

Scrutiny Liaison Forum

A meeting of Scrutiny Liaison Forum was held on Wednesday, 10th February, 2010.

Present: Cllr Mrs Jennie Beaumont, Cllr Mrs Ann Cains, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr David Coleman, Cllr Robert Cook, Cllr Robert Gibson, Cllr Terry Laing, Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Mrs Maureen Rigg, Cllr Mick Stoker, Cllr Mrs Mary Womphrey

Officers: Julie Danks (R); Paul Dobson (DNS); J. Humphreys (CESC); David Bond, Margaret Waggott, Judith Trainer and Michael Henderson (LDS)

Also in attendance:

Apologies: Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Alex Cunningham, Cllr David Harrington, Cllr Maurice Perry Cllr Alison Trainer and Neil Schneider

SLF 1/09 Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED that J. Danks be appointed Chairman for the meeting

SLF 2/09 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

SLF 3/09 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th February 2009 be agreed as a true record

SLF 4/09 Scrutiny Work Programme - Selection of In Depth Scrutiny Reviews

The Forum considered a report relating to the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2010/2011.

Members noted that the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2009/2010 had mainly focused on the Council's Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation(EIT)programme. Most reviews had or were nearing completion with the exception of the Fair Access to Care Services Review and the Youth Services Review. Both of these reviews would need to be factored into the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2010/2011.

Topics for 2010/2011 had been sought from Members, Officers and public bodies. Members of the public were able to suggest topics at any time of the year. Each suggestion received had been assessed using the PICK system which scored and helped prioritise topics based on public interest, impact, efficiency and performance and context. A schedule detailing all the suggestions received together with their PICK score was provided to the Forum.

The Forum considered the topics received and agreed priorities and proposals for a Work Programme 2010/2011:-

Regeneration and Transport Select Committee – Events, Arts and Tourism

Arts, Leisure and Culture Select Committee – Sport, Leisure and Recreation

Children and Young People Select Committee – Youth Services (Outstanding from Year 1)

Corporate, Adult Services and Social Inclusion Select Committee – School Catering

Environment Select Committee - Built & Natural Environment

Health Select Committee – Fair Access to Care (Outstanding work from Year 1)

Gateway Review – An Officer Review reporting to Housing and Community Safety Select Committee at Key Stages

Admin, Business Support/ Customer Services and Performance Management

Reporting to Executive Scrutiny Committee – Officer Reviews reporting into Executive Scrutiny Committee at Key Stages

- Procurement/ Commissioning
- Building Asset Review
- ICT Services

Select Committee Task and Finish Group(s)

- Cycling on Pavements
- Outside Bodies

The Forum agreed that Mental Health Services should be referred to the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee. It was noted that the focus of such a review would be the commissioning of services across the Tees Valley.

The Forum was informed that, in addition to the in depth review work, Select Committees would continue to receive the usual action plans and progress reports in respect of the reviews which had concluded. An annual overview meeting would also be held towards the end of the year.

Regeneration and Transport Select Committee had also requested involvement with the review of Winter Emergency Arrangements. The request was being discussed at Executive Scrutiny Committee on 16 February 2010. As an officer review had already commenced, it was likely that a report would be presented to Regeneration and Transport Select Committee during the summer for consideration and challenge prior to consideration by Cabinet.

Health Select Committee would continue to be responsible for receiving statutory and non statutory health consultations and briefings.

RESOLVED that the proposed work programme, identified above, be submitted to the Executive Scrutiny Committee for further consideration.