
**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2001**

OSM.5/01 ANNUAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee, in setting an annual Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, would be required to: consider any requests received from the Executive or the Council; examine the Forward Plan as a source of potential scrutiny areas; consider any suggestions from Members of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees; and finally set programmes and guidelines for the individual Overview and Scrutiny Committees on their work load.

There was tabled at the meeting, a list of work programme requests from the Deputy Leader, acting on behalf of the Leader in his absence. The document requested that Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

- (a) take a constructive role in formulating the Council Budget for 2002/03;
- (b) explore options for celebrating the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II;
- (c) enquire into the roll-forward of the Carlisle and District Local Plan;
- (d) enquire into the current levels of income of expenditure generated by the cemeteries and crematorium services and explore options for closing the current annual deficit between income and expenditure.

Members raised concerns that although this request had come from the Deputy Leader, it had never been considered by the Executive as a whole. In addition, they raised concerns that the request to look at cemeteries and crematorium income and expenditure was very narrowly defined, particularly in light of the fact that there was to be a Best Value review on Bereavement Services which would look at a number of aspects, one of which may be income and expenditure.

A Member also suggested that the Executive should be asked to look at revisiting Large Scale Voluntary Transfer, in light of changes nationally and that as the budget process was being started, a review into this area be proposed at this stage.

Members then suggested that the work programme requests received from the Deputy Leader be referred back to the Executive Committee, with a request that more detail be provided on the requests and concerns expressed that the proposal in relation to cemeteries and crematorium income and expenditure would look at a very narrow aspect of a wider Bereavement Services Best Value review. In addition, the Executive

should be asked to consider proposing a review on Large Scale Voluntary Transfer in light of national changes.

RESOLVED – (1) That the work programme request received from the Deputy Leader be referred back to the Executive with the following comments:-

- (a) More detail to be requested in relation to the work programme requests;
- (b) That concerns be expressed about the cemeteries and crematorium income and expenditure request, as it was just one aspect of a whole issue which would be covered in the Bereavement Services Best Value Review;
- (c) That the Executive be asked to consider a review revisiting Large Scale Voluntary Transfer in light of national changes.

(2) That the work programme for Overview and Scrutiny Committees be allocated as follows:

Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee -

Community Safety Best Value Review
Bereavement Services Best Value Review
Strategic Approach to Housing Best Value Review

Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee -

Customer Contact Best Value Review
Risk and Safety Management Best Value Review
Organisational Assessment Best Value Review
Budget

Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee -

Regeneration Best Value Review
Concessionary Fares Best Value Review

(3) That it be noted that Overview and Scrutiny Committees could come forward with suggestions of any other areas they wish to look at.