

OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

23rd September 2002

**PRESENT:-**

**Labour Group**

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

**Conservative Group**

Councillors Bladen and Mrs. Robbins.

(Councillor Mrs. Rose also attended the Meeting and, with the approval of the Chair, spoke to Minute No. OV/18).

OV/17. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th August 2002 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

OV/18. **REPORTS OF THE COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

Councillor Harrington outlined those issues considered by the Community Scrutiny Committee at its Special Meeting held on 19th August 2002 and its normal Meeting held on 9th September 2002. The Special Meeting had focused on housing issues, including the Housing Investment Programme 2002, Sheltered Housing Services, the Housing Services Change and Improvement Programme and the Housing Services Best Value Review. Dates were to be arranged shortly for site visits by Members in connection with the proposed re-inspection of the Sheltered Housing Service by the Best Value Inspectorate.

At the Meeting held on 9th September 2002, matters discussed included progress on the Local Plan Second Deposit Draft, progress on the Implementation Plan in connection with the Best Value Review of Development Control, the Best Value Review for Older People's Services, progress on the implementation relating to the Cleansing the Environment Best Value Review, progress on the Action Plan in connection with Health and Safety Enforcement, the Community Safety Best Value Review, progress on implementation of the Crime and Disorder Strategy, the Cultural Strategy and the South Derbyshire Community Strategy.

With regard to the issue of BMX/Skateboarding facilities, it was suggested that this matter should remain as an agenda item for future meetings and Councillor Mrs. Rose asked to be kept informed of progress on this matter. The Deputy Chief Executive reported that service development proposals would be progressed through the budget process.

Councillor Bell reported on the deliberations of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its Meeting held on 16th September 2002. The Committee had considered the draft Procurement Strategy, the IEG Action Plan, Best Value

Reviews for Asset Management and Human Resources, progress on Investors in People, planned monitoring and “How Green is the Council”. With regard to the latter item, it was noted that a presentation was to be made to the forthcoming Council Meeting by Mr. Purviss of High Peak Borough Council on the EMAS Scheme implemented by that Authority. Councillor Mrs. Rose queried the possibility of brown bins being provided in the Swadlincote area and the Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that this matter would be included in a report to the appropriate committee in due course.

OV/19. **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. The Policy and Best Value Manager provided updates on the programmes and it was noted that an additional meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee would now be necessary on 27th January 2003 for budget purposes.

OV/20. **CONSTITUTION – ACTION PLAN**

It was reported that its Meeting held on 5th September 2002, the Finance and Management Committee had agreed to reconvene the Modernising Local Government Working Panel to progress outstanding issues on the Action Plan. It was hoped that a Meeting would be arranged shortly but it was noted that although a new Legal and Democratic Services Manager had now been appointed, it was unlikely that the successful applicant would be in post until mid-November. It was understood that the Acting Manager of this Division had recently commenced work on delegation.

OV/21. **REVIEW OF PLANNING PROCEDURES**

The Chair reminded Members that at the last Meeting of the Committee, it was agreed that a report be considered at this Meeting for subsequent submission to the next Meeting of the Council. However, following further discussions with Officers, the Chair now considered that this course of action should not yet be taken and suggested that the concerns surrounding the particular planning issue should be submitted to the Deputy Chief Executive requesting him to review the associated procedures. The Chair suggested that the matter should also be an ongoing agenda item for monitoring purposes.

**RESOLVED:-**

***That the suggested course of action outlined by the Chair be approved.***

R.L. BELL

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 7.40pm