

OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

16th April 2007

PRESENT:-

Labour Group

Councillor Bell (Chair) and Councillors Bambrick and Lane.

Conservative Group

Councillors Atkin and Bladen (Vice-Chair).

OV/30. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th February 2007 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

OV/31. **REPORT OF COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Lane gave an update on the current actions of the Community Scrutiny Committee, as follows:-

(a) Achieving Targets 2006/09 - Planning Applications

The Community Scrutiny Committee had considered a briefing paper prepared by the Head of Planning Services regarding the progress made by the Environmental and Development Services Committee on achieving targets 2006/09 in respect of planning applications. Members were advised that the Planning Service was six months into an eighteen months project regarding the re-engineering of this service.

It was agreed that a progress report be submitted to the Community Scrutiny Committee in six months time on achieving targets 2006/09 in respect of planning applications, subject to this matter being agreed for inclusion in the Committee's work programme in the new municipal year 2007/08.

(b) Recycling And Composting Services

The Committee had considered a report which provided further information on accelerating the provision of Recycling and Composting Services to all households across the district.

The Deputy Chief Executive reported that he had received correspondence from Derbyshire County Council with regard to the consideration of preferred sites for a waste disposal facility.

Councillor Atkin pointed out that there was no reference within the recycling leaflet of where shredded paper could be disposed, or whether all cardboard could be placed within a composting bin. The Deputy Chief Executive agreed to ask the Head of Environmental Services to contact Councillor Atkin to provide further advice, and amend the leaflet if necessary.

(c) Progress Report On Arrangements To Improve Homelessness Services

The Committee had considered a report which provided information on homelessness service provision, particularly performance indicators BVPI 183a and BVPI 183b.

(d) Audit Commission Inspection Of The Council's Housing Repairs and Maintenance Service

The Community Scrutiny Committee had considered a report which detailed progress made following the Audit Commission's inspection of the Council's Housing Repairs and Maintenance Service in 2005.

(e) Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

The Community Scrutiny Committee had received a verbal report from the Head of Environmental Services on the powers available under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 and details of fixed penalty notices issued under the 2005 Act.

Members were keen to see figures regarding the use of enforcement powers and with regard to the number of notices issued.

(f) Low Frequency Noise

The Community Scrutiny Committee had considered a report on low frequency noise investigations in South Derbyshire.

(g) Feedback - Delivery of Council Services by the Post Office Network

It was agreed that a meeting be arranged between the South Derbyshire Citizens Advice Bureau, South Derbyshire CVS and the Officer Working Group to discuss the progress made relating to the delivery of Council services via the Post Office Network.

(h) Derbyshire PCT

It was noted that Officers had been requested to acknowledge the letter from the Burton Hospitals and NHS Trust dated 21st March 2007 in respect of consultation on Foundation Trust status.

OV/32. **REPORT OF CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Bell gave an update on the current actions of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, as follows:-

(a) Information Project

It was reported that this item had been considered at a Special Meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 12th March 2007.

The production of all literature and leaflets from the District Council had been considered and a report making recommendations had been considered by the Finance and Management Committee on 22nd March 2007. It was reported that all proposals had been accepted at this Meeting.

(b) Review of the Budget Proposals

A report on this matter had been considered by the Finance and Management Committee at its Meeting on 22nd March 2007. All recommendations had been accepted.

OV/33. **ANNUAL REPORT**

It was confirmed that the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report had been completed and would be presented to the Council Meeting on 19th April 2007. Councillor Bell added that the Scrutiny Committees had completed a lot of work and shown a great deal of commitment during the year, achieving significant progress. It was agreed that the Scrutiny Committees should prepare their own work programmes in the new municipal year.

Councillor Bell thanked the Officers who had assisted the Scrutiny Committees and also thanked Members for their work throughout the year, adding that it had been an encouraging team effort.

R.L. BELL

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 4.30 p.m.