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AGENDA

Meeting: OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Place: County Hall, Trowbridge
Committee Room: V
Date: Thursday 6 September 2007
Time: 10.30 am

Please direct any enquiries on this agenda to Paul Kelly of Democratic & Members' Services, County Hall, Trowbridge, direct line (01225) 713049 or e-mail paulkelly@wiltshire.gov.uk

All the reports referred to on this agenda are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council.htm

Members are also reminded to personally review the Council's Forward Work Plan and Cabinet minutes as part of Scrutiny's responsibilities to hold the Executive to public account. These are circulated regularly and available on the website.

Any member of the Committee or any 5 members of the Council can request an item on the agenda of the Committee using the appropriate form available on the website or from the scrutiny officers.

Briefing Arrangements:	Date	Time	Place
Chairman and Vice	5 September	10.00am	Scrutiny Room

Membership:

Mr AN Deane	Mr JB Osborn (Chairman)
Mrs ME Groom	Dr JM English
Brig. RW Hall	Mrs JH Rooke
Mr A Molland	Mr BE Dalton
Mrs P Rugg	Mr P Batchelor
Mr AJ Trotman	Mr RT Rogers
Mr R While	

PART I

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. **Membership**
2. **Apologies**
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2007 (copies previously circulated).
4. **Chairman's Announcements**
5. **Members' Interests** To remind members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee at the relevant time.
6. **Public Participation** The County Council welcomes contributions from members of the public. This meeting is open to members of the public who may ask a question or make a statement. Written notice of questions or statements should be given to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services by 12.00 noon on Tuesday 4 September. Anyone wishing to ask a question or make a statement should contact the officer named above. Speakers are limited to two minutes.
7. **Real Time Bus Information** A report by the Director of Environmental Services is circulated.

The Committee has considered this topic over the last two meetings and asked for a clear indication from the Executive about the project's level of priority, resourcing, management and future delivery.

The Management Committee is asked to consider the response of the Executive and determine its future interest.

8. **Cycle Lanes Scrutiny Task Force** A report by the Director of Environmental Services is circulated.

The Task Group reported its findings and recommendations last March and received a supportive response from the Cabinet Member to the following meeting in June. This is now the 12 month review of implementation of those recommendations. The members who served on the Group at the time were John English (Chairman), Patrick Coleman, Ross Henning, Margaret Taylor and Charles Winchcombe.

The Management Committee is asked to review implementation and report any further views it may have back to the Cabinet Member.

9. **Street Management Task Group Final Report** A copy of the Task Group's final report is circulated.

This was set up at the November meeting last year to review the street management element of the LSP's Streetscene objective. The members who served on the Task Group were Ian West (Chairman), Ross Henning, Pat Rugg, Tony Trotman and Charles Winchcombe. The Chairman will be attending the meeting to present the report.

The Management Committee is asked to consider the report and endorse its findings and recommendations for submission to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and Economic Development. Her views will be reported back to the next meeting.

10. **Wiltshire Highways Consultancy and Works Contracts - Annual Review of Service 2006/07** A joint report by the County Council, Ringway and Parkman is circulated, along with a covering report by the Director of Environmental Services. This report covers the first year of the separated contract and representatives from the three organisations will be present.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee reviews annually the performance of the Council's major contracts in accordance with the Corporate Procurement Strategy.

Last year in acknowledging the intention to produce a joint report, the Management Committee asked that more emphasis was given to making year on year comparisons where possible in order to assist in identifying trends.

The Management Committee is asked to review the performance of the contracts and inform the relevant Cabinet Member of its views and findings.

11. **Sodexo Support Services Contract - Annual Service Review 2006/07** The annual review of service report by Sodexo, along with a covering report by the Director of Environmental Services, is circulated.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee reviews annually the performance of the Council's major contracts in accordance with the Corporate Procurement Strategy.

In January this year, the Committee received a report on the project for the replacement of the current contracts and appointed Ricky Rogers to serve on the project board.

The Management Committee is asked to review the performance of the contract and inform the relevant Cabinet Member of its views and findings.

12. Social Care Scrutiny – Proposals for the Future

The Committee requested at its last meeting that John English, Chairman of the Social Care Task Group, with support from the Scrutiny Officer, review the social care changes project plan and bring back proposals for the future of the Task Group.

In response, the Department of Community Services supplied the Chairman with a briefing note summarising the current position against the recommendations proposed in the Task Group's final report. Positive movements have taken place in relation to social projects and web based initiatives and the re-assessment of users was completed in July 2007.

However, the Department acknowledges that the project has proved more difficult than first envisaged. Assumptions made at the onset of the project have had to be revised following extensive consultations with service users, carers and other stakeholders. The Department is now analysing the results from the assessments and will develop a service strategy to reflect the outcome.

Recognising that the project has not progressed as first planned and that the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has recently appointed a task group to look at the whole system of care for older people, it is recommended that the Social Care Task Group is not reformed. The Health Scrutiny Committee will play an increasing role in scrutinising adult social care services as the two services move toward joint planning and delivery.

13. Request for a Review of Waste Management Policy

A member request has been submitted by Malcolm Hewson to review the Council's waste policies in the light of the views expressed by Wiltshire Friends of the Earth about best value (see attached). As he is not a member of the Management Committee support is required from four other members of the Council prior to consideration. This has been received from Judy Rooke, Steve Oldrieve, Ross Henning and Patrick Coleman.

The Management Committee previously established a Task Group on Waste which reported back in April 2004. Tony Molland was the Chairman of the Task Group at the time and has taken an ongoing interest during

implementation of the policies. Bill Moss is the only other member who remains on the Council from the original task group. The Cabinet supported the recommendations and a progress report on implementation was considered by the Committee in September 2005.

An initial response to the member request by the Director of Environmental Services is also circulated.

The Management Committee is asked to consider the request and determine whether it wishes to add it to its work programme and the format any further review might take.

14. **Summary Statement – Wiltshire Flooding Procedures** In the light of recent national events including some affecting our neighbouring counties, the Chairman has sought reassurances from Emergency Planning about the County's preparedness in the event of major flooding. Information has been supplied to the Chairman and a summary statement is attached.

The Chairman is of the opinion that a members' seminar should be arranged so that all members, in their community leadership roles, are aware of the position. Should comments expressed by members at the seminar need further investigation then this can be reported to the next meeting of the Management Committee.

The Committee is asked to consider the summary statement and support the Chairman's suggestion for a members' seminar.

15. **Scrutiny of One Council for Wiltshire** The Committee through its Chairman and Vice-Chairman had previously taken the view that it would not directly scrutinise the bid content and process due to the tight timetable, politics surrounding the issue and the number of people and agencies already involved.

Now that an announcement on the bid has been made, work is beginning on transition to the new authority. All members were invited to the Cabinet briefing on 31 July and the role of members was raised in the presentation, including scrutiny of the arrangements (see presentation document previously circulated to all members). An extraordinary meeting of full Council has been called for 21 September to consider important transitional issues. No doubt the role of members, potentially including those of the districts will be discussed.

An early view from Scrutiny has been sought and as a consequence the Chairman and Vice-Chairman have commented in order to shape the following initial ideas. Scrutiny would not be about the bid decision but

focused on the robustness of the assumptions and arrangements to deliver the promised efficiencies and improvements. A significant number of activities are planned under four main work streams reporting to a Programme Board (again described in the presentation material from the 31 July seminar). With the fixed resources available to Scrutiny it is likely that these would be best utilised by tapping into the reports to the main Programme Board (or any new executive transitional forum) perhaps via a single high-profile task group. From these reports any task group could then focus on specific areas of interest or risk arising from the work streams ie. planning, community area boards etc. for further review including the ability to appoint a “lead” scrutiny member. The whole of the non-executive membership would be at the task group’s disposal for this type of role – reporting back to the task group as appropriate. This approach has been successfully used for scrutinising corporate recovery measures, major procurement exercises and, to a lesser extent, in “fact-finding” for the Budget Scrutiny Task Group.

The terms of reference, capacity/resources and membership of any task group would need careful planning and might potentially include an invitation to the other scrutiny committees (Children’s and Health) and district council members. Further information is expected from Central Government about the transitional governance arrangements and therefore the views of full Council on 21 September will be important in many regards, including on the issue of the role of members. An update may be possible at the Management Committee if received in time.

As a further matter of interest North Wiltshire District Council has established a task group to review the proposals for One Council. Initially it is intended to focus on the district services, property, area boards, and evaluation of service improvements. The other districts have been invited by North Wilts to consider co-operating in that review during the transition period.

The Management Committee is asked to be aware of the need to consider how it might wish to engage in the scrutiny of One Council which might need a special meeting following full Council.

16. **Work Programme** A copy of the latest version of the Management Committee’s work programme is circulated. The Committee is asked to consider its current work programme and agree any alterations it wishes to make, bearing in mind any decisions taken earlier in the meeting.

For information the following scrutiny activities under the direction of the Management Committee are taking place:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Next Meeting</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Task Groups	Performance	Mr Newbury (Ch) Mr Osborn Mrs Soden Mrs Taylor Mr While	Nov 02	TBC	Standing
	Budget	Mr Molland (Ch) Brig Hall Mr Coleman Mr Rogers Mr Moss Mr Osborn	Sept 01	12 Sept	Standing
	Customer First	Mr Deane (Ch) Ms Content Mr Dalton Mr A Davis Mr Newbury Mrs Rugg	June 05	26 Sept	Standing
	Street Management	Mr Trotman Mrs Rugg Mr Winchcombe Mr West (Ch) Mr Henning	Jan 07	-	Sept 07
	Museums	Brig Hall (Ch) Mrs Groom Mr Trotman Mr Henning Mr Newbury	June 07	18 Sept	Nov 07
Procurement Project Boards	Property Services	Mr Henning	Sept 05	-	Ongoing
	Adult Care (including OSJ Care Services)	Dr English	Jan 06	-	Ongoing
	Business Management Programme	Mr Deane	Feb 06	-	Dec 07
	Sodexo Replacement	Mr Rogers	March 07	-	Nov 07

17. Urgent Items

PART II

Items during whose consideration it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed

None