

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2008**

**CONSIDERATION FOR REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEW**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To inform the Overview & Scrutiny Board of a proposed scrutiny review which has been requested by a Member.

**RECOMMENDATION**

2. That the Board considers the appropriateness of commissioning a scrutiny review into the suggested scrutiny topic received from the Member.

**PROPOSED SCRUTINY TOPIC**

3. To consider undertaking an investigation into mail communications delivered to members at home and the internal mail to departments.
4. The principal reason for this request is that Councillors have indicated their mail has been wrongly delivered on several occasions or not delivered at all. This failing has occurred for some time and unfortunately is still continuing to date.
5. In addition to the above, Members enquiries have found from officers that, it would appear communications received by the Council and directed to the appropriate Member can take a week to arrive. Again, this can have an impact on the Members ability to respond swiftly to a request.
6. The suggested Scrutiny topic should be considered against the following criteria:-
  - (i) Does the issue affect a group of people living within the Middlesbrough area;
  - (ii) Does it relate to a service, event or issue in which the Council has a significant stake or over which the Council has an influence;

- (iii) Not be an issue which Overview & Scrutiny has considered during the last 12 months;
- (iv) Not relate to an individual service complaint; and
- (v) Not relate to matters dealt with by another Council committee, unless the issue deals with procedure.

7. It is for the Board to consider the importance of this suggestion in light of the work programme.

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