

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

15th DECEMBER 2009

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 (i.e. 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. Over the last two years, Executive Members have attended the Board meeting and presented their intentions to OSB.
A schedule detailing the attendance is attached at **Appendix 1**. OSB Members will see that the Executive Member for Transport, Councillor C Rooney 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 Transport.
 - II. That Board Members take the opportunity to question the Executive Member, Councillor C Rooney, 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.

Contact Officer:

Peter Clark, Senior Scrutiny Officer
Performance and Policy Directorate
Telephone: 01642 729708(direct line)
e mail: peter_clark@middlesbrough.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

Date of OSB	Executive Member/Portfolio
30 June 2009	Cllr N Walker, Resources
28 July 2009	Cllr P Thompson, Streetscene Services
25 August 2009	
22 September 2009	Cllr M Carr, Children, Families & Learning
20 October 2009	Cllr B Thompson, Public Health and Sport
17 November 2009	Cllr J Rostron, Social Care
15 December 2009	Cllr C Rooney, Transport
10 February 2009	Cllr D Budd, Deputy Mayor and Executive member for Regeneration and Economic Development
9 March 2010	The Mayor, Ray Mallon
6 April 2010	Cllr B Coppinger, Community Protection (Provisional)
4 May 2010	