
**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 12 JUNE 2003**

CROS.60/03 WORK PROGRAMME

(a) The Overview and Scrutiny Manager presented the initial Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2003/04 which took into account matters scheduled to be dealt with by this Committee.

Since the restructuring of Portfolios within the Executive, there was no longer a clear match of Portfolios with Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Senior Committee Clerk had produced a document clarifying the remits of Committees and Portfolios which may be of assistance to Members.

He informed Members that:

- the Best Value Review programme was dependent upon the outcome of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment since time and resources would be allocated to progress issues identified during the CPA process.
- The Best Value Review of Risk and Safety Management was not yet complete and the final report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee, together with the Corporate Risk Register.
- Monitoring of Best Value Action Plans would be undertaken on a six monthly basis.
- The Municipal Maintenance Best Value Action Plan Progress Report had yet to be submitted and Members may wish to see an update linked to the Service Level Agreement for Facilities Management.
- Performance Monitoring would again focus on lower quartile performance indicators and a report was expected from the Head of Strategic and Performance Services on the Authority's new suite of performance indicators which would be more focused, more related to corporate objectives and include fewer performance indicators.
- The Review of Area Working was ongoing.

A Member queried whether the Officer's advice was that the Committee look at an entire Action Plan or just the exceptions and the Overview and Scrutiny Manager advised that although the full Plan would be submitted reports would focus on exceptions.

Members stressed that the Committee remained committed to Area Working and wished to advise the Executive that they would continue to work towards achieving that objective.

4) ISA

The Overview and Scrutiny Manager highlighted the need to move to an outcome focussed basis to hold the Executive to account. Members noted that they had, the year before, asked for a report on the City Vision and Corporate Plan which had yet to be received and asked that the Head of Strategic and Performance Services be requested to produce such a report.

Members highlighted the need to ensure that scrutiny of the Council Budget was better managed than in the past, recognised that special meetings of the Committee may be required, and asked that the Overview and Scrutiny Manager and Head of Finance give consideration to that point prior to the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED – (1) That the initial Work Programme be noted.

(2) That the Executive be advised that this Committee remained committed to the achievement of Area working.

(3) That the Head of Strategic and Performance Services be requested to produce a report on monitoring of the City Vision and Corporate Plan to assist the Committee in this work.

(4) That the Overview and Scrutiny Manager liaise with the Head of Finance as to whether special meetings of this Committee should be convened to assist the Budget process.

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 12 JUNE 2003**

CROS.63/03 REFERENCE FROM THE EXECUTIVE

Area Committees – A Pilot Scheme

The Executive had on 28 April 2003 considered a report from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (LDS.26/03) setting out the powers available to the City Council to establish Areas Committees, together with the factors which would require to be taken into account if that initiative was to be progressed. (Minute Excerpt EX.093/03 refers).

The decision taken was that –

- (1) The report be deferred to a future meeting of the Executive pending the outcome of discussions with the Carlisle Local Committee and the Parish Councils.
- (2) That it be noted that the question of whether and in what form an Area Committee structure should be set up would be a decision for the full Council.

The Chairman made reference to the last paragraph on page 1 of the Minute Excerpt where it stated "Any solution would also be best trialled in a particular area and then, if successful, rolled out to other parts of the City". He suggested that the trial should take place in two areas (one urban and one rural) and that, with the Committee's agreement, should be forwarded to the Executive. He also queried when a report could be expected.

At the invitation of the Chairman, the Portfolio Holder for Policy, Performance Management, Finance and Resources stated that the matter had been discussed with representatives of the Parish Councils, who in turn wished to meet with CALC, but that latter meeting had yet to take place.

RESOLVED – (1) That Minute Excerpt EX.093/03 be noted.

(2) That the Executive be advised that it is the recommendation of this Committee that any solution would best be trialled in two areas (one urban and one rural) and trusts that progress will be made before the next meeting of this Committee on 24 July 2003.