

Executive Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of Executive Scrutiny Committee was held on Tuesday, 26th September, 2006.

Present: Cllr K Lupton (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J Beaumont, Cllr D Cains, Cllr I J Dalgarno, Cllr J A Fletcher, Cllr M Frankland, Cllr J M Lynch, Cllr L Narroway, Cllr Mrs K F Nelson, Cllr W Noble, Cllr Mrs M Rigg, Cllr Mrs M B Womphrey, Cllr B Woodhead; Mr A Maxwell (Diocesan Representative)

Officers: Miss F Shayler, Mrs J Trainer (LD); Ms J Haworth (PP); G Cummings (R).

Also in attendance: None

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Councillors Jones, Mrs Nesbitt, Rix and Mrs Trainer; Mrs Mustafa, Mr I Bartle (Parent Governor Representatives).

548 Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st August 2006

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2006 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

549 Performance Report Quarter 1 2006/07

Members were provided with a report that outlined the Council's performance during Quarter 1 2006/07, providing details of performance against targets and improvement trends. Included within the report was performance against the Corporate basket of key performance indicators, financial information, and research and consultation undertaken during Quarter 1 of 2006/07.

Members were informed that the results from the MORI Residents Poll which was undertaken during the summer, would be released soon and that a Seminar for all Members would be held during November.

Members held discussion on the performance of Adult Literacy and Numeracy and requested more information on how the target was measured. It was requested that this be brought back to a future meeting.

Discussion was also held on the target for recycling and composting and it was requested that this matter be highlighted as a potential future topic for the Environment and Regeneration Select Committee Work Programme.

Gershon Efficiencies was another matter highlighted by members from this report and it was requested that a presentation be received by the Head of Finance on this matter to which all Members be invited.

RESOLVED that:-

1. A Seminar for all Members be held regarding the Residents MORI Survey.
2. Information be provided to a future meeting on how the Adult Literacy and Numeracy Target was measured.
3. Recycling and Composting be considered as a potential future review topic for the Environment and Regeneration Committee.

4. A Special Meeting be held to receive a presentation on Gershon Efficiencies to which all Members be invited.

550 Financial Position Update

Members were provided with information on the projected outturn position based on information to the end of June 2006 and the medium term financial position (MTFP).

Members held discussion on the first three months of the financial year and it was requested that the Income and Generation Services be informed of Members support for the action that they are taking.

It was requested that the Annual Presentation on Finance by the Corporate Director of Resources include an update to Members on how to look at and understand figures effectively.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

551 Review of Implementation of Previously approved recommendations from the Scrutiny Review of Access to Tristar Services

Members were provided with the outcomes of the review of implementation of previously approved recommendations relating to the scrutiny review of access to Tristar services undertaken by the Housing and Community Safety Committee during 2005/06.

Following the meeting of the Scrutiny Liaison Forum on 8 March 2006, a meeting of the Executive Scrutiny Committee was held on 7 April 2006 and it was agreed that a review of the implementation of recommendations arising from the review of access to Tristar services should be included in the 2006/2007 work programme. It was decided to undertake the review between April and August 2006 so that it would be completed in advance of the re-inspection of Tristar Homes by the Audit Commission in October 2006.

The completed review went to Tristar Board on 25 August and the Board accepted the assessment of progress contained within it.

RESOLVED that the work of the Select Committee be noted.

552 Monitoring Report - Scrutiny of Anti Social Behaviour - Reference to Executive Scrutiny

The following issues were identified by the Housing and Community Safety Select Committee arising from its monitoring review of anti social behaviour for inclusion in Select Committee Work Programmes:

-Resourcing of the Neighbourhood Enforcement Services for inclusion into the Housing and Community Safety Select Committee Work Programme

- An update from the ASB Team on the development of work with schools and young people to the Housing and Community Safety and Children and Young People Select Committee
- The Housing and Community Safety Select Committee to receive an Annual Report on Police Performance

In addition, the Housing and Community Safety Select Committee asked that the following issues be taken into account as part of the forthcoming review of choice based lettings:

- The potentially damaging impact upon settled and stable communities that housing allocations can have
- An examination of the Dundee/Rochdale projects where this relates to the allocations policy

RESOLVED that the matters raised be considered when setting the work programme for 2007/08.

553 Report of Select Committee Chairs on Progress of Scrutiny Reviews

The Chairman provided an update to Members on the Review of Preston Hall and Park. The final report would be discussed by Members at their meeting in October in order to meet with the submission date to Cabinet on 2nd November, 2006.

An update was provided on the Review of Teenage Pregnancy, the timescale for the review had changed in order for final evidence gathering to take place on 28th September, 2006. It was anticipated that once the Committee had agreed the final report and it had been considered by Executive Scrutiny Committee, the report would be presented to Cabinet on 30th November, 2006.

The Chairman provided an update on progress made on the Review of Corporate Consultation, the timescale remained unchanged. Members held discussion on Members attendance at Select Committees and asked for figures to be provided to the next meeting. It was also requested that a brief questionnaire be formulated to send to all members to determine whether anything could be done in order to improve attendance levels at Select Committee Meetings.

An update was provided to Members on the progress on the Review of Street Lighting. The timescale for the review remained unchanged. It was requested that Members consider Recycling and Environmental Health as future topics for review.

The Chairman provided an update on the review of NHS Dentistry Provision. The timescale for completion of the review had slipped slightly and it was anticipated that their final report would be presented to Cabinet on 2nd November, 2006. Following Cabinet the report would need to be considered by the PCT Professional Executive Committee and PCT Board. An update was provided on acute Service Provision. The scoping exercise for the next possible review would take place on 16th October, 2006.

An update on the Review of Tristar Homes was provided. The finalised report

was considered by the Tristar Board on 25th August, 2006 and they accepted the Committee's comments on progress against the original review's recommendations and suggestions for further improvement. The Committee had since held a meeting to receive a presentation and to scope and project plan their next review on Choice Based Lettings.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The updates be noted.
2. Figures from April 2006 highlighting Members attendance at Select Committees be provided at a future meeting.
3. A brief questionnaire be formulated and circulated to all Members to highlight any problems around attendance at Select Committee meetings. The outcome of this question be brought to a future meeting.