

OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

23rd June 2003

PRESENT:-

Labour Group

Councillor Bell (Chair) and Councillors Harrington and Murphy.

Conservative Group

Councillor Hood (Vice-Chair).

OV/1. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th April 2003 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

OV/2. **REPORTS OF THE COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

Councillor Harrington outlined those issues considered by the Community Scrutiny Committee at its Meeting held on 10th June 2003. Matters discussed included progress on the Disability Discrimination Act, play equipment provision, an update on the Community Safety Best Value Review and the Work Programme.

Councillor Bell reported on the deliberations of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its Meeting held on 16th June 2003. The Committee had considered the Best Value Performance Plan, the Corporate Plan, the Work Programme, the Best Value Review for Finance Services, an overview of the IEG Statement and a special project regarding the scoring system for service development proposals and capital projects.

OV/3. **CONSTITUTION ACTION PLAN**

Members considered the composite Action Plan relating to this matter and the Chair outlined the background to the preparation of the Plan following a review by District Audit. It was acknowledged that several issues still required addressing but in reviewing the Plan, it was apparent that many matters had now been addressed in the normal course of events.

In order that a formal response could be made to District Audit, it was suggested that a full report on the matter be submitted to the next Meeting of the Committee on 11th August 2003 to enable recommendations to be made to the Council on any constitutional matters.

RESOLVED:-

That a further report on this matter be submitted to the next Meeting of the Committee on 11th August 2003.

OV/4. **PROMOTING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

The Chair considered that awareness of the Scrutiny function should be increased, both internally and externally and a powerpoint presentation was now available, possibly for use at Area Meetings. It was considered that a more pro-active approach should be made in reporting to Policy Committees and it was noted that a standard item was included on the agenda for all Meetings of Policy Committees. It was also intended to adopt a standard format for future reports to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

OV/5. **WORK PROGRAMMES**

The Work Programmes for the Community and Corporate Scrutiny Committees were circulated to the Committee, which detailed the matters to be considered relating to Best Value Reviews, the policy framework and special projects. It was noted that this Committee could consider any appropriate cost cutting issues in the future.

R. L. BELL

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 5.05 p.m.