



# **COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

## ***Panel Report***

### **Public**

**Date of Meeting:** 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010

**Title:** Overview Report and Work Programme

**Report of:** Overview & Scrutiny Officer

**Report reference:** OS.13/10

### **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

- Nominate Members for the Joint Carlisle and Eden CDRP Scrutiny Panel
- Agree the Panel's work programme
- Consider and respond to the references from the Executive as appropriate;
- Consider whether to scrutinise Forward Plan items relating to the Panel's remit (as published 18/05/10).

**Contact Officer:** Nicola Edwards

**Ext:** 7122

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. **Joint Crime and Disorder Scrutiny** – The Terms of Reference and Protocol for joint scrutiny of the Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Partnership (CDRP) were agreed at the end of the last Civic Year. It was agreed that for the Civic year 2010/11, scrutiny of Crime and Disorder matters would mostly be carried out by the Joint Carlisle and Eden CDRP Scrutiny Panel, made up of three Members from this Panel, three Members from Eden District Council, one from Cumbria County Council and one from the Police Authority. Members are asked to nominate three Members and three substitute Members from this Panel to sit on the Joint Panel.

The Panel will meet at least three times per year and an induction session will be arranged for the Members of the new Panel.

## 2. Development Session

2.1. Development Sessions were held last year for the first time for the three O&S Panels. They were generally considered successful and it was agreed that these should continue. The aim of the session is to look at the work of the Panel in the previous year and map out ideas for subject review work and other issues.

2.2. The Panel is asked to consider setting a date to hold such the session and consider the planning process for this session. In particular, it would be helpful in making the session more productive if Members provide to the Scrutiny Officer in advance:

- Suggestions for subject-review work for discussion;
- Areas of particular knowledge or specialism that each Member has or wishes to develop;

## 3. Work Programme

The current work programme is reproduced in Appendix I.

## 4. References from the Executive

Excerpts from the minutes of the Executive hold on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010 with regard to Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Plan and Women and Families Homelessness Accommodations are attached at Appendix 2.

## 5. Forward Plan Items

5.1. The Forward Plan of the Executive, covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> June – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010 was published on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

5.2. The issues which fall within the remit of this Panel are as follows and full details are set out in Appendix 3:

**KD.020/10 Cumbria Choice Lettings Scheme – Partnership Agreement** – not considered as decision to be made by Executive 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

**KD.021/10 Cumbria Choice Lettings Scheme – Policy** – not considered as decision to be made by Executive 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

**KD.022/10 Housing Strategy Capital Programme 2010/11** – not considered as decision to be made by Executive 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

**KD.023/10 Carlisle & Eden Partnership Plan** – to be considered at this meeting of the Panel.

**KD.024/10 Comprehensive Equality Scheme** – deferred to be considered at the next meeting of the Executive.

**KD.006/10 Women and Families Homelessness Accommodation** – Panel Members to consider whether they wish to consider this report at their meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

**KD.007/10 Accommodation and Foyer Service Development for Young People** - Panel Members to consider whether they wish to consider this report at their meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

# COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11

Date last revised: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010



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			10 Jun 10	15 Jul 10	26 Aug 10	7 Oct 10	25 Nov 10	13 Jan 11	10 Feb 11	24 Mar 11
<b>THIS MEETING – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010</b>															
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	✓		✓				Select 3 Members and 3 Substitutes for the Joint Carlisle and Eden CDRP Scrutiny Panel	✓							
Play Strategy	✓		✓				Quarterly monitoring of Action Plan – deferred to Jan meeting	✓		✓?		✓?		✓?	
Community Empowerment Pilot			✓				To receive update on pilot	✓							
Tullie House Governance Options and Development Plan Proposals		✓	✓				Continued involvement – Chair of Shadow Board to attend Panel to talk to Members on 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	✓							

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Riverside Carlisle: (1) Future of Sheltered Housing (2) Asset Management (3) Audit Commission report on Riverside Carlisle				✓			Update and discussion on these three items to come to June 10 2010 meeting.	✓							
Performance Monitoring Reports (PIs)	✓						End of year report	✓							
Carlisle & Eden Partnership Plan		✓		✓			Report of plan for 2010/11	✓							
<b>FUTURE MEETINGS</b>															
Housing Strategy Action Plan							Monitoring Role				✓ ?				✓ ?

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Riverside Carlisle/City Council Partnership Agreement - Action Plan	✓			✓			Role is monitoring progress under the partnership agreement			✓?					✓
Sands Centre Development		✓	✓				Panel asked to be kept updated of developments - Portfolio to provide verbal update on progress								
Women and Facilities Replacement Homelessness Accommodation		✓	✓				To approve the recommended site following the appraisal process and details for the scheme.								
Scrutiny Annual Report			✓		✓		Draft report for comment before Chairs Group								✓

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Accommodation and Foyer Service Development for Young People		✓					Scrutinise progress								
Carlisle Partnership	✓						Monitoring progress but also opportunity to do more detailed work.								
Affordable Warmth and Fuel Poverty		✓					Panel would like to meet Postholder and discuss progress.								
Transformation Programme for Carlisle City Council		✓	✓				Panel expecting to be involved in all future stages of Transformation								
Budget		✓	✓				Consideration of service implications				✓				

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Annual Equality Report	✓						Monitoring role. To include update on progress with Migrant Workers review recommendations			✓					
Rural Strategy	✓		✓				Monitoring Role		✓						



**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE  
HELD ON 15 MARCH 2010**

**EX.052/10 REFERENCE FROM THE COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL –  
CARLISLE AND EDEN CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP PLAN**

(Non Key Decision)

**Portfolio** Culture and Community Services

**Subject Matter**

Pursuant to Minute COSP.16/10(b), consideration was given to a reference from the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel following their consideration of Minute EX.012/10 concerning the Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Plan. The Panel had resolved:

"1. That the Executive provide confirmation that the Health and Community Development Portfolio Holder wrote to the MP asking where the funding for a Domestic Violence Adviser had been allocated as requested by this Panel at its meeting on 1 December 2009.

2. That the Executive provide confirmation that the Health and Community Development Portfolio Holder wrote to the Chief Executive of Cumbria County Council asking if funding for a Domestic Violence Adviser had been received as requested by this Panel at its meeting on 1 December 2009."

A copy of the Minute Extract had been circulated.

In response, the Health and Community Development Portfolio Holder indicated that she was in close contact with the co-ordinator of the project and there was therefore no need to write on the matter. Funding was in place until June 2010 and there were also successful bids which would form the basis for funding to enable the service to continue.

**Summary of options rejected** None

**DECISION**

1. That the reference from the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel with regard to the Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Plan be received.

2. That the Panel be advised that the Health and Community Development Portfolio Holder was in close contact with the co-ordinator of the project, thus negating the need for written representations; funding was in place covering the period until June 2010 and successful bids would form the basis for funding to enable the service to continue.

**Reasons for Decision**

To respond to a reference from the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel in relation to the Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Plan.

**EX.044/10      WOMEN AND FAMILIES HOMELESSNESS ACCOMMODATION**  
(Key Decision)

**Portfolio**      Health and Community Development

**Subject Matter**

The Housing and Health Services Manager submitted report DS.11/10 updating Members on progress with the project to provide accommodation for women and families who are homeless, replacing the current accommodation at London Road, Carlisle.

The Housing and Health Services Manager informed Members that the current accommodation, which housed ten families/single women, was not deemed suitable for purpose as it had no accessible accommodation for people with disabilities; required residents to share facilities and rooms; was unsuitable for families with children and inadequate for the needs of single women. Limitations of the building included small rooms, inadequate communal space and the control of access to and from the building. Replacement accommodation provision was therefore needed to improve the living conditions for residents, the quality of service provided to homeless people and to address equality/accessibility issues.

The original proposal had been for new build hostel accommodation to be provided with the 'Centre of Excellence'. However, those plans were reviewed in December 2008 following representations from Cumbria Constabulary and the accommodation element withdrawn.

The Housing and Health Services Manager reported that it was proposed that the replacement accommodation would be self contained apartment/house provision, rather than a like for like hostel replacement. It was anticipated that there would be 7-8 units providing 1, 2 and 3 bed roomed accommodation, together with a communal room, play facilities and an office on site allowing the scheme to be managed in a different way. Initial total estimated costs for the proposal were £1.8 million. Scheme funding included the balance of the original project to be committed to the scheme - £690k (inclusive of a capital receipt for the current hostel building with a valuation of £450k undertaken in 2007) plus funding from the capital programme. The current hostel building would be sold following development of the project.

He added that a trawl for potential sites had been carried out through the Council's Property Services and involving an external agent, looking at a number of sites owned by the Council and external sites (public and private) including any developments that had become mothballed or unfinished due to the economic downturn. At the conclusion of that process two sites remained, the preferred site for the scheme being on land between Wood Street and Bright Street, off Newtown Road in Carlisle. The site, which was currently disused and owned by the Council, satisfied the criteria around site location; access to services, schools and health facilities; type and size of site; site condition and land use issues; and ownership and cost.

For the benefit of those members of the public present at the meeting, the Health and Community Development Portfolio Holder explained that, as Members were aware, the service provided by Officers of the Homelessness Section was to a very high standard, but that was not matched by the present facility. Consideration had therefore been given to how the problem could be addressed, culminating in a lengthy investigation of potential sites. That had resulted in the identification of a preferred site as outlined above. She further emphasised the importance of exploring all possible avenues via consultation with partner agencies and, particularly, local people whose views would be implicit since they would potentially be neighbours of the development. The Executive had a duty of care to the community as a whole, and was very conscious of the trauma suffered by homeless people. Consultation would therefore also take place with past and present users of the accommodation. In conclusion, she expressed the hope that her statement would provide some assurance on the matter.

The Leader stressed that the Council was committed to replacing the current facility and understood public unease with regard to the suggested site. Public consultation would take place on the merits of the site, including local residents and Ward Councillors prior to any decision being taken on the matter.

The Finance Portfolio Holder added that the current accommodation was not fit for purpose and was in need of replacement. He expressed the need to ensure that the correct decision was taken, rather than an expedient one. He was grateful to the Ward Councillor and members of the public present at the meeting for their attendance and looked forward to consulting with them and taking full note of their views.

**Summary of options rejected**      None

## **DECISION**

That the Executive:

1. noted the work undertaken to date as detailed within report DS.11/10.
2. initiated consultation on the suggested site, to include consultation with local residents; Ward Councillors; and partner agencies.
3. made the report available for consideration by the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel, with regard to the proposals, including consultation.
4. that the Housing and Health Services Manager be requested to report back on the results of the consultation to a future meeting of the Executive.

## **Reasons for Decision**

To enable the proposals for the provision of accommodation for women and families who are homeless to be progressed.

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

<b>Key Decision Ref Nos:</b>	<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Date of Executive Meeting</b>
KD.018/10	Rickerby Park Action Plan	4 June 2010
KD.020/10	Cumbria Choice Based Lettings Scheme - Partnership Agreement	4 June 2010
KD.021/10	Cumbria Choice Based Lettings Scheme - Policy	4 June 2010
KD.022/10	Housing Strategy Capital Programme 2010/11	4 June 2010
KD.023/10	Carlisle and Eden Partnership Plan	4 June 2010 and 28 June 2010
KD.024/10	Comprehensive Equality Scheme	4 June 2010 and 28 June 2010
KD.006/10	Women and Families Homelessness Accommodation (EX.044/10 on 15 March 2010)	26 July 2010 and 31 August 2010
KD.007/10	Accommodation and Foyer Service Development for Young People (EX.043/10 ON 15 March 2010)	26 July 2010 and 31 August 2010

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

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**Ref:** KD.018/10                      **Portfolio Area** Environment and Infrastructure

**Subject** Rickerby Park Action Plan

**Key Decisions:**

The report seeks approval for the release of £250,000 from the capital budget to finance the recommended improvements as laid down in the report

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 4 June 2010

**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**

Will be available to be considered by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 10 June 2010

**Consultees:**

Stanwix Forum consultation evening 1 February 2010. Public display - Carlisle Library 12-26th April with questionnaires. Spring Show public display with questionnaires.

**Date for Consultees' comments:** 13 July 2010

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

The Assistant Director (Local Environment) report will be available five working days before the meeting

**Further Information From:**

Countryside Officer, Local Environment, Bousteads Grassing, Carlisle, CA2 5LG

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**Ref:** KD.020/10

**Portfolio Area** Health and Community Development

**Subject** Cumbria Choice Based Lettings Scheme - Partnership Agreement

**Key Decisions:**

To approve the Partnership Agreement for the multi agency Choice Based Lettings (CBL) Scheme within the County.

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 4 June 2010

**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**

Will be available to be considered by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 10 June 2010

**Consultees:**

**Date for Consultees' comments:**

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

The Assistant Director (Community Engagement) 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

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**Ref:** KD.021/10

**Portfolio Area** Health and Community Development

**Subject** Cumbria Choice Based Lettings Scheme - Policy

**Key Decisions:**

To approve the Policy for the multi agency Choice Based Lettings (CBL) Scheme within the County.

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 4 June 2010

**Responsible or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:**

Communtiy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

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

Will be available to be considered by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 10 June 2010

**Consultees:**

**Date for Consultees' comments:**

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

The Assistant Director (Community Engagement) 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

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**Ref:** KD.022/10

**Portfolio Area** Health and Community Development

**Subject** Housing Strategy Capital Programme 2010/11

**Key Decisions:**

To approve the release of allocated funding within the Housing Strategy capital programme for this financial year

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 4 June 2010

**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**

Will be available to be considered by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 10 June 2010

**Consultees:**

**Date for Consultees' comments:**

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

The Assistant Director (Community Engagement) 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

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**Ref:** KD.023/10

**Portfolio Area** Health and Community Development

**Subject** Carlisle and Eden Partnership Plan

**Key Decisions:**

The Executive is requested to:

1. Consider and comment upon Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships Plan for 2010/11.
2. Consider how the Partnership Plan, in defining priorities, supports the development of the Community Strategy and the implementation of the Corporate Plan.
3. Refer the plan to Community and Scrutiny Panel for consultation

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 4 June 2010 and 28 June 2010

**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**

Will be available to be considered by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 10 June 2010

**Consultees:** Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel considered a draft plan on 1 December 2009, Leadership Group of Carlisle and Eden CDRP, Task Groups of Carlisle and Eden CDRP

**Date for Consultees' comments:** 16 June 2010

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

The Policy and Performance Manager's report will be available five working days before the meeting

**Further Information From:**

Policy and Performance Manager, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle CA3 8QG

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**Ref:** KD.024/10

**Portfolio Area** Health and Community Development

**Subject** Comprehensive Equality Scheme

**Key Decisions:**

The Executive is requested to:

1. Consider and comment upon the presentation and content of the draft Comprehensive Equality Scheme with a view to promoting equality of opportunity in all of the Council's functions.
2. Consider how the Comprehensive Equality Scheme, in defining the approach of the Council, supports the implementation of the Corporate Plan.
3. Refer the draft of the Comprehensive Equality Scheme to Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel for consultation.

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 4 June 2010 and 28 June 2010

**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**

Will be available to be considered by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 10 June 2010

**Consultees:**

Corporate Equality Group, Members of the Achieving Equality in Cumbria Project, Members of the Achieving in Cumbria Working Group, Consortium (AWAZ, OutReach Cumbria, Cumbria Disability Network), Senior Management Team

**Date for Consultees' comments:** 16 June 2010

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

The Assistant Director (Community Engagement) report will be available five working days before the meeting

**Further Information From:**

Policy and Performance Manager, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle CA3 8QG

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**Ref:** KD.006/10

**Portfolio Area** Health and Community Development

**Subject** Women and Families Homelessness Accommodation (EX.044/10 on 15 March 2010)

**Key Decisions:**

To receive a report on the project to provide accommodation for women and families who are homeless and to approve the release of land for the scheme.

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 26 July 2010 and 31 August 2010

**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 for consideration by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 26 August 2010

**Consultees:** Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Date for Consultees' comments:**

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

Report DS.11/10 - Women and Families Homelessness Accommodation (at Executive 15 March 2010)

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

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**Ref:** KD.007/10

**Portfolio Area** Health and Community Development

**Subject** Accommodation and Foyer Service Development for Young People (EX.043/10  
ON 15 March 2010)

**Key Decisions:**

To receive a report on the project to provide accommodation for young people and develop foyer based services in partnership with the YMCA and other key partners.

**Decision to be taken at Executive on:** 26 July 2010 and 31 August 2010

**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 26 August 2010 by Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Consultees:** Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Date for Consultees' comments:**

**Relevant reports/background papers which are available:**

ReportDS.12/10 - Accommodation and Foyer Service Development for Young People (at Executive 15 March 2010)

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

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