



AGENDA ITEM 6(a)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

26 AUGUST 2008

**ATTENDANCE OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AT
THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide information in respect of the scheduled attendance of Members of the Executive at the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

BACKGROUND

2. Overview and scrutiny can be involved in “holding the Executive to account” in a number of different ways and at different stages in the decision-making process. This can be:
 - before decisions are made - such as by examining policy options or considering issues included in the Council’s forward work programme.
 - immediately after they are made, and prior to their implementation, through the call-in process; and
 - after they are implemented, through monitoring and evaluation of their effects.
3. Various arrangements are in place within the Council to ensure that potential issues for consideration via the overview and scrutiny processes (ie the OSB or relevant scrutiny panel) are highlighted and brought forward to Members as necessary.
4. Overview and Scrutiny can be involved in holding the Executive to account as a whole (for example by using the methods outlined in paragraph 2), or on an individual basis. The OSB’s role in this area was strengthened during the 2007/08 municipal year, when arrangements were made for individual Members of the Executive to attend OSB.

5. This gave Board Members the opportunity to hear first hand from each Executive Member on matters such as their aims and aspirations, objectives and priorities and also any emerging issues. It also presented an opportunity for the Board to identify or highlight any issues of concern or difficulty - for example in respect of service areas where performance had fallen short of targets, or where objectives had not been achieved - and to question what actions were planned to address such issues.
6. During 2008/09 Executive Members will continue to attend OSB. A schedule detailing proposed attendances is attached at **Appendix 1**. OSB Members will see that Councillor B Coppinger, Executive Member for Community Protection, is to attend the current meeting of the Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. It is **RECOMMENDED** as follows:
 - I. That Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board are updated on the work of the Executive Member for Community Protection.
 - II. That Board Members take the opportunity to question the Executive Member in respect of the issues which arise at the meeting.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

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APPENDIX 1

Date of OSB	Executive Member/Portfolio
29 July 2008	Cllr N Walker, Resources
26 August 2008	Cllr B Coppinger, Community Protection
23 September 2008	Cllr R Kerr, Deputy Mayor
21 October 2008	Cllr B Thompson, Public Health and Sport
18 November 2008	The Mayor, Ray Mallon
16 December 2008	Cllr P Thompson, Streetscene Services
13 January 2009	Cllr M Carr, Children, Families & Learning
10 February 2009	Cllr J Rostron, Social Care
10 March 2009	Cllr C Rooney, Transport
7 April 2009	Cllr D Budd, Regeneration and Economic Development
5 May 2009	-