



**AGENDA ITEM 7**

## **HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**19 NOVEMBER 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 21 October 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.

**21 October 2008**

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION/COMMENTARY</b>
<b>Executive Forward Work Programme</b>	<p>The purpose of the report was to provide the opportunity for the Board to consider whether any item listed on the Executive Work Programme should be considered by the Board or referred to a scrutiny panel.</p> <p>The Board considered and discussed the content of the report.</p>
<b>Attendance of Executive Members at the Overview and Scrutiny Board</b>	<p>The purpose of the report was to provide information in respect of the scheduled attendance of Members of the Executive at the Overview and Scrutiny Board.</p> <p>The content of the report was noted.</p>

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION/COMMENTARY
<p><b>Deputy Mayor to Address the Board</b></p>	<p>Councillor Bob Kerr attended the meeting to provide the Board with information on his aims, aspirations, objectives and priorities. The Board was provided information on the following:</p> <p><b>Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One to one meetings are held with the Executive Members to discuss performance, targets, working practices, officer relationships, site visits and diversity issues.</li> <li>• Meetings with the Chief Executive and the Mayor are held to discuss the overall performance of the Council.</li> <li>• Tackling problems that arise within the Council.</li> </ul> <p><b>Main Issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were no exclusions from primary schools last year</li> <li>• There are failings with in-year Council Tax collection, however, five new members of staff have been employed to improve the service.</li> <li>• The Council is under performing with regards to recycling.</li> <li>• Only fifty per cent of Council buildings are compliant with regulations of the Disability Discrimination Act.</li> <li>• The Council is experiencing problems with the Middlehaven development due to the current financial crisis.</li> <li>• There has been a decline in bus usage. There is an uncertainty as to whether this problem can be rectified, as there are currently no plans to make changes to the prices, routes or timetables.</li> <li>• With regards to the budget, a probable overspend has been predicted for this financial year. The overspend relates to fuel and providing care for children looked after by the Council.</li> </ul> <p>The remaining Executive Members have been scheduled to attend OSB over the course of the municipal year.</p>
<p><b>Draft Sustainable Community Strategy</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the report was to seek the Board's comments on the draft Sustainable Community Strategy.</p> <p>The Board was informed that the amendments, previously proposed by the scrutiny panels, had been incorporated into the draft strategy.</p> <p>Following an enquiry, it became apparent that Members would benefit from receiving information on the structure of the LSP and the roles and responsibilities of the key players involved.</p> <p>The content of the report was noted.</p>

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION/COMMENTARY
<p><b>Aspects of the Council’s Corporate Parenting Responsibilities – Final Report of the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel</b></p>	<p>The panel sought to investigate the current position, and implications of the White Paper “Care Matters: Time for Change”, in respect of these aspects of the Council’s responsibilities for children looked after.</p> <p>At the Chair’s request, future arrangements will be made for the scrutiny panel to receive an update on progress with regards to the proposed improvements.</p> <p>The report and its recommendations were approved and will be referred to the Executive.</p>
<p><b>Cleveland Show – Final Report of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel</b></p>	<p>The overall aim of the review was to assess the issues associated with the Cleveland Show.</p> <p>A request was made that the Secretary of the Cleveland Show, following the 2009 event, reports on the impact of the proposed recommendations.</p> <p>The report and its recommendations were approved and will be referred to the Executive.</p>
<p><b>Scrutiny Panel Progress Reports</b></p>	<p>A report of the Chair of each scrutiny panel was submitted outlining the progress on current activities.</p>
<p><b>Consideration of Request for Scrutiny Review from a Non Executive Member:</b>  - <b>Nature’s World in Middlesbrough</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the report was to inform the Board of a proposed scrutiny review that has been requested from a Non Executive Member.</p> <p>The Board considered the appropriateness of commissioning a scrutiny review into Nature’s World in Middlesbrough.</p> <p>The Board agreed not to commission a review into the suggested topic because of the following reason:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding is not provided for Nature’s World, therefore, the Council does not have a significant stake over the business.</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 21 October 2008.

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