

OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

19th September 2005

PRESENT:-

Labour Group

Councillor Harrington (Chair) and Councillors Lane and Murphy.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillor Bladen (Vice-Chair) and Councillor Mrs. Hood (Conservative Group).

OV/9. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th August 2005 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

OV/10. **REPORTS TO POLICY COMMITTEES**

It was reported that the report on the Strategic Planning Review should be completed shortly for submission to the Finance and Management Committee on 13th October 2005. The Chair reported that a report on the Consultation Exercise on the Corporate Plan would also be submitted to this Meeting of the Finance and Management Committee.

OV/11. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chair raised several issues which the Committee may wish to consider. The first related to IT issues, in particular the future funding following the cessation of IEG funding and the issues associated with Members' laptops. The Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that with regard to funding, the direct revenue consequences had been built into the revenue streams but activities in future years needed to be considered and it was noted that the ICT Strategy was in the course of development. It was hoped that policy committees would also be prepared to become involved in the process. It was agreed that the matter be considered further at the next Meeting of the Committee together with issues associated with Members' laptops. In this regard, it was noted that a meeting of the Member Working Group would be convened shortly to consider various issues.

The Chair suggested that the Committee may also wish to consider health issues and in this regard, the Community Scrutiny Committee had been trying to engage Social Services together with the PCT in discussions. The Chair had discussed the matter with the Council's Head of Leisure and Community Development and it was reported that the Authority received only £3,000 per annum from the PCT, which was considered hugely inappropriate as a commitment to South Derbyshire for benefits to health. Councillor Lane considered that the structure and process should be considered and the Deputy Chief Executive advised that as PCT's were currently involved in a merger process, they may be difficult to engage during the next few months. The demographic changes within the District were now flowing into the PCT

settlements and it was noted that PCT's would be receiving a substantial rise in funding from 1st April 2006. It was felt necessary to ascertain whether the Head of Leisure and Community Development had the resources and capacity to deliver both Crime and Disorder and health issues and it was agreed that discussions be held and a report submitted to the next Meeting.

OV/12. **PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Further to Minute No. OV/8 of 8th August 2005, the Chair advised that he was still awaiting feedback from the County Council. Accordingly, this issue would be considered further at the next Meeting and in the meantime, it was agreed that the possibility of Members visiting a Scrutiny Meeting at the County Council during the next few weeks should be explored.

K. HARRINGTON

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 4.50 p.m.