

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

A meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board was held on 28 June 2011.

PRESENT: Councillor Brunton (Chair), Councillors Dryden, Mawston, Purvis, Saunders and Williams.

OFFICERS: J Bennington, C Breheny, P Clark, A Crawford, S Joscelyne and P Stephens.

**** APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cole, Kerr, C Hobson, McIntyre, McTigue, Sanderson and J A Walker.

** DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Name of Member	Type of Interest	Item / Nature of Interest
Councillor Saunders	Personal/Non-Prejudicial	Agenda Item 4(b): Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 3 May 2011 – related to current employment.
Councillor Brunton	Personal/Non-Prejudicial	Agenda Item 8: Scrutiny Work Programme 2011/2012 in respect of the suggested scrutiny topic of Hot Food businesses – Vice-Chair of Planning and Development Committee.

** WELCOME – NEW MEMBER –COUNCILLOR SAUNDERS

The Chair welcomed Councillor Saunders, newly Elected Member, to his first meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board for the 2011/2012 Municipal Year.

APPOINTMENT – VICE CHAIR – OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

The Chair sought nominations for Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board for the Municipal Year 2011/2012 following which a vote was taken.

ORDERED that Councillor Dryden be appointed Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board for the Municipal Year 2011/2012.

** MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 19 April and 3 May 2011 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

EXECUTIVE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

As part of the Board's remit in terms of holding the Executive to account a report of the Executive Office Manager was submitted which identified the forthcoming issues to be considered by the Executive as outlined in Appendix A of the report submitted.

NOTED

EXECUTIVE FEEDBACK

As part of the scrutiny process and in a report of the Executive Office Manager it was reported that the Executive had considered the findings of the Board in respect of the following Final Reports:-

- Telecare;
- Designated Public Place Orders;
- Property Services;
- End of Life Care in Middlesbrough;
- Anti-Bullying Work in Middlesbrough Schools;
- Weed Control;
- Noise Complaints;
- Energy Efficient and Street Lighting;
- Regional Review of Health Needs of the Ex-Service Community;
- Children's Centres and Birth Data;
- Social Housing in Middlesbrough.

The Executive and the Corporate Management Team had considered and supported the Service Responses and noted the response from the Primary Care Trust in respect of recommendation 'e' of the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel report on Telecare.

NOTED

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE 2010/2011

The Corporate Performance Team Leader presented a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which summarised the Council's overall performance against the 2010/2011 Strategic Plan.

In line with changes to the National Performance Framework the Deputy Mayor had agreed a number of amendments to the Council's performance management framework for 2011/2012. The report provided a summary of the Council's performance at the end of the year, prior to the introduction of the new arrangements from April 2011.

Reference was made to Appendix A of the report submitted which set out the final position in respect of Middlesbrough's former 2008-2011 Local Area Agreement which would inform the review of Middlesbrough's Sustainable Community Strategy scheduled for 2011/2012.

The Board noted with concern that the main under-performing theme was 'Supporting Children and Young People' where the majority of indicators relating to educational attainment, whilst in general terms were improving year-on-year had not performed to target many of which had been set by the Government.

The Board was advised of Government changes to the overall procedure including the replacement of the National Indicator Set with a Single Data List published in April 2011 which was intended to be the first catalogue of all of central government's data requirements from local government.

The Council's overall performance against its 2010/2011 performance indicator set was outlined in the report. Of those indicators where performance could be measured against target, 53% were on target at the end of the year.

The Board noted the likelihood of measures of success for safeguarding services changing in the near future in that they would be weighted towards outcomes for children rather than processing measures.

The report outlined key performance issues at the end of 2010/2011 by Sustainable Community Strategy theme and for each element it focussed on the key points of progress and areas for improvement.

In response to a Members' question further details would be provided in relation to the preparation of a Prissick Masterplan report under the Securing Environmental Sustainability theme.

ORDERED as follows:-

1. That the information provided be noted.

2. That the performance indicators shown to be not on target continue to be closely monitored and be the subject of further reports for Members' consideration.

SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2011/2012

The Senior Scrutiny Officer submitted a report, which outlined progress by the various scrutiny panels in considering the proposed scrutiny work programme for 2011/2012.

The report summarised the suggested topics for investigation in respect of the following: -

Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel

- (a) Enterprise Zones
- (b) Estate Design / community needs criteria to major new housing developments
- (c) Acklam Hall
- (d) Middlesbrough Local Development Framework
- (e) Travel sustainability with particular reference to Middlehaven;
- (f) Speed Bumps (short topic)
- (g) Pot Holes (short topic).

Members were advised that since the meeting of the Panel and circulation of the report the Executive Director of Regeneration had indicated that a formal planning application in respect of Acklam Hall was expected within the next two to three months. In view of such circumstances and in consultation with the Chair of the Panel it was considered beneficial if Acklam Hall was the first scrutiny topic of investigation by the Panel.

Health Scrutiny Panel

To receive briefings in respect of:-

- Local implications of the health reforms, with a particular focus on the development and roles of Clinical Commissioning Groups and Local Health and Wellbeing Boards.
- Progress updates in relation to previous Panel scrutiny work in respect of End of Life Care; Dementia; and Services for the Ex-Service Community.
- The Trauma Designation of James Cook University Hospital and what it means for the Tees Health Economy.
- Updates from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in respect of Healthcare Associated Infections and the financial position of the Trust.

Short Scrutiny Investigations in respect of:

- (a) Commissioners Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention Plans, their scope and progress on delivery.
- (b) Impact of the hosting of Transforming Community Services and how that can develop services, particularly the patient pathway from acute to community.
- (c) The high incidence of Cardiovascular Disease in the South Asian Community and strategies to address the problem.

Detailed Scrutiny Investigations:

- (i) The Experience of Vulnerable Older People in Hospital and Care Homes setting, with a particular emphasis on nutrition and feeding assistance (possibly undertaken by a working group of representatives of the Health Scrutiny Panel and, Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panels and /or the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committees).

- (ii) Neurological Services across Middlesbrough and North East – their current condition and areas for development.

The Board was advised that an evidential submission of the Health Scrutiny Panel had been submitted to the Government's Health Committee's Inquiry into Public Health. It was also pointed out that the Panel would receive a briefing at its next meeting to be held on 4 July in respect of the designation of the James Cook University Hospital as a major Trauma Centre.

Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

The Board was advised of the current situation and uncertainty regarding the future of the Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee. Members were reminded of the agreed protocol which had existed over recent years which had provided consistent scrutiny support from Officers of Middlesbrough Council and the Chair of the Joint Committee to rotate amongst the constituent authorities. The Board acknowledged the valuable work which had been undertaken by the Joint Committee and the important links which had been developed with local NHS representatives.

South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

- (a) Transformation of Community Services
- (b) Financial situation in respect of James Cook University Hospital.

Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel

- (a) No health without mental health (suicide prevention, stigma prevention and housing / employment for people with mental health needs)
- (b) Intermediate Care Services
- (c) Adult Education
- (d) The experience of Vulnerable Older People in Hospitals and Care Homes (possible joint working group with Health Scrutiny Panel).

Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel

- (a) The implications and impact of Hot Food businesses in Middlesbrough.
- (b) The withdrawal of illegal money lending team from North East i.e. the implications in Middlesbrough'.
- (c) Devolved School Budgets.
- (d) Council policy relating to the use of Volunteers in the provision of Council Services.

Overview and Scrutiny Board

In view of the current economic pressures and difficulties facing the Council given the level of budget reductions which had to be achieved over the next four years the Board acknowledged the likelihood of related topics for future scrutiny investigation.

The Senior Scrutiny Officer confirmed that a report would be presented to the meeting of the Board to be held on 26 July 2011 outlining the range of evidence received in respect of Taxi Facilities at Crossfell Road.

The Board was reminded of arrangements for individual Members of the Executive to attend meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board and update Members on their respective work in terms of their aims, aspirations, objectives, priorities and any emerging issues. The process was part of the arrangements of 'holding the Executive to account' and also provided the opportunity for the Board to identify or highlight any issues of concern.

In discussing such arrangements Members suggested that there should be more emphasis placed on current challenges and emerging issues and what action was being pursued in order to tackle such areas. It was also suggested that performance indicators could be used to a greater extent in identifying specific areas upon which to focus.

ORDERED as follows: -

1. That the Scrutiny Work Programme 2011/2012 in respect of the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel, Health Scrutiny Panel, South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee, Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel as outlined be approved.
2. That in respect of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel items (b), (c) and (d) form the basis of the Panel's scrutiny work programme for 2011/2012 and that (d) be the first topic of scrutiny investigation.
3. That Acklam Hall be the first scrutiny investigation by the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel for 2011/2012.
4. That the suggested topics for scrutiny investigation in respect of the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel, the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel and the Environment Scrutiny Panel be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board at its meeting to be held on 26 July 2011.
5. That the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board meet with the Chief Executive as a matter of urgency in relation to the future operation of the Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee.
6. That the Board be advised of any suggested additions and/or revisions to the work programme of the Scrutiny Panels and Joint Committees accordingly.
7. That a report outlining the evidence received in respect of Taxi Facilities at Crossfell Road be submitted to the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board to be held on 26 July 2011.
8. That a schedule be compiled detailing the proposed attendance for Executive Members to meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

IMPACT OF AIR QUALITY AND VEHICLE EMISSIONS ON HEALTH – FINAL REPORT OF THE JOINT ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP

The Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel outlined the Working Group's conclusions and recommendations following a scrutiny investigation on the impact of air quality and vehicle emissions on health in Middlesbrough.

The Board considered the following recommendations of the Working Group based on the submitted evidence: -

- (i) That, in order to build on the significant improvements made to date, the Council's work to improve air quality is continued through ongoing monitoring, enforcement and education. There should also be a particular emphasis placed on the Authority acting as a community leader and continuing to develop examples of good practice, such as use of electric vehicles or promotion of their use. Development of the One Plant Living framework provides the ideal opportunity for progress in this area.
- (ii) That links between improving air quality and improving health (for example promoting reduced car usage and encouraging more cycling and walking) continue to be developed, including partner working with relevant health bodies. This should aim to ensure that any gap created by the demise of the Healthy Town's Programme can be addressed.
- (iii) That further publicity is undertaken, including highlighting the Working Group's findings, to continue to dispel the misconception that Middlesbrough has poor air quality.

- (iv) That indoor air quality issues around the use of gas cookers are publicised, including what can be done by people to minimise any health risks.
- (v) That NHS Middlesbrough is requested to undertake work to assess respiratory health trends in primary school children, particularly in respect of the possible effects of vehicle emissions.

ORDERED that the findings and recommendations of the Joint Environment and Health Scrutiny Working Group be endorsed and referred to the Executive.

CALL IN REQUESTS

It was confirmed that no requests had been received to call-in a decision.