

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

5th MARCH 2013

AGENDA ITEM 4

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 has a responsibility of “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 has been strengthened in recent years, when arrangements were made for individual Members of the Executive to attend OSB.
5. This gave Board Members the opportunity to hear directly from each Executive Member on matters such as their aims and aspirations, objectives and priorities and also any emerging issues or pressures

specifically relating to their portfolio. 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 recent years Executive Members have attended the Board meeting and presented their intentions to OSB where Members can question the direction and achievement of those intentions.
7. A schedule detailing the attendance is attached at **Appendix 1**. OSB Members will see that the Executive Member for Children's Services, Councillor B Thompson, is to attend the current meeting of the Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS

8. It is **RECOMMENDED** as follows:
 - I. That Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board are updated on the work of the Executive Member for Children's Services.
 - II. That Board Members take the opportunity to question the Executive Member, Councillor B Thompson in respect of their portfolio and any issues which arise at the meeting.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. 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
21 st August 2012	
30 th August 2012	1 st Quarter Outturn Budget and Performance
18 th September 2012	Cllr C Rooney, Regeneration & Economic Development.
16 th October 2012	Cllr D Budd, Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Resources
13 th November 2012	Cllr M Carr, The Change Programme
22 nd November 2012	2 nd Quarterly Outturn Budget and Performance
11 th December 2012	Cllr N Walker, Environment
8 th January 2013	The Mayor, Ray Mallon.
5 th February 2013	Cllr J Rostron, Adult Social Care and Public Health
13 th February 2013	Special OSB Council proposed budget
5 th March 2013	Cllr B Thompson Children's Services
14 th March 2013	3 rd Quarterly Outturn Budget and Performance
2 nd April 2013	