

Agenda item 11(b)(ii)

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY CHAIRMAN:  
COMMUNITY**

Report of  
Chairman:

**COUNCILLOR  
RAY KNAPTON**

The Committee has met on three occasions since the last full Council Meeting.

18 July: A presentation on the Forward Plan-Museums & Arts Service 2002-2005 had a disadvantage that copies of the plan, at least in summary form, was not available to members as it was felt that this to some extent inhibited members ability to fully appreciate the presentation & fully question aspects of it.

Four papers were presented which had considerable overlap, Supporting People Regime, The Development of Supported Housing-Homelessness & Special Needs, Housing Strategy Submission to The Office of The Deputy Prime Minister and Housing Strategy Best Value Review and it was considered that the Best Value aspects of the Review had been subsumed within the other matters and it was agreed that the Chairman should attend the next Review Team meeting where it became clear that although the review was progressing the Best Value aspects and member aspects were absent. This emphasised the importance of the Best Value Officer being involved with Best Value Reviews from the start.

20 August: A special meeting was called to consider progress and future direction of the Community Safety Best Value Review. Whilst in principle I do not favour special meetings this single item meeting enabled a full 2 hour session to be devoted to this very important subject and I must thank the NACRO consultants for the Workshop which fully elicited the views of all members present.

29 August: This full meeting considered performance indicators & targets for Disabled Access and the members were not very happy with aspects of this Council's performance, especially in respect of Target Setting and requested much clearer information on criteria and responsibility for the targets.

Background papers for the Theatre/Arts Centre Review/Inquiry were presented and although this is a requirement from Citizens' Panel and is part of City Vision it was considered that the previous recent work to provide a Civic Theatre was still relevant and that the Inquiry should concentrate on a review of possible partnership arrangements to produce a result.

Councillor Ray Knapton  
CHAIRMAN  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMUNITY

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