

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD
21 SEPTEMBER 2004**

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD – PROGRESS REPORT
--

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To inform members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of progress made to date.

PROGRESS ON THE WORK PROGRAMME

- 2 As members will be aware, the following issues have been dealt with by the Overview and Scrutiny Board:
 - the Council's draft Risk Management Strategy – there have been no submissions regarding changing the strategy, so it going forward to the Executive with OSB support
 - the proposed revised Housing Renewal policy, including details of compensation for householders in clearance areas – this was approved by the Executive on 14 September 2004
 - the final out-turn figures for the 2003/04 revenue budget and the 1st quarter out-turn figures for the 2004/05 revenue budget; the Board made a number of comments on the budget figures, which were considered by the Executive at its meeting on 14 September 2004 – I will report verbally on the outcome
 - the final out-turn figures for the 2003/04 capital budget and the 1st quarter out-turn figures for the 2004/05 capital budget; more detailed investigations of the capital budget are planned
 - a review of the inclusion of non-Executive members in the Council's processes – a report will be submitted to this meeting of the Board
 - I hope that we will be able formally to establish the ad hoc panel on community engagement at this meeting.

GENERAL OSB ISSUES

- 3 Training: two training sessions have been held recently – on presentation skills and on dealing with the media. However, a second media training event had to be cancelled as a result of lack of numbers. It is important that members have access to training, but it is evident that it must be on topics and at times that are

relevant and convenient to members. I would appreciate thoughts on this matter.

- 4 Meetings with the Scrutiny Support Team: I have continued my regular meetings with the Scrutiny Support Team to discuss key issues relating to the overview and scrutiny function.

**COUNCILLOR MICHAEL CARR
CHAIR, OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**