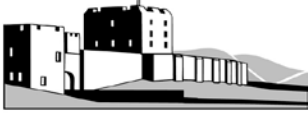


**CARLISLE  
CITY COUNCIL**



[www.carlisle.gov.uk](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk)

# **ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

## ***Panel Report***

### **Public**

**Date of Meeting:** 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009

**Title:** Overview Report and Work Programme

**Report of:** Acting Scrutiny Manager

**Report reference:** OS25/09

### **Summary:**

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

### **Recommendations:**

- Members are asked to note the Committee's work programme (Appendix 1).
- Respond to the Scrutiny Chairs Group on proposals regarding Scrutiny Chairs (para 4)

**Contact Officer:** Nicola Edwards

**Ext:** 7245

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. References from the Executive

There are no references from the Executive.

## 2. Forward Plan Items

The Forward Plan of the Executive covering the period 1 December 2009 - 31 March 2010 was published on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Appendix 2 contains the Forward Plan items which fall within the remit of this Panel. There are no items on the current plan which the Panel needs to take a decision about whether to scrutinise or not.

Further issues relating to the Forward Plan which Members may wish to discuss:

- i) **KD.036/09 – Carbon Management Plan** – The matter was scheduled to be considered by Executive on 26 October 2009 but it was removed and a progress report will, however, be submitted to the Executive on 14 December 2009 (as a non-key decision).
- ii) **KD.040/09 - Development Agreement for Morton Masterplan.** The matter has been deferred pending discussions with Cumbria County Council, and will be considered by the Executive as a non key decision early 2010.

## 3. Work Programme of the Panel

The most recent work programme for this Panel is attached at Appendix 1.

Further investigation was undertaken by the Chair on the following issues.

- i) **Rickergate** – the development brief is currently out to tender and a report for Panel will not be available until February/March 2010 at the earliest,
- ii) **Lifelong Homes** – the Panel will receive a report at their next meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010 which contains some information on Lifelong Homes. The Panel can then decide if there is scope for further work and how we wish to proceed.

## 4. Movement Strategy

The Chair of the Panel has written to the Acting Chief Executive of Cumbria County Council expressing the Panels concerns over the delay of the above document and requesting further information on the reasons for the delay and when the document would be available for this panel to scrutinise. At the time of writing this report no response has been received from the County Council.

## 5. Scrutiny Chairs Group

The Scrutiny Chairs Group met on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October. The minutes from this meeting have already been circulated to scrutiny Members. In relation to the meeting, the Chairs group asked that the three Overview and Scrutiny Panels be asked to consider if they agree that:

- All Scrutiny Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen are shared across all political parties;
- The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen remain in role for two consecutive years to allow for continuity in Scrutiny and Task and Finish Group work;
- The Chairmanship of each Overview and Scrutiny Panel is rotated between the three political groups every two years;
- The current Chairman and Vice-chairman of each Overview and Scrutiny Panel remain in place for the next municipal year;
- If the above recommendations are agreed, would the Panels want the Constitution amended or would the Panels want the Council to agree the amendments without changing the Constitution?
- That the legal view is sought on how the Chairs Group can move forward on their recommendations above;
- That each political group carry out a skills audit of their Members to ensure the appropriate Members are involved in work they are skilled or interested in

Of course, the discussion the Chairs Group had was without knowledge of the proposals to reduce the number of Scrutiny Panels from 3 to 2 (also on today's agenda). Members may wish to consider how the proposals above on Chairs would be applied to a system with just 2 scrutiny panels, rather than 3.

The Chairs Group also recommended that we sought legal advice on the best way to proceed with these changes if scrutiny Members were so minded. The advice received suggests that any agreement about the Chairs could be made either:

- through an amendment to the O&S Procedure Rules of the Constitution or;
- through a Protocol agreed by the O&S Panels and signed up to by all three political groups. This approach would require a degree of engagement between the Chairs Group and the Leaders of the political groups in developing such a protocol;

The advice went on to suggest that a Protocol was considered a more attractive way of handling the proposals as it retained flexibility and would more easily allow room for changes in the future.

In addition to these questions, the Terms of Reference of the Chairs Group were amended slightly – these now appear in Appendix 3.

# ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

Date last revised: 23 November 2009



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		11 Jun 09	23 Jul 09	10 Sep 09	22 Oct 09	3 Dec 09	21 Jan 10	25 Feb 10	8 Apr 10
<b>THIS MEETING -3 DECEMBER 2009</b>														
Performance Monitoring Reports (PIs)	✓				✓	2008/9 End of Year figures 23.7.09. Quarterly Monitoring of PI's		✓	✓		✓		✓	
Budget		✓	✓			To consider budget proposals for 2009/10					✓			
Movement Strategy, including Car Parking Strategy		✓	✓	✓		Chair of Panel has written to Cumbria County Council regarding delays in strategy				✓	✓			
Air Quality		✓			✓	Updating and Screening Assessment Report					✓			
<b>TASK AND FINISH GROUPS</b>														
Tourism & LABGI Funds						Cllrs Robson/Vasey/Styth Status: On hold until appointment of Partnership Board				✓				

# ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

Date last revised: 23 November 2009



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		11 Jun 09	23 Jul 09	10 Sep 09	22 Oct 09	3 Dec 09	21 Jan 10	25 Feb 10	8 Apr 10
<b>UPCOMING MEETINGS</b>														
Core Strategy report (to include St Nicholas/ Warwick Road)		✓	✓			To consider the planning issues.						?		
Morton Masterplan		✓				To consider the Terms of Development Agreement						?	✓	
Fly Tipping	✓					To consider an exception report on the performance indicators relating to Fly Tipping				✓	Workshop - to be arranged			
Children and Young People – Carlisle Partnership Priority Group and Cumbria Local Area Agreement (LAA)				✓	✓	6 monthly monitoring report on progress of the Group and the LAA relating to children and young people.				✓	Workshop - to be arranged		✓	

# ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

Date last revised: 23 November 2009

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		11 Jun 09	23 Jul 09	10 Sep 09	22 Oct 09	3 Dec 09	21 Jan 10	25 Feb 10	8 Apr 10
Economic Development & Enterprise – Carlisle Partnership Priority Group and Cumbria LAA				✓	✓	6 monthly monitoring report on the progress of the Group and the LAA relating to economic development			✓	Workshop – to be arranged		✓		
Making Space for Water			✓	✓	✓	To consider interim conclusions of task and finish group to review flooding issues. Now moved to 6-monthly monitoring.	✓					✓		
Rickergate		✓	✓			To consider the draft development brief						?	✓	
Carlisle Renaissance		✓	✓	✓		The minutes of special Resources Scrutiny Panel meetings will be reported to this Panel.			✓				✓	



# ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

Date last revised: 23 November 2009



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		11 Jun 09	23 Jul 09	10 Sep 09	22 Oct 09	3 Dec 09	21 Jan 10	25 Feb 10	8 Apr 10
City Centre Conservation Area		✓	✓			Awaiting feedback from public consultation on proposals - will be considered on 10/09/09			✓					
Transformation Programme		✓	✓			To consider the scope of the Transformation Programme and the timetable for its implementation. Special meeting on structure on 6 <sup>th</sup> July.	✓							
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		✓						



# ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

Date last revised: 23 November 2009



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		11 Jun 09	23 Jul 09	10 Sep 09	22 Oct 09	3 Dec 09	21 Jan 10	25 Feb 10	8 Apr 10
Environmental Performance of the Council			✓		✓	Regular monitoring of performance, including progress updates on Climate Change Strategy, Carbon Trust and Green Travel Plan.		✓						
Councillor Call for Action						To agree the process for Scrutiny to consider Councillor Call for Actions.	✓							
Waste Service Efficiency Review		✓	✓			To consider the recommendations of the Efficiency Review of the Council's Waste Services	✓							

### **Appendix 3: Amended Terms of Reference for Scrutiny Chairs Group**

The Chairs Group will comprise of the three Chairs and the three Vice-chairs of the Scrutiny Panels. No substitute system will operate for the group.

The purpose of the Scrutiny Chairs Group is:

“To deal with any overarching scrutiny issues and help provide strategic direction to scrutiny development matters.”

Minutes will be taken by a clerk from Legal and Democratic services at all meetings of the Scrutiny Chairs Group. Once agreed, these minutes will be circulated by e-mail to all Scrutiny Members and the Group Leaders.

Any Member of the Scrutiny Chairs Group can call a meeting of the group – they will do this by asking a member of the Scrutiny Team to organise a meeting at the earliest opportunity. Equally, where the Scrutiny Team consider that there is business for the Chairs Group, they will contact the Members to suggest that a meeting be held.

The Chairs Group is not a formal body of the Council and has no formal powers. Any referrals to Council will need to come from the officers of the Scrutiny Team but with the minute extract from the group to make clear that the recommendation had been ‘approved’ by the group. When an item is being referred to Council, the Scrutiny Chairs Group will decide at its meeting which Member will speak to the item at the relevant Council meeting.

Scrutiny Team

October 2009

## FORWARD PLAN

### Index of Active Executive Key Decisions relevant to: Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

---

<b>Key Decision Ref Nos:</b>	<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Date of Executive Meeting</b>
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

## FORWARD PLAN

### Active Executive Key Decisions relevant to: Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

---

**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 will be available to 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

---