

OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

16th December 2002

**PRESENT:-**

**Labour Group**

Councillor Bell (Chair), Councillor Harrington (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Bambrick and Rose.

**Conservative Group**

Councillors Bladen and Mrs. Robbins.

The Chair welcomed Andrea McCaskie, the new Legal and Democratic Services Manager to the Meeting.

OV/28. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th November 2002 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

OV/29. **REPORTS OF THE COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

Councillor Harrington outlined those issues considered by the Community Scrutiny Committee at its Meeting held on 2nd December 2002. Matters discussed included progress on the Local Plan Review, progress on the delivery of the Action Plan relating to the Cleansing the Environment Best Value Review, Waste Management and Recycling, progress on the implementation of the Crime and Disorder Strategy, the Cultural Strategy/Corporate Strategy, the Disability Charter and the Best Value Review of Car Parking, which would be considered as part of a wider review of Technical Services.

Councillor Bell reported on the deliberations of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its Meeting held on 9th December 2002. The Committee had considered the IEG Statement, the budget, a review of arrangements for central establishment charges, Best Value Reviews in connection with Human Resource Management and Asset Management, "How Green is the Council" and the monitoring of Council Plans and Strategies. With regard to the latter item, the Chair reported that a Working Group was to be established to consider the matter in more detail. It was agreed to appoint Councillors Bell, Harrington, Mrs. Robbins and Rose to this Working Group.

OV/30. **WORK PROGRAMMES**

The Work Programmes for the Community and Corporate Scrutiny Committees had been circulated to the Committee, which included the Best Value Reviews currently in progress, matters for consideration within the policy framework and special projects.

OV/31. **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Members suggested possible special projects for future consideration, including the Disability Discrimination Act which was currently being progressed through the Community Scrutiny Committee, the management and maintenance of buildings and the use of space within the Civic Offices, which was an outstanding issue in the Asset Management Plan.

OV/32. **CONSTITUTION – ACTION PLAN**

Members were reminded of the background to this matter, which would now be progressed following the recent employment of a new Legal and Democratic Services Manager. A meeting of the reconvened Modernising Local Government Working Panel would be arranged early in the new year and the Legal and Democratic Services Manager advised that the Government did not intend to introduce any major changes to the model Constitution at the present time. In any event, the Constitution would be under a continual review.

R.L. BELL

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 4.40 p.m.