



**Agenda Item:**

## **HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**18 JUNE 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 3 June 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.

**3 June 2008**

| <b>AGENDA ITEM</b>               | <b>ACTION/COMMENTARY</b>   |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Appointment of Vice Chair</b> | Councillor Maelor Williams was appointed as the Vice Chair of the Board.   |
| <b>Executive Feedback</b>        | <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>• Developing Role of the Street Warden Service</li><li>• Teenagers Hanging Around</li><li>• Public Transport in Middlesbrough</li></ul> <p>The Executive had approved the service response in each case.</p> |

| AGENDA ITEM   | ACTION/COMMENTARY  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>2007/2008 Revenue Outturn</b></p>                                       | <p>The purpose of the report was to provide the Board with an overview of the final outturn position for expenditure against the 2007/2008 Revenue Budget.</p> <p>It was requested that the Director of Resources provides additional information, to the Board, on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pressure of £148,000 on parking income due to a poor Christmas trading period.</li> <li>• The pressures of the Local and Mayoral registration budget, from the additional costs associated with the postal ballots and by-elections, and how these costs have been met from the corporate provision.</li> </ul> <p>The Board noted the content of the document.</p> <p>The Chair advised the Board, and officers, that quarterly meetings will be arranged to consider future performance reports and budget outturns.</p>  |
| <p><b>Draft Strategic Plan 2008-2011</b></p>                                  | <p>The report presented the draft version of parts I and II of the Council's Strategic Plan for the period 2008/09-2010/11.</p> <p>The report set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council's strategic planning cycle with the new requirements for the Sustainable Community Strategy and the LAA; and</li> <li>• The service and medium-term financial planning process</li> </ul> <p>The Board considered and noted the content of the report.</p> <p>Members commented that when the Strategic Plan was initially presented to the scrutiny panels, information, outcome figures and performance data were incomplete in some cases. The Board was in agreement that the scrutiny panels will only consider the plan when all essential information is included.</p> <p>Also, in future, following the scrutiny panels' consideration and approval of the plan, a briefing paper will be presented to the Board. Circulation of the complete document is not necessary.</p> |
| <p><b>Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement Targets</b></p> | <p>The purpose of the report was to outline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposals to revise the Community Strategy themes in line with the national outcomes and reviewed strategic priorities;</li> <li>• The structure and timetable to develop the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement; and</li> <li>• The draft designated targets for Middlesbrough Local Area Agreement 2008-2011 and local targets</li> </ul> <p>The draft designated targets were submitted to Government Office North East (GONE) on 30 May 2008, in line with GONE requirements.</p> <p>The Board noted the submitted information.</p>   |

| AGENDA ITEM  | ACTION/COMMENTARY   |
|--|---|
| <b>Environmental Enforcement – Final Report of the Environment Scrutiny Panel</b>  | <p>The aims of the scrutiny review were to investigate how the important function of environmental enforcement is undertaken in Middlesbrough and how the relevant regulations and legislation are applied.</p> <p>The panel sought to investigate the Council's powers in this area, its responsibilities and the effectiveness of environmental enforcement.</p> <p>The report and its recommendations were approved and will be referred to the Executive.</p>   |
| <b>Children &amp; Learning Scrutiny Panel – Work Programme – School Attendance</b> | <p>The purpose of the report was to inform the Board that the Council has made significant improvements to attendance levels - particularly in respect of the level of persistent absentees (Middlesbrough has achieved the third greatest reduction nationally over the past two years). However, the stringent national targets that have been introduced (a reduction to below 5% persistent absentees by 2011) mean that work needs to be continued in this area to ensure that the improvement is sustained.</p> <p>The scrutiny panel will consider undertaking a detailed scrutiny review of school attendance as part of the panel's 2008/09 work programme.</p> <p>The Board noted the current position.</p> |
| <b>Any Other Business</b>  | <p>The Chair reminded the board of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Call-In Meeting which has been arranged to take place on Wednesday 11 June 2008 at 3pm. The meeting will provide Members with the opportunity to review the Executive decision made regarding the Southlands Centre Communal Workshops.</li> </ul>   |

**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 3 June 2008.

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