

COMMUNITY

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

VICE CHAIR'S REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

Councillor Mrs Heather Bradley

The Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting of 24 March began with a number of questions from a member of the public. The questions and responses may be found in the minutes of the meeting.

The panel considered the work programme and the Forward Plan. It was agreed to hold a development meeting at the beginning of the next municipal year where the panel would discuss proposals in more detail eg 50+ work, employment for young people and work with NEETs (young people not in education, employment or training), social return on investment, and involvement of the 3rd sector. Some concerns were expressed that the task of the panels may be more difficult under the revised Policy and Budget Framework unless adequate consideration was given to ensuring that the scrutiny panels had an opportunity to look at key issues.

Consideration was also given to the Annual Scrutiny Report and some minor amendments were proposed.

The panel also received a very interesting presentation on the City Council's work which impacted on NEETs. Members were very impressed by the magazine (produced by young people) which had been circulated to them. It was decided that the panel should receive an annual update on activities which helped to support NEETs.

For some time, members of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel have been working in a Task & Finish group which has examined Neighbourhood Working. Their draft report and its recommendations were presented to the Panel who agreed that it should be forwarded to the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel for comment. It would then be forwarded to the Executive. The Panel would like to thank all those members who helped by giving information on their wards, and also representatives of other agencies and organisations who took part in the workshop.

The panel formally recorded its thanks to Cllr Nicola Clarke for her hard work and chairmanship over the past year.