

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16 March 2010 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.40p.m.

(The meeting started at 6.40pm due to the Joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee & Finance and Audit Committee taking place before-hand)

PRESENT: Councillor Gifford (Chair); Councillors Mrs Blacklock, Boad, Copping, Ms De-Lara-Bond, Gill, Mrs Higgins, Mrs McFarland, Mrs Mellor, and Weed

Apologies for absence received from Councillors Coker, Davies, White and Wilkinson.

86. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Agenda Item number 22 – South Warwickshire Tourism

Councillor Mrs Blacklock declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item because she was a Director of South Warwickshire Tourism.
Councillor Gill declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item because he was a Director of South Warwickshire Tourism.

(Both councillors left the room when this item was discussed)

87. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2010, were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

88. **COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

The Committee considered a report from Members' Services on the response the Executive gave to the Committees' comments on the reports submitted to the Executive on 17 March 2010.

The report was produced to create a dialogue between the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and it ensured that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were formally made aware of the Executive's responses.

As part of the new scrutiny process, the Committee are no longer considering the whole of the Executive agenda. The Committee considered the items as detailed in appendix one of the report, and the response the Executive gave was also shown.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

89. FORWARD PLAN – THE EXECUTIVES WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the Forward Plan which had been published for March to June 2010.

RESOLVED that the Forward Plan be noted.

90. REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report from Members' Services on the Committees' work programme for 2010.

At the Committees' meeting on 2 February 2010, it was agreed that the reports as listed in appendix one of the report, would be submitted to the meeting in March 2010.

RESOLVED that the Committees' work programme, be approved with the addition of:

- (1) A report regarding the scrutiny of Crime and Disorder to be submitted to the Committee in April 2010.

91. PERFORMANCE OF RSL'S WHICH OPERATE WITHIN THE DISTRICT

The Committee received a report from Housing and Property Services which provided information on the Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) operating within the Warwick District Council area. This report was requested at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 28 September 2010.

The RSLs all participate in HomeChoice, the Choice Based Lettings Scheme administered by the District Council, for the allocation of available housing for rent or shared ownership whether owned by the Council or a RSL.

RESOLVED that:

- (1) The report was noted;
- (2) appropriate contact information be provided to Councillors for Bromford, Orbit, Servite and Jephson Housing Associations when following up or making a complaint on behalf of a tenant;
- (3) officers should approach the Housing Associations to establish their willingness to agree a protocol for use when a Councillor acts as an advocate for tenants ; and
- (4) a future report be submitted to the Committee when the work to review the Joint Commissioning Partnership of RSLs the Council will work with to procure new affordable housing has been progressed.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

92. EXECUTIVE AGENDA (NON- CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS) – WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2009

Agenda Item Number 15 – Homelessness Strategy

The Committee welcomed the new Homelessness strategy that was in place and were very impressed with the progress that was being made.

93. 2009/2010 THIRD QUARTER PERFORMANCE RESULTS

The Committee considered a report (Executive Agenda Item Number 8) from Organisational Development & Performance Improvement on the second Quarter Performance results for 2009/10 along with the mitigations and corrective actions for those indicators that were off target.

The regular and systematic reporting of performance results against target, trended over time and compared with other authorities was a fundamental element of the Council's integrated performance management framework. The performance management framework in turn remained a key tool for ensuring the Council stayed focussed on what mattered to ensure it delivered its services efficiently and effectively.

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) Rob Chapleo be congratulated on the work done to achieve, and go over the target of CS6v – Promote healthy eating by supporting three local food outlets each year to achieve the Heartbeat Healthy Food Award.

94. EXECUTIVE AGENDA (NON- CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS) – WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2009

Agenda Item Number 18 (D) – Textiles Recycling – Donations to Charity

The Committee were concerned regarding the choice of charities to be supported and wanted to make the following recommendation to Executive:

- (1) the charities to benefit from the Textile Recycling Scheme to be those supported by the Chair of the Council for their time in office, providing these are local charities.

95. PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES (Continued)

Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

96. EXECUTIVE AGENDA (CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS AND REPORTS) – WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2009

Agenda Item Number 22 – Review of South Warwickshire Tourism

The Committee accepted the report and requested that the Executive trust in WDC Officers to have the best interests of the district in mind, understanding the importance of tourism to the district, in particular the Town of Warwick.

Agenda Item Number 23 – Bath Place

The Committee were of the opinion that the Executive should be clear about Warwickshire County Council's current position and that they should encourage Warwick District Council Officers to work in conjunction with Warwickshire County Council Officers to use lean systems thinking and to keep in mind the end users of the service.

(The meeting ended at 8.40pm)