



**AGENDA ITEM: 10**

## **HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**29 MAY 2008**

### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD UPDATE**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To ensure that Members are aware of what took place at the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting on 6 May 2008.

#### **PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAST OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

2. At the previous meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, the following matters were discussed and considered necessary to feed back to the Panel.

**6 May 2008**

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION/COMMENTARY</b>
<b>Executive Member for Streetscene (Councillor P Khan) to address the Board</b>	<p>The Executive Member explained his responsibilities, together with an outline of current aims, objectives and priorities. Particular reference was made to the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improvements resulting from Area Care arrangements</li><li>• Pressures to increase recycling rates</li><li>• Recent problems concerning refuse collections</li></ul> <p>OSB Members were given the opportunity to question the Executive Member.</p>
<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION/COMMENTARY</b>

<p><b>Executive Forward Work Programme</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the report was to provide the Board with the opportunity to discuss whether any item within the Executive Forward Work Programme should be considered by the Board or referred to a scrutiny panel.</p> <p>The Board considered the content of the Executive Forward Work Programme.</p>
<p><b>Executive Feedback - - Early Years Learning Outcomes and Surestart - Life Expectancy with a particular Focus on Cardiovascular Disease</b></p>	<p>The Board was provided with formal notification of the Executive's decisions in respect of the following scrutiny reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years Learning Outcomes and Surestart</li> <li>• Life Expectancy with a particular Focus on Cardiovascular Disease</li> </ul> <p>The Executive had approved the service response in each case.</p>
<p><b>Audit Commission - Audit and Inspection Letter- March 2008</b></p>	<p>The report provided an overall summary of the Audit Commission's assessment of the Council. Information was provided on the most recent Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA), the findings and conclusions from the audit of the Council for 2006/07 and from inspections undertaken since the last Annual Audit and Inspection Letter.</p> <p>The Board noted the content of the document.</p>
<p><b>Erimus Housing - Grounds Maintenance Contract</b></p>	<p>The Environment Scrutiny Panel sought to investigate the circumstances surrounding the Council losing the Erimus Housing - Grounds Maintenance Contract, which was valued at over £900,000. Given that the authority will still be responsible for grounds maintenance of some areas of Erimus Housing's estates, the implications for service provision were also considered.</p> <p>An update was provided at the OSB meeting following the Environment Scrutiny Panel's consideration of the report at its 28 April 2008 meeting.</p> <p>The report and its recommendations were approved and will be referred to the Executive.</p>
<p><b>Speed Cameras – Final Report of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel</b></p>	<p>The overall aim of the Scrutiny investigation was to assess the issues associated with speed cameras and make appropriate recommendations which would address concerns outlined in the terms of reference. The report and its recommendations were approved and will be referred to the Executive.</p>
<p><b>AGENDA ITEM</b></p>	<p><b>ACTION/COMMENTARY</b></p>

<p><b>Major Adaptations - Final Report of the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel</b></p>	<p>The overall aim of the Scrutiny investigation was to consider the length of time people have to wait for the provision of major adaptations to their home, whether the wait is acceptable and if not, consider how waiting times can be improved.</p> <p>The report and its recommendations were approved and will be referred to the Executive</p>
<p><b>New Approaches to the Operation of the Scrutiny Function</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the report was to present the results of the recent review of the scrutiny function.</p> <p>A thorough review of the scrutiny process has been undertaken which has involved discussions with non-executive members and the scrutiny team. Non-executive members were given the opportunity to air their views and comments at a meeting with the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board and their comments have been collated and used to develop the suggestions.</p> <p>The Board supported the new ways of working, which will be introduced during the 2008/09 municipal year. Changes will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New ways of gathering evidence</li> <li>• Improved written information for panels</li> <li>• Using pre-meetings to ensure meetings operate more effectively</li> <li>• Undertaking shorter reviews (in some cases)</li> <li>• Better use of the forward work programme</li> <li>• Improved involvement of scrutiny in considering policy framework documents</li> </ul> <p>A copy of the OSB's report is attached at <b>Appendix 1</b> for Members' information.</p>
<p><b>Scrutiny Panels - Progress Report</b></p>	<p>A report was submitted from each panel Chair outlining progress on current activities.</p>

**COUNCILLOR E. DRYDEN**

**CHAIR OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report: -

- The agenda and papers of the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting of 6 May 2008.

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