OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

INFRASTRUCTURE

Report of Chairman:

COUNCILLOR CAROLE RUTHERFORD

Since the last Council Meeting there has been a workshop dealing with a number of issues relating to Overview and Scrutiny work. Some of the outcomes related to how the meetings should be conducted in order for the Committees to work more effectively. (i.e. better agenda management, clarification of what action has been resolved etc.) These can be implemented immediately by individual Committees without any changes to the Constitution. Some involved some degree of planning and co-operation between Committees, Officers and the Executive. (i.e. timing and style of reports to Committees and Executive). Others relating to the size and number of Committees will have to be decided by full council.

The Infrastructure Committee will be involved in the review of the Local Plan which will be taking place over the next 12 months. There will be a special meeting towards the end of March when there will be a presentation/workshop format. The intention is to outline the process, explain any new guidelines that have been introduced and give feedback on any initial consultations that have taken place. As the Local Plan affects every Ward and Councillor it is important that all Members are aware of what is going on and how it may affect their ward. It is therefore, my intention to invite all Members to this session.

Further training will be taking place for Chairmen and Members of the Overview and Scrutiny, one in April and others after the May elections.

Councillor Carole Rutherford Chairman Overview & Scrutiny Committee Infrastructure