

Executive Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Executive Scrutiny Committee was held on Tuesday 21st November, 2006.

Present: Councillor Lupton (Chairman), Councillors Beaumont, Cains, Frankland, Lynch, Narroway, Noble, Mrs Rigg, Rix, Roberts (vice Councillor Mrs Trainer), Mrs Womphrey.

Officers: Mrs M Waggott, Miss F C Shayler, Mrs J Trainer (LD); Ms J Haworth (PP).

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Jones, Dalgarno, Fletcher, Mrs Nelson, Mrs Nesbitt, Mrs Trainer and Woodhead; Mr T Maxwell (Diocesan Representative); I Bartle (Parent Governor Representatives).

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th October 2006 were noted for information.

Condolences

The Committee wished to forward their Condolences to Graham Birtle, Scrutiny Officer, whose wife had recently passed away.

Report of Select Committee Chairs on Proposed Scrutiny Review Topics

Adults, Leisure and Culture

Members were informed that the Head of Art and Culture and Arts Manager had met with the Committee to provide an introduction to the Stockton International Riverside Festival (SIRF). A further meeting would be held on 22nd November to introduce the Committee to the Billingham International Folklore Festival.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman would also be meeting with Officers in order to agree a mechanism for consultation.

The Project Plan highlighted that the review was anticipated to be completed on 21st March 2007, with submission to Cabinet on 12th April 2007.

Children and Young People

The Committee had concluded gathering information for the Review of Teenage Pregnancy and a draft report was currently being prepared. The final report was due to be presented to Executive Scrutiny Committee on 19th December and then Cabinet on 4th January, 2007, but this was still subject to change.

Members of the Committee had been considering their future work programme and the feasibility of 'Bullying' was being considered.

The Committee would be receiving feedback on the Education, Leisure and Cultural Select Committee's Youth Club Provision report which had been accepted by Cabinet on 5th January 2006.

Corporate Policy Review

The Review of Corporate Consultation final draft report would be presented to the Committee on 12th December, 2006. Also, at this meeting the Committee would begin scoping its next review on Meeting Venues.

Environment and Regeneration

A Tripartite meeting was held on 1st November to agree the recommendations for the Street Lighting Review. The report would be submitted to the Safer Stockton Partnership on 5th December for consultation and then the final draft report would be submitted to the Committee for final agreement on 11th December.

The Committee would also be considering future review topics.

Health

The final report following the review of NHS Dentistry would be considered by the PCT Board on 23rd November and had been sent to the North East Strategic Health Authority but no response had been received at present.

The Select Committee would be meeting with the Healthcare Commission to receive advice and guidance on providing a response to the PCT on the Hospital Trusts Annual Healthcheck.

An update was also provided on the Acute Service Provision and it was reported that the Independent Reconfiguration Panel was continuing to take evidence and would be reporting its findings on 18th December to the Secretary of State, a report would then be published four weeks later.

Housing and Community Safety

An update was provided on the review of Choice Based Lettings. The Committee had undertaken a site visit to Choice Homes, the Choice Based Lettings Scheme for Newcastle and Erimus Homechoice, to gather evidence. A Special meeting had been organised for 8th December in order to gain evidence from the Tees Valley Choice Based Lettings Co-ordinator.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The updates be noted.