

POLICY REVIEW SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Tuesday 24 July 2012
Councillor C Powell (Chair)

Councillors:

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| P A Allan | S Poole |
| E Bailey | S J Prew-Smith (a) |
| K Blair | G Tunnicliffe |
| R F Collis (vice chair) | H Wheeler (a) |
| K Fox (a) | |
| M Glover | |

Observers: M Hope

Officers in attendance: J Ansell

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fox, Wheeler and Prew - Smith.

TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2012.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

None

OVERVIEW SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Member Services Team Leader updated Members on the actions and recommendations of the Overview Scrutiny Committee on 26th June 2012.

RESOLVED: to note the report

TEA AND SCRUTINY EVENT REPORT

The Chair informed Members of the outcomes of the Annual Tea and Scrutiny review and evaluation event and asked for Members comments.

A number of comments were submitted and noted for consideration by the Overview Scrutiny Committee.

Members were also made aware of the process by which the Overview Scrutiny Committee will take forward the recommendations of the report, as follows:

Overview Scrutiny Committee to invite the Leader and Deputy to a meeting in September to establish how any proposed changes to the governance arrangements might affect the Scrutiny structure and process.

The committee to then devise and take forward a Scrutiny Development plan, taking account of comments received from Members and Officers and in the light of any proposed changes to Governance arrangements.

RESOLVED: to note the report and submit any further comments to the Member Services Team Leader.

POLICY SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME REVIEW

The Chair gave an overview of the current Policy Scrutiny work programme and asked the working group chair and Member Services team leader to provide feedback on the progress of the Localism, Planning and Housing review.

Members were informed that this review had been divided into 2 elements:

- The impact of the Localism Act on Planning (National Planning Policy Framework, Neighbourhood Planning)
- The impact of Localism on Housing Strategy and Welfare reform (The requirement to develop policies and strategies on Homelessness, Tenancy arrangements, Access to the Ombudsman and Housing)

Members were informed that the working group had held four meetings and received presentations from officers on both elements of the review. A work programme for Member's input to the development of Council Policies will commence in the Autumn.

Councillor Miller requested to be included in the working group membership.

Members also considered the final report and recommendations of the 'Use and Generation of Energy' review working group, and identified the next priority review to be scoped in the Autumn:

The Council's Engagement with the Voluntary Sector

Councillor Paling requested to be included in the working group membership.

RESOLVED:

- i) To approve the 'Use and Generation of Energy' report for referral to Cabinet, subject to the inclusion of the following additional recommendation:

'That the performance of the photovoltaic panels is regularly monitored and the outcomes reported into the Covalent performance monitoring system, both in terms of levels of energy generated and payback received. Also, that the performance of the panels is made available in the public domain.'

- ii) To approve the scope of the Localism, Planning and Housing Review
- iii) To schedule an initial scoping meeting of the following working group:

The Council's Engagement with the Voluntary Sector

ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

None