

OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

14th August 2006

**PRESENT:-**

**Labour Group**

Councillor Bell (Chair) and Councillors Lane and Bambrick.

**Conservative Group**

Councillor Bladen (Vice-Chair) and Councillor Atkin.

OV/5. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd July 2006 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

OV/6. **REPORT OF COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Committee received a report from the Chair of the Community Scrutiny Committee, Councillor R. Lane on the work undertaken to date and that which was planned to take place during the forthcoming municipal year.

Members were advised that the Community Scrutiny Committee had, at its last Meeting, started to investigate the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) for Waste Management. It was confirmed that the Committee would take a strategic approach and would consider the various waste management options, their relative costs, how this would impact on performance as measured by the BVPIs and the need to meet customer requirements.

Councillor Lane advised that as part of the Committee's investigation, an informal Meeting had taken place on 14th August 2006. Members had received further information from Officers on the key strategic issues around waste management and a series of site visits to both a Beacon status Council for waste management and those Councils, which had similar circumstances to South Derbyshire would take place on 30th August 2006 and 8th September 2006. The purpose of the site visits was to enable Members to gather further information and evidence to assist the Committee's scrutiny of the various strategic implications of the operation of a Council's waste management service.

The Meeting was informed that the Community Scrutiny Committee had agreed to consider in detail BVPI 109 a-c (time taken to determine planning applications). Members had received a presentation on this matter on 10th August 2006 and a number of meetings and discussions had taken place with Officers from the Planning Service to provide background information for Members to assist their consideration of the strategic issues involved.

Councillor Lane advised that the following items would be considered by the Community Scrutiny Committee at its Meeting on 11th September 2006:-

- Big Lottery Fund
- Rural Post Office closures

- Housing Performance Indicators BVPI 183 a and b
- Housing Repairs and Maintenance Inspection
- Waste Management BVPIs- Achieving Targets
- Achieving Targets- Planning Applications
- Derbyshire County Council Street Scene Review
- Publicity and promotion (leaflet and website).

***It was agreed that the information provided in respect of the work undertaken to date in respect of the Community Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2006/07 and the list of items to be scrutinised at the Meeting on 11th September 2006 be noted.***

#### OV/7. **REPORT OF CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Bell advised Members of the details of the Committee's Work Programme for 2006/07 and the work undertaken to date.

Councillor Bell informed the Meeting that the Corporate Scrutiny Committee had decided to scrutinise the Council's Sickness Absence Policy and that the matter would be considered in detail at the next meeting. It was proposed that a report on the findings of the Scrutiny Committee would be submitted to the Finance and Management Committee at its Meeting in October 2006.

Members were advised that the following items would be considered at the next Corporate Scrutiny Committee Meeting on 18th September 2006:

- Use of Resources
- Service Standards
- Shifting Resources
- Sickness Absence
- Corporate Plan – Getting Your Ideas into Action

***It was agreed that the information provided in respect of the work undertaken to date on the Corporate Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2006/07 and the list of the items to be scrutinised at the next Meeting on 18th September 2006 be noted.***

#### OV/8. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chair advised that the Overview Committee was the forum to overview and co-ordinate the work programmes of the other two Scrutiny Committees. The Principal Policy Officer distributed copies of a draft leaflet entitled "Overview and Scrutiny Committees A Short Guide" to all Members present at the Meeting.

During the course of the discussions and consideration of the draft leaflet, the following comments were made by Members:-

- That Officers be asked to consider redesigning the central section of the front page of the leaflet and that the scrutiny eye image be incorporated.
- That the composition of the Community and Corporate Scrutiny Committees be listed first and second on the list of Committee details.

- That the membership of each Committee be shown in an “across the page” format.

***It was agreed:***

- ***That the Deputy Chief Executive be authorised to agree the layout and design of the “Overview and Scrutiny Committees A Short Guide” leaflet, following consultation with the Chairs of the Community Scrutiny, Corporate Scrutiny and Overview Committees.***
- ***That any further comments by Members on the above draft leaflet be forwarded to the Principal Policy Officer as a matter of urgency.***

R. L. BELL

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 5.00 p.m.