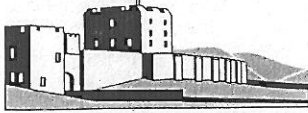


**CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL**



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COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

Panel Report

Public

Date of Meeting: 27th August 2009

Title: Overview Report and Work Programme

Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Report reference: OS 14/09

Summary:

This report provides an overview of matters related to the Community O&S Panel's work. It also includes the latest version of the work programme.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- Ratify the notes and outcomes from the Panel's Development Session on 28th July
- Nominate three Members to help determine future scrutiny arrangements for the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership
- Note the resolutions of the Chairs Group meeting on 28th July;
- To consider which items from the Forward Plan the Panel wish to scrutinise
- To note the minute excerpt from the Executive;
- To note the Committee's work programme (Appendix 2).

Contact Officer: Dave Taylor

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Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

1. Development Session

1.1. A successful Development Session was held on 28th July. The notes from this informal meeting were circulated to all Members of the Panel by e-mail and are also included as Appendix 1 to this report. The key points to emerge from this session are:

- Lead Members established:
 - Health – Cllr Riddle
 - Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership – Cllr Parsons
 - Housing – Cllr Farmer
- Task and Finish Group work – ‘Older People’ identified as a possibility – initial scoping work required from Members
- Arts Centre – identified as discussion item for a future scrutiny agenda

2. Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership: Joint Workshop

2.1. Following the Panel’s previous resolution to seek a joint workshop with scrutiny Members from Eden District Council and Cumbria County Council, the Scrutiny Manager has met with officers from the CDRP, Eden District Council and Cumbria County Council. This meeting looked to set the format and content of the workshop. It has been agreed that three Members from each of the relevant Carlisle and Eden scrutiny panels would be invited to attend the workshop. Depending on the outcome of the workshop, these Members may then form a working group to develop proposals for Joint Scrutiny of the CDRP.

3. Chairs Group

3.1. The three Scrutiny Chairs met on 28th July. The notes from this meeting have been circulated to all Scrutiny Members. The main points agreed at the meeting were that:

- The Scrutiny Chairs group would consist of the three Chairs and the three Vice-Chairs of the Scrutiny Panels. Any Member of the Group can call a meeting. Notes will be taken at any meeting of the group and these will be circulated to all scrutiny Members;
- Each year, the scrutiny annual report will be considered by each of the three scrutiny panels before final agreement at a meeting of the Scrutiny Chairs Group;
- The Development Sessions for each panel were considered to be very successful and the group asked that a further development session be held for each panel roughly half-way through the Civic Year;

4. Forward Plan Items

4.1. Appendix 3 contains the Forward Plan items relevant to this Panel. Members are asked to consider whether they wish to scrutinise the following items:

- Gambling Policy
- Women and Facilities Replacement Homelessness Accommodation
- Budget Process 2010/11
- Housing Capital Budget – Resource Centre

4.2. Of these, only the Gambling Policy item appears to be one which the Panel may not wish to scrutinise – the proposed changes to the policy are not major ones.

5. Minute Excerpt

EX.157/09 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS - CORPORATE PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT FOR 2008/09 (Non-Key Decision)

Portfolio Performance and Development

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minutes COSP.10/09 and ROSP.13/09, consideration was given to references from the Community and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panels in relation to the Corporate Performance Monitoring Report for 2008/09.

The Overview and Scrutiny Panels had made a number of observations to be conveyed to the Executive.

Pursuant to Minute COSP.10/09, the Leader responded to the comments from the Panel requesting that adequate resources should be made available to ensure that the equality standard target of achieving would be delivered by 2010 and he endorsed the comments included in the minute that it was not just a case of additional resources being required but that the existing resources should be better utilised.

With regards to the recommendation with regard to Christmas lights and the safety of the local community, the Portfolio Holder invited any Member who had any specific examples of issues or concerns relating to street lighting to forward those details to him for his attention.

Pursuant to Minute ROSP.13/09, the Chairman of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel commented that it was perhaps too early to assess the impact of the change from the Best Value Performance Framework to the new Performance Framework and National Indicators set. The Panel had however noted the reduction

in the level of satisfaction with Council services and suggested that this could be the result of the public perception of Councils in the current climate.

Summary of options rejected

None

DECISION

1. That the comments of the Community and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panels be welcomed.
2. That the Head of Policy and Performance Services arrange for a copy of the Place Survey results to be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels once those results are available.

Reasons for Decision

To consider references from the Community and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panels on the Corporate Performance Monitoring Report for 2008/09.

Appendix 1: Notes from the Community O&S Development Session

Community O&S Development Session – Tuesday 28th July

Attending:

Members: Cllr N Clarke, Cllr H Bradley, Cllr C Glover, Cllr Mrs D Parsons, Cllr P Farmer. From 11.15: Cllr G Ellis, Cllr O Luckley

Officers: Dave Taylor. From 11.15: Carolyn Curr, Mark Beveridge, Steven O'Keeffe

Apologies: Cllr E Mallinson, Cllr J Riddle, Cllr T Scarborough

First Session

In discussion, Members focussed on the need to ask more questions of Portfolio Holders and less of officers. It was identified that this could improve with a combination of the use of Lead Members (to assist the panel in developing their expertise in a given area) and using more time in the briefing before panel meetings to develop questioning plans.

On the issue of the Working Group which is currently considering the details of the Community Support Review, Members asked that the Scrutiny Manager contact Mark Beveridge and Rob Burns to ask that they meet with the panel Members on the working group (Cllr Riddle, Cllr E Mallinson and Cllr P Farmer) and the Portfolio Holder, Cllr Luckley to clarify the purpose and aims of the working group along with the programme of work. Further, the Panel asked that an update report on progress with the Community Support Review come to the October meeting of the Panel at the latest.

The Panel Members reinforced the need for greater presentation of live Performance information at the panel's quarterly consideration of such information.

One possible idea for a piece of Task and Finish group work was discussed – a piece of work relating to the possible need for an Older People Strategy for the authority – this work could encompass the whole range of issues relating to Older People. It was left that the Chair, Vice-Chair, Cllr Glover, Cllr Riddle and the Scrutiny Manager would work together to work out if there was sufficient merit in this topic for a Task and Finish Group to be set up. Realistically, this process was likely to take into September to work through. Depending on the outcome of this process, the

panel may consider holding a separate workshop to consider the links between housing and health issues, with particular reference to the potential involvement of health bodies in assisting the City Council with Disabled Facilities Grants.

Tullie House – the Members asked that Mark Beveridge be asked to bring an update report on progress with the Tullie House Governance proposals to the October meeting of the panel.

On the Play Strategy, Members expressed some concern about the progress with this and said that they would like the Chair and Scrutiny Manager to work to ensure that the Strategy (including Play Areas proposals) came back to the Panel at its October meeting in a form that enabled full scrutiny. Further, the panel said that they did not wish to have a visit to Talkin Tarn.

Second Session

In the second session, the Panel heard from Carolyn Curr on the Healthy Cities scheme. The potential for scrutiny involvement in the work is not yet clear and will be explored as the year goes on.

Scrutiny of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) could begin in September/October with the Strategic Assessment and continue with the development of the Strategic Plan for the CDRP.

The Panel will check the quality of Equality Impact Assessments when they come to the panel and may consider some Service Plans to see how much impact the EIAs are having.

Portfolio Holders mentioned the potential to involve more members of the public/service users in scrutiny items and also that the Play Areas Strategy could be ready for further scrutiny.

Members discussed the continued potential for a Theatre and/or Arts Centre and focussed on the possibility of a smaller-scale Arts Centre, perhaps in conjunction with the University.

There was also some discussion of the potential to involve representative groups and service users more in scrutiny. It was generally agreed that this was a good

idea, although care needed to be taken to ensure that, in doing this, it should be clear what the aims of the scrutiny work were.

Third Session

Following on from the two previous sessions, the Panel members decided to proceed with the following Lead Members for the 2009/10 Civic Year:

- Health – Cllr Riddle
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership – Cllr Parsons
- Housing – Cllr P Farmer

It may be that Members will wish to add to these at their formal panel meeting on 27th August.

Members asked that the potential for an Arts Centre be included on a future scrutiny agenda as a discussion item and asked that Mark Beveridge, Cllr Ellis and Cllr Mitchelson be invited to answer Members questions on this matter. In advance of this, Cllr Clarke agreed to raise the matter at the special Resources O&S Panel meeting on 6th August to scrutinise Carlisle Renaissance.

Agenda Item No:

Appendix 2: Community O&S Work Programme 2009/10

Appendix 2: Community and Work Programme 2006/07

Issue	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance Management	Forward Plan Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/External Agency	Monitoring										
								28 May 09	9 Jul 09	27 Aug 09	8 Oct 09	1 Dec 09	14 Jan 10	11 Feb 10	25 Mar 10
THIS MEETING – 27 th August 2009															
Performance Monitoring Reports (PIs)	✓						Quarterly report.			✓		✓			✓
Healthy Communities and Older People (Carlisle Partnership Priority Group and Cumbria Local Area Agreement)	✓						Monitoring progress but also opportunity to do more detailed work.			✓				✓	
Riverside Carlisle/City Council Partnership Agreement – Action Plan	✓					✓	Role is monitoring progress under the partnership agreement			✓				✓	

Issue	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance Management	Forward Plan Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/External Agency	Monitoring			28 May 09	9 Jul 09	27 Aug 09	8 Oct 09	1 Dec 09	14 Jan 10	11 Feb 10	25 Mar 10
Annual Equality Report	✓						Monitoring role. To include update on progress with Migrant Workers review recommendations	✓							
FUTURE MEETINGS															
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	✓		✓				Regular reports - draft Partnership Plan to 8 Oct. Workshop and possibly working group to explore possible Joint Scrutiny with Eden	✓			✓				
Community Support Review		✓	✓				Working group (including three Members from Panel) set up. Progress report to October meeting				✓				

Issue	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/status	Meeting Dates											
	Performance Management	Forward Plan Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/External Agency	Monitoring														
Tullie House Governance Options and Development Plan Proposals		✓	✓				Continued involvement - update requested to October meeting - other dates to be agreed. Site visit on 27 th Aug	✓											
Gambling Policy		✓	✓				To consider revised policy for adoption												
Learning City		✓	✓				Regular reports												
Housing Strategy Action Plan							Monitoring Role												
Housing Capital Budget – Resource Centre		✓	✓				Report on returning project underspends to capital programme pending report on families hostel replacement												

Issue	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance	Management	Forward Plan Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/ External Agency	Monitoring		28 May 09	9 Jul 09	27 Aug 09	8 Oct 09	1 Dec 09	14 Jan 10	11 Feb 10	25 Mar 10
							scheme.								
Arts Centre				✓			From Development Day - Members asked to talk to Portfolio Holder and Leader about potential for Arts Centre in city				? ✓				
Budget			✓	✓			Consideration of service implications					✓			
Race Equality	✓		✓	✓			Monitoring role - 6 monthly due to panel's concerns - also to include actions - from Migrant Workers review. Workshop to be held on Single Equality Scheme	✓				✓			

Issue	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance Management	Forward Plan Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/ External Agency	Monitoring			28 May 09	9 Jul 09	27 Aug 09	8 Oct 09	1 Dec 09	14 Jan 10	11 Feb 10	25 Mar 10
Women and Facilities Replacement Homelessness Accommodation		✓	✓				To approve the recommended site following the appraisal process and details for the scheme.					?	✓		
Sands Centre Development		✓	✓				Panel asked to be kept updated of developments								
Play Strategy and Play Areas	✓		✓				6-monthly monitoring of Action Plan				✓				
Rural Strategy	✓		✓				Monitoring Role		✓						
Scrutiny Annual Report			✓		✓		Draft report for comment before Chairs Group								✓
FINISHED ITEMS															
Scrutiny Changes: Councillor Call for Action			✓				A report from the scrutiny team that explains the	✓							

Issue	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance Management	Forward Plan Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/External Agency	Monitoring			28 May 09	9 Jul 09	27 Aug 09	8 Oct 09	1 Dec 09	14 Jan 10	11 Feb 10	25 Mar 10
and CDRP							changes possible/necessary from recent legislation								
Scrutiny Arrangements: Chairs Group and agreeing the Scrutiny Annual Report							A report providing options for amending the Scrutiny Chairs Group and the process to agree the annual report		✓						
Corporate Performance Monitoring Report for 2008/9	✓						Referred on by Executive		✓						
Transformation Programme for Carlisle City Council		✓	✓				Priorities report referred on by Executive for O&S views. Special on management structure held in July	✓	Special: 6 th July						

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

Details

Date Circulated

Appendix 3: Forward Plan Items

FORWARD PLAN

Index of Active Executive Key Decisions relevant to:
Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Key Decision Ref Nos:	Subject:	Date of Executive Meeting
KD.028/09	Gambling Policy	1 September 2009 and 26 October 2009
KD.029/09	Women and Facilities Replacement Homelessness Accommodation	26 October 2009 and 14 December 2009
KD.030/09	Budget Process 2010/11	(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) on 23 November 2009 (h) on 14 December 2009 (i), (j), (k), and (l) on 17 December 2009 (m), (n), (o) (p) and (q) on 18 January 2010
KD.022/09	Housing Capital Budget - Resource Centre	1 September 2009 and 26 October 2009

FORWARD PLAN
Active Executive Key Decisions relevant to:
Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Ref: KD.028/09 **Portfolio Area** Culture and Community Services

Subject Gambling Policy

Key Decisions:

To consider a revised Gambling Policy for recommendation to the City Council for adoption

Decision to be taken at Executive on: 1 September 2009 and 26 October 2009

Responsible or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date when the matter will be available for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Policy and Budget Framework matter which will be available to be considered on 8 October 2009 by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Consultees: Stakeholders

Date for Consultees' comments: The draft Policy had been published for consultation on 3 July 2009. The consultation period ends on 25 September 2009. The consultees comments and the draft Policy will be available for consideration by the Licensing Committee, the Executive and Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Relevant reports/background papers which are available:

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services report will be available five working days before the Executive meeting

Further Information From:

Head of Economic and Community Development Services, Carlisle City Council, Civic Ce

Ref: KD.029/09

Portfolio Area Health and Community Development

Subject Women and Facilities Replacement Homelessness Accommodation

Key Decisions:

To approve the recommended site following the appraisal process and detailed for the scheme.

Decision to be taken at Executive on: 26 October 2009 and 14 December 2009

Responsible or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date when the matter will be available for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Policy and Budget Framework matter which may be considered on 1 December 2009 by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Consultees: Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date for Consultees' comments: Comments to be reported to Executive on 14 December 2009

Relevant reports/background papers which are available:

The Housing and Health Services Manager's report will be available five working days before the meeting.

Further Information From:

Housing and Health Services Manager, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8

Ref: KD.030/09

Portfolio Area Finance

Subject Budget Process 2010/11

Key Decisions:

To consider strategic financial issues arising from the budget setting process:

- (a) Budget Update - Revenue Estimates
- (b) Individual Charges Reviews (Community Services, Legal & Democratic Services, Development Services)
- (c) New Revenue Spending Proposals
- (d) New Savings Proposals
- (e) New Capital Spending Proposals and Provisional Capital Programme
- (f) Repair and Maintenance
- (g) Treasury Management and Prudential Borrowing Implications
- (h) Consideration of Overview and Scrutiny Consultation feedback
- (i) Draft Revenue Support Grant Settlement (if available)
- (j) Summary Overall Revenue and Capital Position
- (k) Draft Treasury Management and Investment Strategy including MRP Strategy
- (l) Executive Draft Budget Proposals for consultation
- (m) Final Revenue Support Grant and Final Revenue Budget Summary
- (n) Provisional Capital Programme
- (o) Treasury Management and Investment Strategy including MRP Strategy
- (p) Consideration of Final Budget Consultation
- (q) Executive's Final Budget Proposals

Decision to be taken at Executive on: (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) on 23 November 2009
(h) on 14 December 2009
(i), (j), (k), and (l) on 17 December 2009
(m), (n), (o) (p) and (q) on 18 January 2010

Responsible or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Resources Overview & Scrutiny Panel for all budget issues except the detailed service estimates.

Community and Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panels for New Spending Proposals, Savings and Charges pertaining to their individual areas of responsibility

Date when the matter will be available for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Policy and Budget Framework matter which may be considered as follows:

- (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) - Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 1 December 2009, Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 3 December 2009 and Resources Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 10 December 2009
- (i), (j) and (k) - Resources Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 7 January 2010

Consultees: Overview and Scrutiny Panels, Business Community, Trade Unions, Citizens and Staff

Date for Consultees' comments: Consultation period 17 December 2009 to 14 January 2010

Relevant reports/background papers which are available:

The Director of Corporate Service's report will be available five working days before the meeting.

Further Information From:

Head of Financial Services, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle CA3 8QG

Ref: KD.022/09

Portfolio Area Health and Community Development

Subject Housing Capital Budget - Resource Centre

Key Decisions:

To approve the return of project underspends to the capital programme pending a report on the families hostel replacement scheme.

Decision to be taken at Executive on: 1 September 2009 and 26 October 2009

Responsible or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date when the matter will be available for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Policy and Budget Framework matter which may be considered on 8 October 2009 by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Consultees: Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date for Consultees' comments:

Relevant reports/background papers which are available:

The Housing and Health Services Manager's report will be available five working days before the meeting.

Further Information From:

Housing and Health Services Manager, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8
