning application and associated papers

Western Area Planning Committee agenda pack (15 December 2021)

Executive decision 4149 (16 December 2021)

District Planning Committee agenda pack (2 March 2022)

WBC 'Defendant's Detailed Grounds of Resistance' presented to the High Court (22 September 2022)

Executive decision 4332 (23 March 2023)

LRIE task and finish group final report presented to OSMC (as Scrutiny Commission was formerly known) on 28 July 2020

Witnesses:

Internal

Councillor Woollaston, former Executive member for Internal Governance Leisure & Culture

Councillor Janine Lewis, current Executive member for Public Health, Culture, Leisure, Sport and Countryside

Nigel Lynn, CEO

Joseph Holmes, Executive Director Resources

April Peberdy, Service Director Communities and Wellbeing

Sarah Clarke, Solicitor – Service Director, Strategy & Governance

Masie Masiwa, Senior Planning Officer, Development & Regulation

Simon Till, Team Leader (Development Control), Development & Regulation

External

Sport England

Newbury Community Football Group

Rugby Club

Lynne Doherty, former Leader of WBC

Consultants who worked on the project who have since left WBC – acknowledging that they would not be obliged to attend to give evidence

Measures Available

Desired Outcomes:

To meet the objectives outlined in the terms of reference and produce a document of findings for Scrutiny Commission.