

COMMUNITY
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL
Councillor Mrs Nicola Clarke

Our meeting on 25th November 2010 promised to be an interesting but mammoth session, as the agenda was quite lengthy. The panel were keen to scrutinise the report on the Tullie House Governance Arrangements as they had many questions which needed further discussion. The panel was well attended by Roger Cooke Chairman of the Shadow Board for Tullie House, Hillary Wade, Arts and Museums Manager, and representatives from Armstrong Watson who presented the business case for the Tullie House Vision Statement, with Adam Wellings and senior officers and portfolio holders.

The panel looked at the Corporate Performance Monitoring report, paying particular attention to the recent success of thanking the officers for all their hard work in reaching the 'Achieving' level of the Equality Standard for the authority most recently. The panel have suggested that the section detailing Equality Implications is contained at the front of future reports thus ensuring appropriate consideration is given to equality and other health checks. Officers agreed to consider this for the New Year. Future reports would be resented in a new format and flag system – highlighting areas of good and bad performance. All indicators are due to be reviewed in January 2011 in consultation with P/holder, O&S Panels, Executive and Senior Managers.

Members discussed the new governance arrangements and legislation for the policy framework. The panel were advised of what must be included with the policy framework together with what the Government guidance recommended be included. It was agreed that it be put to the executive that the Scrutiny Chairs Group meet with the Executive to discuss the details raised within the report with a view to looking at an improved way of working very soon into in the New Year (2011).

Transformation savings update was also discussed at length which brought panel members up to speed on the savings delivered and those being proposed, together with the possible collaboration with various partners to help the support of delivery of some services. Such was the level of detail being discussed; the panel felt it entirely appropriate to make this a standing item for discussion at their remaining three meetings.

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Councillor Mrs Nicola Francesca Clarke
Chairman Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel