

REGENERATION SCRUTINY PANEL

Venue: Town Hall,
Moorgate Street,
Rotherham. S60 2TH

Date: Friday, 6th November, 2009

Time: *12.00 noon

*** please note the change of start time for this meeting**

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested, in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended March 2006) to the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered later in the agenda as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for absence.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Questions from members of the public and the press.

Minutes:-

6. Minutes of the previous meetings of the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel held as follows:- (Pages 1 - 12)
 - 2nd October, 2009. (copy attached)
 - 9th October, 2009 (copy attached)
7. Minutes of meetings of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held as follows:- (Pages 13 - 28)
 - 25th September, 2009. (copy attached)
 - 9th October, 2009. (copy attached)
8. Minutes of meetings of the Cabinet Member for Streetpride held as follows:- (Page 29)
 - 5th October, 2009. (copy attached)
9. Minutes of Joint Meetings of the Cabinet Members for Economic Development, Planning and Transportation and Streetpride held as follows:- (Pages 30 - 34)
 - 21st September, 2009. (copy attached)
 - 5th October, 2009. (copy attached)

10. Minutes of meetings of the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Transportation Services held as follows:- (Pages 35 - 46)

- 21st September, 2009. (copy attached)
- 5th October, 2009. (copy attached)

11. Minutes of meetings of the Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport held as follows:- (Pages 47 - 50)

6th October, 2009. (copy attached)

Presentation:-

12. Chesterfield Canal Trust.
Robin Stonebridge, Chairman of the Trustees.

Item for consideration:-

13. Streetpride Response times - review. (report attached) (Pages 51 - 57)
Jon Surridge, Projects and Performance Officer (Streetpride), to report.
- to invite input from the Panel.

Items for monitoring:-

14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following items are likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under those Paragraphs, indicated below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006):-

15. Grounds Maintenance. (report attached) (Pages 58 - 68)
David Burton, Director of Streetpride/Andy Shaw, Streetpride Community Delivery Manager, to report.
- to report progress towards bringing the grounds maintenance function back in-house with effect from 1 January 2010 and integrating it with the street cleansing service.

(Exemption under Paragraph 3 [Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)] as the report contains details of negotiations associated with the transfer of employees under the TUPE Regulations and some financial risk associated with the transfer. It is considered that the public interest in maintaining these exceptions outweighs the public interest in waiving the exceptions, as the on-going negotiations could be prejudiced by disclosure of the information.)

16. A631 West Bawtry Road – Rotherway to Whiston Crossroads. BT Openreach Issues. (report attached) (Pages 69 - 72)

John Bufton, Schemes and Partnerships Manager, to report.
- to update the Panel.

(Exemption under Paragraph 3 [Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)] as the report contains details of negotiations associated with the scheme. It is considered that the public interest in maintaining these exceptions outweighs the public interest in waiving the exceptions, as the on-going negotiations could be prejudiced by disclosure of the information.)

**Date of Next Meeting:-
Friday, 4 December 2009**

Membership:-

Chairman – Councillor Boyes

Vice-Chairman – Councillor Swift

Councillors:-Foden, Gamble, Gilding, Gosling, N. Hamilton, McMahon, Slade, Thirlwall, Turner and
Whysall

REGENERATION SCRUTINY PANEL
Friday, 2nd October, 2009

Present:- Councillor Swift (in the Chair); Councillors Gamble, Gilding, Slade and Whysall; Councillor Smith (Cabinet Member, Regeneration and Development Services), R. S. Russell (Cabinet Member) and St. John (Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport) at the invitation of the Chair; together with Co-opted Members:- Messrs. T. Kelsey and B. Walker and Mrs. J. Williams.

Councillors Doyle, McNeely and G. A. Russell attended for the Update re: localised flooding June 2009.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Boyes, Gosling, N. Hamilton and Turner

45. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

46. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

A Member of the Public, Mr. Jim Staniforth, from Rawmarsh, attended the meeting and asked a question about the following:-

A633 – narrowness of a 50 yards stretch of pavement at the junction of Rawmarsh Hill with Vesey Street with heavy trucks and double decker buses forcing pedestrians against the wall, and also lorries mounting the pavement.

He said he had raised this issue as far back as 2000 and received a series of answers mostly relating to the A633 being a Quality Bus Corridor.

Mr. Staniforth also raised the issue of the timekeeping of the workers carrying out environmental improvements in the vicinity of the cenotaph.

In response the Transportation Unit Manager replied that the Service would look at the issues raised to see what could be done and assess any associated costs. It was explained that if the Service could promote a scheme it would have to be considered by the Cabinet Member Economic Development, Planning and Transportation for funding through the normal channels. A substantive written response would be sent to Mr. Staniforth, copied to Members of this Panel.

The Cabinet Member for Streetpride agreed to discuss the issue relating to the environmental works with the Community Delivery Manager.

47. COMMUNICATIONS

(i) Whiston Crossroads

Ken Wheat, Transportation Unit Manager, reported in response to concerns about the operation of the filter lane and pedestrian crossing facilities at the crossroads, together with the accident record.

He explained that the Service was undertaking a post implementation scheme review of this major scheme as required by the DfT who provided the funding for the crossroads and West Bawtry Road scheme. He explained that a public inquiry was held in mid 2003 and the form and type of scheme was determined following that inquiry and decision by the Secretary of State. Therefore the Service could not depart from that when the scheme was built.

The main concerns since the scheme had been operational appeared to be:-

- (i) right turning vehicles into Moorgate and Pleasley Road from the main road
- (ii) facilities for cyclists and pedestrians to cross East Bawtry Road (where there are no facilities in the current scheme)
- (iii) operation of the filter lanes

It was confirmed that these three issues would be considered along with other issues in the post implementation scheme review and if changes were considered to be appropriate and justified in cost and operational terms, then a report would be presented to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Transportation.

It was further explained that the review needed robust statistical data, sufficient to be able to look at the results of the scheme and assess whether it had met its overall objectives. It was anticipated that the report to the Cabinet Member would be ready about Summer 2010.

Members of the Panel raised and discussed the following issues:-

- morning traffic still backing up in Whiston and up Guilthwaite Hill
- no facility for traffic from Whiston turning right towards Worrygoose (i.e. across traffic coming from Moorgate)
- on-going traffic in the right hand lane on West Bawtry Road prevented from progressing due to right turning traffic to Moorgate
- insufficient time to turn right when coming down Moorgate and turning right onto West Bawtry Road
- red light control of the filter lane from East Bawtry Road into Whiston – rather than “give way”
- fear of some older drivers of turning right from East Bawtry Road into Moorgate

The Transportation Unit Manager thanked Members for their comments

and assured the Panel that these would be taken into consideration in the post implementation scheme review.

It was confirmed that the report would be submitted to the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel once considered by the Cabinet Member.

Resolved: (1) That the Transportation Unit Manager be thanked for the update.

(2) That the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel awaits the post implementation scheme review probably in Autumn 2010.

(ii) Rotherham Show

Marie Hayes, Events and Promotions Service Manager, reported on the overall success of this year's Rotherham Show, which had been held at Rosehill Victoria Park, Rawmarsh.

Reference was made to the following:-

- the smaller and confined area of the park
- access difficulties
- anti social behaviour and policing
- traffic management
- merging of the Arts, Music and Diversity Festival into One Town, One Community Festival
- good weather
- attendance of between 65-70,000
- successful weekend for both traders and charities
- good press coverage and compliments received

Members of the Panel commented on:-

- the work of the Events and Promotions Team
- better traffic movement/management in the park (i.e. separation from the public)
- Park and ride facility

Resolved:- (1) That the Events and Promotions Team be thanked for their work in making the Rotherham Show at Rosehill Park a success.

(2) That the Events and Promotions Service Manager reviews the traffic management arrangements at Clifton Park for the 2010 Rotherham Show.

48. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE REGENERATION SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2009

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4th September, 2009.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record.

49. ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUDGET PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2008/09 AND 2009/10

Please see Minutes of a separate meeting of the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel held on 9th October, 2009 which considered this item.

50. UPDATE RE: LOCALISED FLOODING JUNE 2009

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Graham Kaye, Principal Engineer, detailing progress on the flash flooding event of June 2009, together with actions taken by the Council to date.

The submitted report detailed identified areas affected and causes of the flooding, together with proposed solutions.

The Panel was referred to:-

- employment of two additional temporary Agency Engineers
- commencement of feasibility works, technical surveys and CCTV surveys
- investigations into a multi messaging system
- preparation of a Multi Agency Flood Plan
- establishment of a team of key personnel to provide assistance post flooding incident
- overall cost of the emergency
- cost for carrying out the drainage investigation and feasibility works
- funding and resources
- applications to the Property Flood Level Grant
- recommendations set out in the post incident report
- media and public relations, including meetings with Ward Councillors, M.P's, Parish Councils and residents in affected areas
- liaison with Network Rail re: Kensington Close, Laughton Common, and approach to DEFRA for funding
- work of Streetpride drainage team at Windle Court and Shoreland Drive, Treeton

Members of the Panel raised the following:-

- involvement of Drainage Engineers at planning application stage of new developments
- requests for extra road gullies
- areas affected by the 2007 flooding
- the need to look at a range of options and solutions
- proposed development at Wash Lane
- Section 106 agreements

In addition the Principal Engineer reported that the Environment Agency wanted to trial a pluvial flood warning system in Rotherham for people at risk from overland flooding. The proposed trial area would include Aston, Swallownest, Aughton and Treeton.

Reference was also made to the 2010 Floods and Water Management Bill and the recommendations contained within Sir Michael Pitt's report. It was noted that the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee meeting on 9th October, 2009 had invited a variety of agencies/utilities and the South Yorkshire MP's to discuss the localised flooding in June 2009.

Resolved:- (1) That the content of the submitted report be noted.

(2) That the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee, Area Assemblies and the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel continue to receive regular reports.

51. PROGRESS ON ROTHERHAM'S ECONOMIC PLAN

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Simeon Leach, Economic Strategy Manager, updating the Panel on progress to date in delivering the Rotherham Economic Plan, since its endorsement in November 2008.

It was explained that the Plan had been developed as a strategic tool to drive the long term sustainable development of Rotherham. The Plan had been compiled following consultation with a variety of organisations and individuals and had been endorsed by the Council and the Local Strategic Partnership.

The following areas were highlighted:-

- business support provision for start-up, existing and investing companies within the town centre
- improvement of connectivity to Sheffield and Manchester through redevelopment of the train station
- links to employment and training
- a programme to deliver enterprise in deprived communities, including mentoring & support
- pre-pre-start social enterprise support, improving the business offer/support to social
- single simplified offer to employers to address the cohesion across the various
- continuation of Key Account Management support
- development of an Investment Plan – identifying potential funding for interventions
- targets and National Indicators

Reference was made to the impact of the recession and to successful

measures already in place including:-

- joint working with JobCentre+, Yorkshire Forward, Learning and Skills Council re: job losses
- credit crunch workshops
- business vitality grants
- town centre parking initiative – Free after 3
- Government funded work placements for under 25's

Further “interventions” were detailed in the submitted report, together with progress to date against some of the main performance indicators.

It was pointed out that Yorkshire Forward had requested the Economic Plan for setting the agenda for distribution of future funds under their proposed new Geographic Programme, with Rotherham being given an initial allocation of £52 million.

Resolved:- (1) That the content of the report be noted.

(2) That reports on delivery of the Plan be brought to the Panel on an annual basis.

52. TOWN CENTRE RENAISSANCE

Consideration was given to a report, presented by John Smales, Development Team Manager, detailing progress in respect of the Town Centre Renaissance.

The Panel was referred to the 7th progress report in respect of the following:-

- Westgate Demonstrator: Old Market site; Keppel Wharf; Imperial building; All Saints Building; the Wierside site
- Flood Alleviation Scheme
- Railway Station refurbishment
- Townscape Heritage Initiative:- including Essoldo Chambers; Hamby's Shoe Shop/the Little Coffee Shop/Zak's ; No. 20 High Street; the George Wright Building/The Three Cranes/Alfonso's; the Snafu Bar
- Lot 1 Council Accommodation
- Lot 2 Delivery of Cultural Centre
- Lot 3 Redevelopment of The Council's remaining vacated sites
- Public realm: including canal frontage; College Road Gateway; Markets Square; Howard Street RCAT; Church Street; Keppel Wharf; All Saints Minster Churchyard

Details of the principal sources of grant funding were set out in the submitted report. Reference was made to the Yorkshire Forward's Geographic Programme which superseded SRIP through to 2014.

The following issues were raised and the Development Team Manager provided responses:-

- Keppel Wharfe – availability of mortgages and loans
- All Saints site – proposals
- Deck of Cards/former abattoir site – design of site and possible attraction for anti-social behaviour
- Townscape Heritage Initiative – source of funding
- Vicarage Lane proposals
- Forge Island site and the Council's Cultural Centre proposals
- proposed improvements for the outside market

Resolved:- (1) That the Panel congratulates the Team on the progress that has been made since the last report.

(2) That a further progress report be submitted in April 2010.

53. **PLAY PATHFINDER**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Nick Barnes, Principal Project Development Officer, updating the Panel on progress of the Rotherham Play Pathfinder programme which was a 2 year programme to deliver 29 play areas across the Borough.

Reference was made to the following:-

Re: Year 1:-

- involvement of Groundwork Creswell and Groundwork Dearne Valley in short term maintenance of some of the play areas to bring them up to a satisfactory standard
- remaining outstanding minor works

Re: Year 2:-

- pressure on the revenue budget
- programme targeted for completion, including Thorpe Hesley
- site delays at Strathmore Gardens and Packman Road
- changes to the list of priority sites and new locations identified (listed in the submitted report)
- Clifton Play Park: noting that Play England want to use the site in national literature.
- Celebration of Play – successful event held in July
- Rotherham Adventure Playground – links with MySpace and discussions with DCSF about sustainability
- consultation process

It was pointed out that funding was through the Play Pathfinder programme and the Big Lottery Fund, with capital funding from the DCSF ending March 2010, and the Big Lottery in August 2010. Revenue continued for a further 12 month period in both cases

Resolved:- (1) That the contents of the report be noted.

(2) That the Team, and Groundworks, be thanked for their work on this initiative

54. LEISURE PFI UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Derrick Connolly, Capital Project Development Manager, updating the Panel on the Leisure PFI programme.

The attention of the Panel was drawn to:-

- funding to build the new leisure facilities
- timetabling of the opening of the new facilities:- with 1st year Quest score for Aston = 80%; last facility to open would be Maltby in February 2010
- significantly increased attendance figures
- wide range of courses, activities and opportunities on offer
- fitness suite membership
- balancing demand with time slots available
- impact of "Free Swimming"
- women only sessions – based on good practice guidance from Sport England and the Women's Sport and Fitness Foundation
- design of the changing facilities – built in consultation with Sport England and national guidance
- cleanliness – due to pressure of customer numbers – additional staff have improved this
- large glass windows at Rotherham Leisure Complex – no issues currently

It was reported that the facilities were currently operating within budget. However, reference was made to increased and unpredictable energy costs and staffing costs which could have an impact on the charging policy.

Resolved:- That the content of the report be noted.

55. ROTHERHAM 2012 LEGACY

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Jackie Thornhill, Sport and Physical Activity Manager, highlighting the contribution some local organisations are already making towards the 'Rotherham 2012 Olympic Celebration and Legacy', while identifying the difficulties around co-ordination and funding in order to impact on current participation and satisfaction levels.

Reference was made to:-

- limited investment and funding available at a local level

- proposed establishment of a Rotherham 2012 partner organisations group (local businesses and the Council)
- calendar of high profile events
- involvement of 7 Rotherham schools in "Get Set"
- monthly meetings of South Yorkshire 2012 steering group
- branding to promote South Yorkshire
- Aspire programme – kite mark for new activities
- 3rd year success of Rotherham Sports Awards
- Rotherham Hall of Fame for high profile sports celebrities
- Rotherham Olympians and beyond – display by Museums and Arts Service
- bid to Sport England for a volunteer co-ordinator

It was also reported that the Sports Development Team was awaiting the outcome of a bid to Sport England for funding for a volunteer co-ordinator. It was hoped that this post would impact on adult participation.

Resolved: (1) That officers investigate funding options for a dedicated resource (2012 officer) and marketing budget to enable Rotherham to take full advantage of the 2012 legacy.

(2) That officers work to establish representation from key personnel on the Rotherham 2012 Celebration and Legacy Forum.

56. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - QUARTER 1 MONITORING 2009-2010

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Alan Platt, Best Value Officer, detailing the performance results up to the first quarter of the year 2009/2010 – 1st April to 30th June - for the Environment and Development Services Directorate.

The following indicators were discussed:-

BV 200b	Plan making milestones which the current Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out
NI 191	Residual Household waste per household – number of kg collected per household: noting that this was being held up by DEFRA's decision on what this waste could be used for and then whether the Environment Agency would accept it being used for landfill restoration
NI 192	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting
NI 193	Percentage of municipal waste landfilled
NI 151 and NI 152	Overall employment rate/working age people claiming out of work benefit (both LAA targets): noting one performance clinic had already been held and a follow up meeting planned in 6 months time

Resolved:- That the content of the report be noted.

57. MINUTES OF THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to the minutes of a meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 11th September, 2009.

Resolved:- That the content of the minutes be noted.

58. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREETPRIDE

Consideration was given to the minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet Member for Streetpride held on 2nd September, 2009.

Resolved:- That the content of the minutes be noted.

59. MINUTES OF A JOINT MEETING OF THE CABINET MEMBERS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION AND STREETPRIDE

Consideration was given to the minutes of a joint meeting of the Cabinet Members for Economic Development, Planning and Transportation and Streetpride held on 2nd September, 2009.

Resolved:- That the content of the minutes be noted.

60. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION HELD AS FOLLOWS:-

Consideration was given to the minutes of meetings of the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Transportation held as follows:-

- 14th August, 2009
- 2nd September, 2009

Resolved:- That the content of the minutes be noted.

61. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURAL SERVICES AND SPORT

Consideration was given to the minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport held on 1st September, 2009.

Resolved:- That the content of the minutes be noted.

REGENERATION SCRUTINY PANEL
Friday, 9th October, 2009

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); Councillors Gamble, Gilding, Gosling, N. Hamilton and Swift; Councillor Smith (Cabinet Member, Economic Development, Planning and Transportation) and St. John (Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport) at the invitation of the Chair; together with Co-opted Members:- Mr. B. Walker and Mr. T. Kelsey.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Slade, Turner, Whysall and Mrs. J. Williams

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

64. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

There were no questions from the public or the press.

65. ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUDGET PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2008/09 AND 2009/10

Further to Minute No. 50 of the meeting of the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel held on 2nd October, 2009, consideration was given to a report and presentation which evaluated the key areas of under and overspend arising from the 2008/09 financial year outturn and the consequent impact on performance against the revenue budget for the Environment and Development Services Directorate for 2009/10.

The Chairman introduced Karl Battersby, Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services, who gave a presentation which reviewed the 2008/09 financial year outcomes and the 2009/10 current budget issues.

The presentation drew specific attention to:-

- Key Headlines from the 2008/09 Outturn.
- Departmental Outturn 2008/09.
- 2009/10 Forecast Outturn.
- EDS Budget – 2010/11 and Beyond.
- Budget Process – 2010/11 and Beyond.
- Next Steps.
- Objectives.

A discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were raised and subsequently clarified:-

- temporary freezing of vacant posts and the timeframes the posts had

- been vacant.
- devolution of some services to Parish Councils.
- comparison of services and priorities to avoid some areas taking bigger budget reductions than others,
- function and role of the Business Unit.
- inflationary increase assumptions.
- costs associated with the purchase of one gully cleaner.
- gully cleansing and details regarding the frequency and process.
- detailed analysis of proposed reductions and savings.
- impact on the environmental themes of "People" and "Place".
- car parking proposals and the impact of reduced income.
- need for detailed spend on Consultants by Directorates included in future budget reports.
- funding from DEFRA.
- cancellation of Value for Money Reviews without explanation.

The Scrutiny Panel acknowledged that the 2010/11 budget would require some difficult decisions and welcomed further reports as part of the process.

Resolved:- (1) That the key issues emerging from the 2008/09 outturn and the impact on the 2009/10 budget performance for the shaping of proposals for the 2010.11 budget process be noted.

(2) That a detailed report on gully cleansing be submitted to a future meeting of this Scrutiny Panel.

(3) That information relating to the costs of the gully cleaner be provided for Councillor Gilding.

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
25th September, 2009

Present:- Councillor Whelbourn (in the Chair); Councillors Boyes, Gilding, J. Hamilton, Jack, McNeely, G. A. Russell and Swift.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Austen, Barron, License and P. A. Russell.

55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

56. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

There were no questions from members of the public or the press.

57. SCRUTINISING THE BUDGET

Andrew Bedford, Strategic Director of Finance, presented the submitted report indicating that the Council's financial position, alongside all local authorities, would come under increasingly intensive pressure over the next few years. A combination of increasing demand for services, resulting from, for example, demographic changes and a tightening of public spending would mean Councils would have to look closely at how robust control was maintained over the budget, how spending was aligned to priorities and how value for money was achieved. These should all be priority areas for scrutiny focus. It was also important that Members had their information relating to the Council's finances refreshed on a regular basis.

The report referred to joint working between Scrutiny Support and Financial Services to highlight the 2010/11 budget process and scrutiny arrangements and to provide refresher sessions for Members on how budget setting and budget management works in the Authority.

The report covered:-

- Budget content.
- Budget scrutiny.
- Refresher sessions for Members.

Andrew gave a general update on the budget highlighting the significant challenges, key points and budget gap.

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- Children and Young People's Services budget.
- Areas of finance to cover in the refresher sessions.
- Need for a structured approach to meet the challenges.
- Importance of information sharing and communication.
- Attendance at the refresher sessions.
- VAT implications on budget.
- Timetable for refresher sessions.

Resolved:- (1) That the information be noted.

(2) That the proposals for offering financial management refresher sessions for Members be supported.

(3) That the timescale for the preparation of the 2010/11 budget and key issues relating to the budget be noted.

58. PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2009 - 2012

Mark Gannon, Transformation and Strategic Partnerships Manager, presented the submitted report which set out the details of the refreshed Procurement Strategy that had been updated to cover the period 2009-2012.

The Council's previous Procurement Strategy 2006-2009 successfully delivered improvements across a number of areas of procurement activity. The refreshed Procurement Strategy built upon these improvements to cover the period 2009-2012.

Delivering the overall vision of the Procurement Strategy had been built around nine themes. These were:

- **Theme 1** : Supporting the Local Economy
- **Theme 2** : Voluntary and Community Sector
- **Theme 3** : Equality and Diversity
- **Theme 4** : Fairtrade and Trade Justice
- **Theme 5** : Environmentally Friendly Procurement
- **Theme 6** : Legal Procurement
- **Theme 7** : e-Procurement
- **Theme 8** : Achieving Value For Money
- **Theme 9** : Building Capacity

The Strategy was supported by an Implementation Plan (attached for reference) with actions mapped against each of the Strategy themes. A

number of the actions had already been implemented and work was ongoing on the majority of the other actions. The Implementation Plan was tracked through the Procurement Panel which had representation from across the Council and key partners.

The Strategy was approved by the Cabinet on 29th July, 2009.

The strategy was a critical element in ensuring the Council continued to develop its procurement activity so that it was as efficient and effective as possible and could continue to generate procurement savings to contribute to the Council's Gershon targets.

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- supporting the local economy and any barriers identified regarding small and medium sized enterprises
- need to be more supportive of local procurement whilst appreciating the need to make savings
- 'Meet the Buyer' events
- tracking of spend levels regarding organisations engaging with the Authority
- need to be more proactive and not just direct organisations to the website
- 'Meet the Seller' events
- RBT Connect Ltd. savings levels through procurement
- 'maverick' procurement
- environmentally friendly procurement : contact with local farmers
- shared services
- balance of activity regarding voluntary sector and small/medium enterprises

Resolved:- (1) That the draft Procurement Strategy 2009-2012 be supported.

(2) That the Implementation Plan which supports delivery of the Strategy be noted.

(3) That the Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) Website Summary, as

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now submitted at Appendix 1 to the report, that was undertaken in support of this Strategy, be noted.

59. PROCUREMENT LOCAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Sarah McCall, Performance Officer, presented the submitted report setting out details of the indicators, targets and performance for quarter one of the current financial year.

Of the eighteen indicators (details of which were appended to the report)

- three were status green
- six were status amber with performance on target
- two were for information/monitoring only without targets
- two had reporting yet to commence
- five would report later in the year

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- timeframe of the supplied data
- LPI2 : To increase the Council's percentage of core trade spend with SMEs by 5% to match the sub-regions average of 56% by April, 2008

Resolved:- That the current performance against the indicators be noted.

60. PAYMENT OF INVOICES WITHIN THIRTY DAYS - FORMER BVPI8

Further to Minute No. 7 of the meeting of this Committee held 12th June, 2009, Sarah McCall, Performance Officer, presented the submitted report which detailed BVPI8 and how it measured the payment of undisputed invoices within thirty days.

The Council had agreed the following average annual target for performance of BVPI8 with RBT:

2009/10 97.5%

Outturn performance for recent years had achieved:

2006/07	91%
2007/08	94%
2008/09	92%

Recent performances for the new financial year had achieved:-

April	96.65%
May	96.44%
June	93.47%
July	94.37%
August	93.78%

Year to date performance currently stood at 94.74%.

Resolved:- (1) That the information be noted.

(2) That Children and Young People's Services be the next directorate to attend this Committee to explain issues within their respective programme area.

61. RBT QUARTER 1 - PERFORMANCE

Mark Gannon, Transformation and Strategic Partnerships Manager, presented the submitted report summarising the performance of RBT against contractual measures and key service delivery issues for the first quarter of the current financial year across the areas of Customer Access, Human Resources and Payroll, ICT and Procurement.

A Performance Management Framework refresh had been undertaken which involved assessing all operational measures for the RBT service areas to ensure that they remained relevant and that targets were appropriate, specifically relevant for the Customer Access workstream. This resulted in further negotiations with RBT to enhance the suite of measures. Revised measures were approved and implemented in July.

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- VOIP telephony issues
- need for a spreadsheet of internal telephone numbers to be supplied to elected Members
- Business Continuity Planning : need for scrutiny panels to received information in relation to their respective areas
- performance clinics
- Macmillan Cancer Welfare Benefits Service

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

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(2) That progress reports regarding performance clinics be submitted at six monthly intervals

(3) That the issues relating to (a) spreadsheet of internal telephone numbers and (b) Business Continuity Planning information to scrutiny panels be pursued.

(4) That, with regard to the Macmillan Cancer Welfare Benefits Service, details of the service and information regarding the launch date be provided to elected Members.

62. MINUTES

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September, 2009 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

63. WORK IN PROGRESS

Members of the Committee reported as follows:-

(a) Councillor J. Hamilton reported that the latest meeting of the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel had considered:-

- a presentation on the Safer Rotherham Partnership performance update
- scrutiny of crime and disorder partnerships, Police and Justice Act 2006
- change to executive arrangements
- future review of devolved budgets

(b) Councillor McNeely reported on a meeting regarding 2010 Rotherham Ltd.

(c) Councillor Swift reported the need to arrange the requested meeting regarding the flood situation and invite the appropriate utilities.

(d) Councillor Jack reported that parish council progress reports on the flooding situation should be made available to Councillor Swift as chair of the Rother Valley West Area Assembly and she would request the clerk to provide reports accordingly.

(e) Councillor Whelbourn reported:

- on a useful second meeting of the Yorkshire South Tourism

Board which he chaired in Barnsley on 23rd September, 2009

- on the need today to cancel the Health Welfare and Safety visits due to poor attendance. It was agreed that Scrutiny Panels should be reminded and encouraged to ensure their respective representatives attended future meetings and visits.

64. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no formal call in requests.

65. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (business affairs)

**66. RBT QUARTER 1 - APRIL TO JUNE, 2009 - PERFORMANCE UPDATE
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Mark Gannon, Transformation and Strategic Partnerships Manager, presented the submitted report summarising RBT's performance in respect of procurement savings achieved and the Revenues and Benefits Service in the first quarter of the current financial year.

The report covered:-

- savings performance
- addressable spend tracking
- Council Tax
- NNDR
- other service measures
- national collection statistics for 2008/09

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- savings performance against targets

- economic downturn effect on Council Tax base
- recovery procedures and balance between obtaining money and helping businesses face current challenges
- safeguards to prevent overcharging

Resolved:- That RBT's performance against contractual measures and key service delivery areas for April, May and June, 2009 be noted.

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
Friday, 9th October, 2009

Present:- Councillor Whelbourn (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Barron, Boyes, Gilding, J. Hamilton, License, McNeely, G. A. Russell, P. A. Russell and Swift.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jack.

67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations of Interest made at this meeting.

68. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS.

There were no questions from members of the public or the press.

69. LOCALISED FLOODING IN JUNE, 2009

Graham Kaye, Principal Engineer, outlined the matters set out in the report circulated.

A progress report was provided on the flash flooding event of June, 2009, together with actions taken by the Council to date and proposals to improve further resilience against future flooding.

On 9th September, 2009 a detailed report on the flash flooding event of June, 2009, together with actions taken by the Council to date and proposals to improve further resilience against future flooding, was approved by Cabinet Members. A copy of the Post Incident Report and Initial Investigations Report was attached in Appendix A to the report.

The Post Incident and Initial Investigations Report described the incidents that affected the Borough of Rotherham. Section 3 provided detail of the initial investigation works that had been carried out by the Streetpride Drainage Team into the cause of the flooding and any possible initial recommendations and schemes to improve the flooding problems. It did not describe in detail what the Council and other responding agencies did but it did include a description of events that led to the incidents, together with a summary of the Council's response and recovery actions.

Sections 3 and 6 of the report listed observations and initial recommendations to improve the existing flood prevention and any future response to incidents of this nature in the Borough of Rotherham.

In September, 2009, two additional temporary Agency Drainage Engineers had been employed by the Council to carry out the next stage of the feasibility study and to analyse and identify solutions to minimise the risk of future flooding in the areas detailed in the Post Incident and Initial Investigations Report.

The feasibility works commenced in September, 2009 and were likely to extend until March, 2010. It was the intention of the Council to update Ward Members, Members of Parliament, Parish Councillors and residents affected by the floods regarding the progress of the works on a regular basis. The Council's Communications Unit, Media and Public Relations, would assist in forwarding all relevant updates and information, to Ward Members, Members of Parliament, Parish Councillors and residents.

To date feasibility works had commenced in Aston and Laughton Common. Topographical surveys and Closed Circuit Television Surveys were being carried out throughout Rotherham in areas affected by the June, 2009 floods. The topographical surveys had now been completed ahead of programme and all Closed Circuit Television Surveys and manhole surveys were programmed to be completed by mid October, 2009.

The Council's Drainage Section and Media and Public Relations had met with Ward Members, Kevin Barron, Aston Parish Council Members and residents in Aston and Laughton Common to update them on the progress of the works and the aims of the feasibility studies. Over the coming weeks contact would be made with Ward Members, Members of Parliament, Parish Councillors and residents in all other areas affected by the floods, such as Swallownest, Aughton, Treeton, Herringthorpe, Todwick, Clifton, Thrybergh, and Thurcroft.

On completion of the feasibility works detailed information and solutions to minimise the flooding problems would be reported to the Council, Ward Members, Members of Parliament, Parish Councillors and residents so that funding maybe sought to enable all future flood alleviation works identified, to be carried out.

Shortly after the June, 2009 floods, Streetpride Drainage Team, on behalf of Green Spaces, carried out various maintenance works to ditches and an outfall, including diverting a ditch to transfer water away from properties in Windle Court and Shoreland Drive, Treeton.

Major de-silting works had also been carried out to the highway drain in Worksop Road, Swallownest.

Ongoing discussions were taking place between the Environment Agency and Streetpride Drainage Team, into the possibility of providing a pluvial flood warning message to the residents in Aston, Swallownest and Aughton. Pluvial flooding was the result of rainfall generated overland flows before the run-off enters any watercourse or sewer. This new system was only in its trial period but the Government had stressed the need to issue pluvial flood warning messages, in areas where there was a high risk of pluvial flooding. Ward Members, Members of Parliament and residents would be consulted before the Environment Agency's pluvial flood warning system was commissioned.

The Emergency and Safety Team were currently investigating a multi messaging system to keep elected Members and Parish Councillors informed about flood response arrangements during an incident.

The Multi Agency Flood Plan was currently being prepared in line with the guidance from DEFRA and Environment Agency, and would be disseminated to partners in early October, 2009. The plan identified all high risk flood areas within the Borough of Rotherham following the floods of June, 2007 and June, 2009. Aston Cum Aughton and Swallownest had now been included as one of the high risk flood areas. The Multi Agency Flood Plan would be tested as part of the Corporate Exercise due to take place on 21st and 22nd April, 2010.

One of the recommendations in the Post Incident Report was the setting up of a team of key personnel who would be available to assist the affected community immediately after a flooding incident and this was currently being progressed by the Emergency and Safety Team.

In September, 2009, the Council, on behalf of the property owners who were flooded internally after the June, 2009 floods, submitted applications to the Environment Agency for funding through the Property Flood Level Grant. DEFRA had provided the Environment Agency with a £3 million Property Flood Level Grant, for the whole of Yorkshire. If the applications were successful, residents may be eligible for grants which would enable them to protect their homes against future flooding.

There were also costs associated with the production of further public information such as the Council's website and leaflets for dissemination to the local communities before, during and after a flood.

Any requirements for additional revenue funding were not reflected in the current medium term financial strategy.

Failure to progress the observations and recommendations and future improvement works outlined within the attached Post Incident and Initial Investigations Report would leave the Council vulnerable to future events of this nature and seriously affect the Council's future reputation.

In order to carry out further investigation works, 2 additional temporary Agency Engineers had been employed over a 6 monthly period, otherwise the Streetpride Drainage Team would be unable to deliver previously committed schemes and works scheduled for this financial year.

The majority of the surface water overland flooding problems were from privately owned land and would require the full corporation of the landowner(s). The duty of all riparian owners (i.e. private landowners) was to ensure that all flows within a watercourse were not impeded. The Council had a duty to maintain the safety of the highway and had certain permissive powers to ensure that riparian owners carried out their maintenance duties.

Some residents affected by the floods were now demanding that the Council take action to resolve flooding problems. Residents had contacted elected members and Members of Parliament to stress the urgency in eliminating all risks from future flooding problems.

Gary Collins, Yorkshire Water, reported on strategic matters relating to engineering and detailed the local and regional situation. He offered to attend or be represented at relevant Parish Council or public meetings. He also outlined the communications procedures relating to Yorkshire Water.

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued that covered the full range of issues relating to the June, 2009 localised flooding.

These were summarised as follows:-

- The biggest problem was flooding from agricultural land
- Communications issues were significant and were being addressed by the Council and its partners
- Reference to specific properties at Aston, Aughton, Swallownest and Treeton
- Concern that remedies had not been provided following the 2007 floods
- A proposal by the Environment Agency to have a trial Pluvial flood relief pilot to control flooding from fields in Aston, Aughton, Swallownest and Treeton
- The effect of flooding of houses and the area surrounding Willows School at Thurcroft
- Anticipated legislation that would cover a wide range of issues including legal responsibilities, responsibilities of property and land owners, planning applications and general developments
- Flood risk assessments for flood plains
- Lack of consideration of flooding in most planning applications
- Houses that had suffered flooding for many years
- Prevention/protection
- Rapid response
- A proposal to have easy access to a list of key service providers and those able to respond to emergencies
- The role of British Rail and the need to take action on various sites in Rotherham
- The role of UK Coal and the need to obtain information on their land and coal mines
- The role of all utilities and service providers
- The Council's legal responsibilities
- Rotherham Borough Council was the designated land drainage authority with certain powers
- Few powers existed to control natural events, including rain water running off slopes and hills
- Ability for flooded owners to take civil action

- An offer from Yorkshire Water to provide a written report on specific areas raised at this meeting
- The need for the Environment Agency, Severn Trent, Network Rail and U.K. Coal to set out their positions relating to these floods
- Capacity for gully cleaning
- Annual schedule for gully cleaning
- The need for a report on how officers and members would make decisions during the August recess
- The need for a guidance note on house insurance
- Information required on the DEFRA property fund grant to be announced shortly
- Consideration of the bigger picture to include how the Government, regional and local agencies plan and take action to prevent wide scale flooding in future
- Climate change and the regularity and volume of heavy rain
- The fallacy of extensive floods being once per 100 years
- Use of Rotherham News to publicise names and telephone numbers of relevant people

Members welcomed the extensive activity taking place to combat flooding but emphasised the need for continual focus to be given to meeting the needs of individuals affected.

Resolved:- (1) That the overall position be noted and the reports be received.

(2) That further meetings of this Committee be held to meet various organisations and receive updates on activity.

(3) That the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel consider matters of detail.

(4) That written reports be submitted to this Committee from the various agencies whenever possible.

70. PAYMENT OF INVOICES WITHIN THIRTY DAYS - FORMER BVPI8 - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Karen Potts, Procurement Champion, Children and Young People's Services (CYPS), outlined the matters set out in the report circulated.

The key themes arising from the reports on Goods Returned Notes (GRN) showed as follows:-

- Each month Children and Young People's Services processed an average of 4,500 invoices of which approximately 100 fell outside the required 30 day timescale.
- Generally CYPS achieved the 2009/10 target of 97.5% of invoices processed within 30 days.
- In August, 2009 performance dropped to 95.24% due to a 25%

increase in late GRNs and the number of invoices processed reducing by almost half. This reflected the Summer holiday period and the term time only nature of a number of services.

The monthly analysis of late GRN transactions had highlighted the following issues:-

- Confusion over automatic reminder messages issued
- Old or incorrect order references quoted by suppliers
- Disputed invoices (including those sent too early by supplier)
- Delays in receiving copy invoice to be able to check details of services provided (usually related to children's care and high value invoices)
- Staffing problems / change of job
- Goods delivered in School holidays (no staff on site to deal with GRN)
- Top ups for call off orders (usually agency staffing or out of authority placements)
- Order errors for energy invoices that did not require receipting
- Occasional staff training issues

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued on the following :-

- Goods received notes
- Start of month, end of month
- Effect of school holidays
- P2P issues
- Invoices in dispute
- Communications and training issues
- Performance clinic
- Need for improvement
- Possibility of meeting targets better than thirty days

Councillor Wyatt, Cabinet Member for Resources, outlined the strategic position including the following:-

- There was a big improvement in performance overall
- This performance indicator was subject to robust review and monitoring
- Procurement achieved substantial cost savings for the Council
- The practical issues raised at this meeting were under consideration by the Procurement Panel

Resolved:- (1) That the position in CYPS be noted, together with action being taken to secure improvements.

(2) That the issues raised be considered by this Committee at future meetings, including when RBT Performance was scrutinised.

(3) That systems issues be reviewed by the Procurement Panel.

71. "11 MILLION TAKEOVER DAY" 2009

Cath Saltis reported that "11 Million Takeover Day 2009" was to be held on Friday, 6th November, 2009.

Members discussed the options for supporting this event and made suggestions on how best to utilise this opportunity.

Resolved:- (1) That "11 Million Takeover Day 2009" be supported.

(2) That the Youth Cabinet be invited to take over this Committee's meeting on 6th November, 2009.

(3) That members of the Cabinet and relevant youth groups be invited to attend.

72. MINUTES

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th September, 2009 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

73. WORK IN PROGRESS

Members of the Committee reported as follows:-

(a) Councillor G. A. Russell reported on the following matters from the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel:-

- Children and Young People's Services – Revenue Budget 2009/2010
- 14 to 19 Strategy, including Learning and Skills Council Developments
- Special Educational Needs Provision and Funding
- Transforming Rotherham Learning/Building Schools for the Future – Update
- Children and Young People's Services – Performance Indicators First Quarter

(b) Councillor McNeely reported on activity relating to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel.

(c) Councillor Boyes reported on matters relating to the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, particularly budget issues.

(d) Councillor Austen reported on the activity relating to the Democratic

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Renewal Scrutiny Panel.

(e) Reference was also made to the arrangements for Value for Money reviews and the Chairman was asked to raise concerns with the Strategic Director of Finance.

74. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no formal call-in requests.

CABINET MEMBER FOR STREETPRIDE
Monday, 5th October, 2009

Present:- Councillor R. S. Russell (in the Chair)

Apologies for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor Ali).

1. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006) (information likely to reveal the identity of an individual):-

"An exemption under paragraph 2. (Information which likely to reveal the identity of an individual) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 was requested, as this report dealt with a complaint made under the Council's Complaints Procedure which discloses the information referred to. It was considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information, as the interests of the respective parties could be prejudiced by disclosure of such information."

2. REPORT OF A STAGE 3 COMPLAINT PANEL HELD ON 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2009

Consideration was given to the notes and decisions of a Stage 3 Complaint Panel held on 14th September, 2009.

The Streetpride Area Manager informed the Cabinet Member that the Service would look to remove the tarmac and replace the flags, subject to available funds.

Resolved:- That the notes be received and the decisions of the Panel noted.

**JOINT MEETING - CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION AND
THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREETPRIDE SERVICES
21st September, 2009**

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillor R. S. Russell.

Apologies for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor Ali) and Councillor Dodson.

13. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - 1ST QUARTER RESULTS - 1ST APRIL TO 30TH JUNE 2009

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Best Value Officer, detailing the performance results up to the first quarter of the year 2009/2010.

The report focused on indicators affected by the following issues:-

- Performance measures in the EDS suite of performance indicators
- Performance indicators that have not reached their target setting
- Performance clinics
- All England upper quartile comparisons 2007/2008
- Price Waterhouse Coopers upper quartile comparisons 2008/2009
- The New Performance Framework – *Single Set of National Indicators, out of 198 indicators EDS indicators are identified in the submitted report. Local Area Agreement (LAA) indicators for which EDS is responsible have also been identified.*
- Equalities report
- Risk Management report.

The report detailed the following:-

- Number of indicators reported = 112
- Number of indicators that have achieved their target and in the green zone = 84 (75%)
- Number of indicators that are slightly out side their target and in the amber zone = 14 (12.5%)
- Number of indicators that have not achieved their target and in the red zone = 12 (10.7%)
- Number of National Indicators in the grey zone that have no target and or result against them = 2 (1.8%)

The following specific indicators were discussed:-

- | | |
|---------|--|
| BV 200b | Plan making milestone which current Local Development Framework sets out: noting the new timeline as a result of further proposed consultation |
| NI 191 | Residual Household waste per household – number of kg collected per household: noting that this performance was due to the fact that the Environment Agency cannot |

- currently verify that the biomass output from the Sterecycle process cannot count as being recycled and therefore had to be counted as residual waste.
- NI 192 % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting: reference to problem detailed for NI. 191
- NI 193 % of municipal waste landfilled: noting above problem meaning that the Sterecycle output cannot yet be claimed as being diverted from landfill.
- NI 188 Planning to adapt to climate change
- NI 151 Overall employment rate LAA (PWC): noting Rotherham's good record and the significant amount of local jobs created. Reference was also made to current economic indicators. Due to the current economic climate and the effect this is having on the jobs front, a performance clinic has been arranged for September 2009 to review this situation.
- NI 152 Working age people claiming out of work benefit LAA (PWC) Due to the current economic climate and the effect this is having on the jobs front, a performance clinic has been arranged for September 2009 to review this situation.
- NI 47 People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents: noting the number of motorway miles in Rotherham and that the Council could not control this indicator. The excellent work to improve road safety and reduce accidents was noted. It was agreed that this NI needed an "exceptions note" adding to provide full explanation.

The following additional issues were highlighted and discussed:-

- Direction of Travel
- Equalities
- Colour coding used to identify each Service Area and the need to change this to avoid confusion
- Risk management

Resolved:- (1) That the Economic and Development Services performance results for the first quarter of 2009/2010 be noted.

(2) That the Council's position in comparison with the Audit Commission 2007/2008 All England upper quartile results be noted.

14. KNOLLBECK LANE GATEWAY, BRAMPTON BIERLOW PHASE 2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Implementation Officer, detailing proposals for environmental improvements (Phase 2) within the Knollbeck Lane, Brampton Bierlow Gateway.

Drawings Nos. 122/B6089.30/01 – 03 appended to the report showed in detail the proposals.

It was explained that the proposals included:-

- Footway improvement works
- Traffic calming measures along Knollbeck lane from Garden Drive to Westfield Road

It was further explained that the proposed environmental improvement works linked directly to the Local Transport Plan scheme of traffic calming and improvements to the Quality Bus Corridor (previously approved by the Cabinet Member at Minute No. 179 of the meeting held on 2nd February, 2009).

It was confirmed that the works would be funded from the HMRA Pathfinder programme together with a contribution from the Local Transport Plan.

It was reported that it was anticipated that the works would take approximately 5 months to complete and that disruption to residents and traffic would be kept to a minimum.

It was requested that the location of the central refuge at the junction of Knollbeck Lane and Westfield Lane be re-visited due to its proximity to the junction and reference to the location of the adjacent play area.

Resolved:- That, subject to a further discussion with, and advice from, the Transportation Unit regarding the location of the central refuge as referred to above, approval be given to the proposed works.

**1MJOINT MEETING - CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION AND THE CABINET MEMBER FOR
STREETPRIDE SERVICES - 05/10/09**

**JOINT MEETING - CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION AND THE CABINET MEMBER FOR
STREETPRIDE SERVICES
Monday, 5th October, 2009**

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillor R. S. Russell: together with Councillors Parker, Pickering and Walker

Apologies for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor Ali).

15. PROHIBITION OF PARKING ON GRASS VERGES: EVALUATION OF TRIALS

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Street Works and Co-ordination Engineer, relating to the effects of the pilot scheme of 'no verge parking' traffic regulation orders (TRO's), which prohibit the parking of vehicles on grass verges, and to consider extending the scheme along with the installation of supplementary wooden posts.

Reference was made to a series of trial Traffic Regulation Orders that had targeted the main routes into Rotherham and details of the eight pilot sites, together with details of the TRO waiting restrictions, were set out in the report.

In addition the number of Penalty Charge Notices issued between November 2008 and August 2009, was also reported, noting that the trials indicated fewer motorists parking up on grass verges covered by the TRO's.

It was explained that the condition of the verges had been regularly monitored and inspections had identified specific areas where new damage continued to be caused by motorists. Actions being considered to prevent over-riding and short stay parking were proposed.

In conclusion it was reported that the trial had been successful and it was proposed that additional sites be identified for the introduction of further TRO's to enable enforcement action to be taken.

It was stated that the costs involved would be covered by Streetpride's Revenue Budget, and confirmed that the proposals were in full accord with the Council's policy on verge parking, the LTP2 objectives and the requirements of The Traffic Management Act 2004.

Resolved:- That, following the successful outcomes of the trial sites:-

- (1) the outcomes following the implementation of the trial be noted.
- (2) further sites where environmental benefits can be anticipated through

TRO's to deter verge parking be evaluated.

(3) individual sites proposed be reported to Cabinet Members for approval.

16. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING - APRIL TO AUGUST 2009

Consideration was given to a report, presented by Acting Finance Manager, detailing performance against the revenue budget for the Environment and Development Services Directorate as at the end of August 2009.

The report also set out a forecast outturn for the whole of the 2009/10 financial year.

Reference was made to the following key areas of pressure:-

- Consultancy work fee income
- restructuring costs within Culture and Leisure
- under recovery of income due to a reduced number of planning applications
- flood related costs (June 2009)
- under recovery of income on the Parking Budget

The following points were also reported and discussed:-

- Asset Management:- position as at last month
- Business Unit:- further savings achieved
- Culture and Leisure:- pressures within Sport and Recreation; on-going costs at Ulley Reservoir; restructuring in Museums and Libraries
- Planning and Regeneration:- use of the Housing Planning Delivery Grant to offset under-recovery of planning fee income
- Streetpride:- energy costs on Street Lighting
- Office Accommodation – town centre moves
- Base Budget Reviews - proposals

Further detail was reported regarding management measures currently being taken to reduce the amount of overspend.

Resolved:- (1) That the current forecast year end outturn position of an overspend of £631,000 for the Environment & Development Services Directorate based on expenditure and income as at August 2009, be noted.

(2) That the report be referred to the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel for information.

**CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION
21st September, 2009**

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillor Walker: together with Councillors Parker, Pickering and R. S. Russell.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Swift.

52. FINAL EVALUATION OF THE ROTHERHAM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (RED) PROJECT

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Economic Strategy Manager, informing the meeting of the main findings of the final evaluation report on the recently completed Rotherham Enterprise Development (RED) project and seeking comments on the content of the report.

It was explained that RED was a £1 million plus business support programme that was supported through Yorkshire Forward's Single Pot and ran from April 2006 to March 2009.

Reference was made to the activity funded through the project:-

- Promoting enterprise to young people and supporting business growth of young entrepreneurs (led by Rotherham Youth Enterprise, RMBC)
- Promoting and supporting business start-ups, incubation and employer engagement across the Borough, including targeting of hard to reach Groups (led by RiDO, RMBC)
- Strengthening the town centre retail business environment (led by Barnsley & Rotherham Chamber of Commerce)

It was explained that as part of the project approval it was agreed that a full independent evaluation of the project would be carried out during the final 6 months of its operation. The evaluation process was lead by the Yorkshire Forward Evaluation Team, with input from all project partners. The aims of the evaluation were set out in the submitted report.

Reference was made to the main conclusions of the evaluation, the details of which were set out in the report. It was reported that in general outputs exceeded those set out in the project contract and ensured that the full grant was paid out to the Council. At the conclusion of the project it was assessed that the following had been delivered:-

- Jobs created/safeguarded = 352.5
- New businesses created = 153
- Businesses assisted = 619

Eight recommendations were also made and these were set out in detail in the Appendix to the submitted report.

It was pointed out that subsequent to the RED project the Council was already moving forward the enterprise agenda and it was anticipated this would be delivered over the next 2-3 years funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

The following issues were raised and discussed:-

- evidence and criteria used for the evaluation
- length of time businesses were kept track of
- number of new businesses created by this project still in existence
- Yorkshire Forward funding of Business Advisers

Resolved:- (1) That the contents of the report be noted.

(2) That a further paper be submitted in 6 months time reporting on progress in implementing the recommendations of the RED evaluation.

53. UKSE ENTERPRISE SCHEME FOR ROTHERHAM

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Economic Strategy Officer, which detailed the provision of funding to support enterprise generation through Table Cloth Enterprise and Dragons Den events in Rotherham.

An explanation was given of the events as follows:-

Table Cloth Enterprise:- the aim of which was that by the end of the session new starters would have refined their business ideas and have notes and ideas on the "table cloth" to follow up and explore.

Dragons' Den Event:- targeted at new and early stage businesses. The Den would be reserved for businesses that offered growth potential and where this potential was more likely to be realised through injection of external resources. 3 events per year were planned.

It was reported that UK Steel Enterprise would be providing the funding to run both events, and that the money provided would be eligible as match to the next European Regional Development Fund Priority 3 bid. It was also noted that the events and budget would be managed by the Enterprise Events co-ordinator, and that this position was being established with initial funding from the Working Neighbourhoods Fund.

It was commented that this initiative could possibly link with the Town Centre Business Vitality Grants Scheme in certain instances.

Resolved:- That the proposals to run Table Cloth Enterprise and Dragons Den events to increase the rate of enterprise starts and support early stage businesses, with a particular reference to ex-Corus employees and

their families, be endorsed.

54. LABGI ALLOCATIONS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/REGENERATION

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Business Development Manager, seeking approval to use LABGI funding to implement a series of measures designed to provide an environment where businesses are supported to grow out of the recession and attract more knowledge based, innovative and high growth businesses.

Reference was made to the four incubation centres, two of which had opened in challenging times.

It was proposed to take the business centres and the incubation process on to a new level by increasing the focus on innovative, knowledge based high growth businesses and to attract new occupiers.

In order to grow out of the current recession it was considered necessary to finance some of the proposals at an early stage by using some of the LABGI funding acting as match funding for European Regional Development Fund money.

The following key parts of the proposals were highlighted:-

- (i) Green Working Business Clubs
- (ii) Business Growth Programme
- (iii) Soft Landing Zones
- (iv) Incubation Process Promotion

The aim was to achieve an occupancy rate of 85% and a survival rate of 90% after three years.

Resolved:- That approval be given to the use of LABGI for the purposes set out in the report now submitted.

55. OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER TO CORRECT THE CLERICAL ERROR IN THE ONE WAY TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER FOR MAIN STREET, BRAMLEY

(Councillor Thirlwall was present for discussion of this item. A member of the public was also in attendance.)

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Transportation Unit Manager, relating to the objections to, and comments on, the proposed South Yorkshire County Council (Various Roads Bramley and Wickersley) (Traffic Measures Consolidation)(Amendment) Order 2009 ("the 2009 TRO").

The Transportation Unit Manager summarised the following (further

details of which were set out in the submitted report):-

- background
- timeline
- the purpose of the 2009 TRO i.e. to correct the clerical error in the South Yorkshire County Council (Various Roads Bramley and Wickersley)(Traffic Measures Consolidation) Order 1980 (as amended)
- consultation
- responses to the 2009 TRO - objections and comments received (detailed at Appendix C); petitions (Appendices D and E)
- reasons stated for objecting (by category) together with the technical officers' responses
- the Statutory procedure that was followed and publicised

Reference was also made to the advice given by the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) and to three possible options. The three options were detailed in the submitted report.

The Cabinet Member invited comments from those present.

A questions and answers session ensued in respect of the following:-

- signatories on the petition supporting the current one way system
- acceptance of a petition of support after the closing date for receipt of objections
- the distinction between objections, comments and communications in support
- use of discretion
- rights of petitioners
- the origin of one of the petitions within the Transportation Unit and subsequent receipting and reporting
- the Council's current differing reporting procedures for petitions depending upon where the petition was received
- noting that the petition of support was not dated and there was no lead petitioner identified

Resolved: - (1) That the objections relating to the proposal to correct the clerical error in the South Yorkshire County Council (Various Roads Bramley and Wickersley) (Traffic Measures Consolidation) Order 1980 (as amended) be not acceded to.

(2) That the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) be authorised to make The South Yorkshire County Council (Various Roads Bramley and Wickersley)(Traffic Measures Consolidation)(Amendment) Order 2009 and that the 2009 Order be implemented.

(3) That the objectors and lead petitioner be informed of the decision and the reasons for it.

56. **SOUTH YORKSHIRE SAFETY CAMERA PARTNERSHIP**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Transportation Unit Manager, informing the Cabinet Member that the South Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership was currently investigating upgrading existing fixed safety camera sites to operate with digital enforcement equipment in Rotherham and the rest of South Yorkshire.

Reference was made to the cost per camera/site and to the overall financial requirement. It was explained that it was proposed that each site would be reviewed. Following an initial meeting held between officers from the Transportation Unit and the South Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership in July 2009 fixed camera sites that had no other realistic measures which could be implemented in place of safety cameras and which as a result should be upgraded to digital cameras in this financial year were identified as follow:-

- A618 Aughton Road, Aughton
- A631 Bawtry Road, Wickersley
- A629 Wortley Road, Rotherham
- B6089 Greasbrough Street, Thornhill

It was explained that a further meeting would be held in September 2009 to identify if there were any practical alternative solutions, which would maintain the same level of road safety, to the remaining current fixed safety cameras in Rotherham and to make recommendations regarding their upgrading. A second meeting to continue this investigation was planned to be held in October 2009. The sites being reviewed in the second stage were:-

- A6123 Herringthorpe Valley Road, Herringthorpe
- A618 Mansfield Road, Wales Bar
- A630 Doncaster Road, Hooton Roberts
- A630 Doncaster Road, Whinney Hill, Thrybergh
- A631 Bawtry Road / Rotherham Road, Maltby
- A631 Bawtry Road, Brinsworth
- A631 East Bawtry Road, Rotherham
- A633 High Street, Rawmarsh
- A633 Sandygate, Wath upon Dearne
- Barnsley Road, West Melton
- Fenton Road, Rotherham

It was pointed out that the cost to upgrade all 14 fixed safety camera sites in Rotherham was very significant and that priorities would have to be set within the South Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership and other Local

Transport Plan budgets, and that the more money spent on upgrades would mean less available for other traffic and road safety measures across South Yorkshire.

The following issues were raised and discussed:-

- vandalism
- use of mobile cameras and average speed cameras vs. fixed
- use of special liveried vans
- signing of the speed limit
- reduced running costs of digital cameras
- the possibility of direct download of information

Resolved:- (1) That it be noted that the South Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership are investigating the upgrade of existing fixed film based safety cameras with digital safety cameras throughout South Yorkshire.

(2) That those sites in Rotherham which are to be digitised this financial year [2009/10] be noted.

(3) That those sites where further investigation is necessary as to whether there are any practical alternative measures available be noted.

(4) That a further report be presented to Cabinet Member following the investigation.

57. ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION TRAINING AND PUBLICITY

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Transportation Unit Manager, informing the Cabinet Member of the work undertaken by the Road Safety Education, Training and Publicity staff between August 2008 and August 2009.

The following aspects, from the many detailed within the submitted report, were highlighted:-

- current staffing levels
- year on year reduced budget
- redesigned Junior Road Safety materials which commenced September 2009
- road safety interactive talk and on the road training for two groups of children from Newman School
- a scenario at the crucial crew event for adults aged 50+
- a talk on the "Drive for Life" initiative to delegates on the Shared Intelligence information day organised by the Department for Transport
- continued co-ordination of the "Drive for Life" project in South Yorkshire and publicity for the project
- use of funding from the Safety Camera Partnership to employ

- an additional Road Safety Assistant on a temporary basis
- APE Theatre Company – “Pills, Thrills and Automobiles” production

Resolved:- (1) That the contents of the report be noted and staff of the Road Safety section be commended on their excellent work.

(2) That the report be referred to the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel for information.

(3) That the report be forwarded to the Area Assemblies together with a breakdown of road safety work undertaken in each Area Assembly.

58. PETITION - TRAFFIC PROBLEMS - QUEENSWAY, BROOM

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Transportation Unit Manager, detailing the results of an investigation into the parking problems raised in the 59 signature petition received from residents of Queensway.

The report set out the details of the complaints raised by the petitioners.

It was reported that observations on Queensway showed indiscriminate parking was taking place in the area. Therefore in the short term the Council's Parking Enforcement Team and the South Yorkshire Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team for Rotherham South had increased their patrols in the area surrounding the hospital to try to prevent illegal parking.

Also the Chair of the Rotherham South Area Assembly had written to the hospital to request its staff to park responsibly and with consideration for residents.

It was explained that it was possible to extend the Controlled Parking Zone into the area of the hospital. However the costs of the Traffic Regulation Order, consultation and associated works were considerable.

Reference was made to on-going discussions between the Council and Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust regarding the Trust's proposals to redevelop the hospital with a view to mitigating the effects of the development and assist in solving the current parking issues. It was pointed out, however, that this would be a matter for determination ultimately by the Planning Board.

The following issues were raised and discussed:-

- funding of a Controlled Parking Zone
- NHS future plans and ability to fund
- priorities within the Transportation Unit

- a suggestion that the Hospital adopt the Council's "Free after 3"
- provision of a multi storey car park
- charging policy and possible staff parking permits
- double yellow lines in residential areas and provision of visitor parking

Resolved:- (1) That discussions continue with the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust in order to secure funding for a proposed Controlled Parking Zone associated with the proposed redevelopment at the Hospital.

(2) That should the action in (1) above be not successful alternative funding sources be pursued.

(3) That a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet Member.

(4) That the lead Petitioner be informed of the outcome of the investigation.

(5) That the additional focus of the Parking Enforcement team and Police Safer Neighbourhood Team on this area be noted.

59. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That the press and public be excluded for consideration of the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in those Paragraphs indicated below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006):-

60. REPORT OF A STAGE 3 COMPLAINT

Consideration was given to the notes and decisions of a Stage 3 Complaint Panel held on 5th August, 2009.

Resolved:- That the decisions of the Panel be noted.

(Exempt under Paragraph 2 – information relating to an individual)

61. TOWN CENTRE BUSINESS GRANT

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Town Centre and Markets Manager, seeking approval to award Rental Contribution and Capital Grant, under the Town Centre Business Vitality Scheme, to support a project relating to the opening of a clothing and footwear shop at 12A Frederick Street, Rotherham.

Details of the application were set out in the submitted report. It was pointed out that the applicant wished to secure a lease for a currently

empty property on Frederick Street to sell designer clothes, footwear and accessories and wished to open the premises before Christmas.

Details of the applicant's previous trading background were given and reference was made to the required business plan which had been presented to the Grants Panel. It was reported that the Grants Panel was satisfied that the application met the required criteria.

It was noted that funding for the Business Vitality Scheme had been secured from both LABGI and RERF. It was confirmed that the applicant was aware that the grants were discretionary and, if approved, paid in arrears, and that the applicant should have sufficient funds to cover all costs prior to reimbursement of any grant monies.

Resolved:- (1) That Rental Contribution be awarded to this project to provide a contribution of 50% of annual rent in year one and 25% of annual rental in year two.

(2) That a Capital Improvement Grant be awarded to this project to cover 75% of total cost of eligible works (excluding vat), up to a maximum grant payment of £7,500 to include (1) fitting out, (2) shop front signage subject to the submission and approval of satisfactory specifications and quotations.

(Exempt under Paragraph 3 – financial/business information)

**1GCABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND
TRANSPORTATION - 05/10/09**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND
TRANSPORTATION**

Monday, 5th October, 2009

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillor Walker. together with Councillors Parker and Pickering

**62. PETITION FOR 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT, MEADOW VIEW DRIVE,
RAVENFIELD**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Transportation Unit Manager, informing the Cabinet Member of receipt of a petition containing 52 signatures for a reduction in the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph on Meadow View Drive, Ravenfield.

It was reported that the petitioners concerns had been investigated and although the Service was unable to justify their request for traffic calming measures it was considered that, the northern end of Meadow View Drive (where the road splits into two without any prescribed form of junction control) would benefit from the introduction of a give-way marking (as illustrated on Drawing No. 128/19/TT263). It was confirmed that the cost of these marking was small and could be funded from the Council's signing and road maintenance budget for 2009/2010.

The report also detailed the reasons why the speed limit could not be reduced including the need for the requested speed limit to be self-enforcing, the lack of history of accidents and the relatively short length of this road.

It was noted that the impact would be monitored and a further report prepared if necessary.

Resolved:- (1) That the petition be received.

(2) That the request for a reduction in the speed limit be not acceded to for the reasons given in this report.

(3) That an alternative option to implement an improved form of junction control as shown on Drawing No: 128/19/TT263 be implemented

(4) That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

**63. WOODSETTS ROAD, NORTH ANSTON - PETITION ABOUT VEHICLE
SPEEDS WITHIN 30MPH SECTION**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Transportation Unit Manager, relating to the receipt of a petition containing 67 signatures requesting action to alleviate a growing problem with speeding traffic on

Woodsetts Road, North Anston.

It was reported that the residents' main concern related to the residential area located within the 30mph speed limit.

It was reported that there had been no reported Personal Injury Accidents within the last 5 years. However, as a result of two speed surveys it was concluded that a large percentage of motorists were exceeding the speed limit.

It was reported that the location would not meet the necessary criteria and national guidance for enforcement by the Safety Camera Partnership. Therefore it was proposed to investigate measures to improve compliance with the speed limit.

Consideration was therefore given to a proposal to investigate the feasibility of introducing a Portable Vehicle Activated Sign, which could initially be alternately positioned between two locations on Woodsetts Road.

It was reported that the cost would be met from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Capital Programme 2010/11.

Members present discussed the volume of traffic and accident statistics at this location.

Resolved:- (1) That approval be given for the introduction of a Portable Vehicle Activated Sign at this location and which can be rotated amongst other sites with similar concerns as necessary.

(2) That the lead petitioner be informed about the outcome of the petition, and the proposal to introduce a Portable Vehicle Activated Sign.

64. B6463 TODWICK ROAD, DINNINGTON - PROPOSED EQUESTRIAN CROSSING

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Transportation Unit Manager, detailing the results of consultations carried out on the proposed installation of a Pegasus Crossing for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders on the B6463 Todwick Road, Dinnington, associated with the Thurcroft Trail. It was reported that consultation had take place with the emergency services, Ward Councillors, Anston and Dinnington Parish Councils and the Passenger Transport Executive.

It was explained that the proposal would provide a formal location to cross the road when using the Trail and in addition a separate bridle path along part of Bookers Way was also proposed. Details of the proposals were illustrated on Drawing No. 126/B6463.004 appended to the report.

Details of the estimated cost were set out in the submitted report and in

3GCABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION - 05/10/09

addition it was explained that funding was available from Yorkshire Forward as part of the funding associated with the bridge replacement works which took place on Todwick Road two years ago. Funding would also be made available from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Capital Programme for 2009/2010 and 2010/11 (including an allowance for necessary land purchase).

Members presented raised the following issues:-

- desirability of a map showing the trail overall
- risks associated with land purchase
- equestrian needs
- issues related to shared use
- safety audit

Resolved:- (1) That the results of the consultation be noted.

(2) That approval be given to approach the land owners during this financial year, with a view to acquiring the necessary land associated with the bridle path alongside Bookers Way, and subject to costs being commensurate with the estimate, the purchase of the land be progressed.

(3) That approval be given for detail design to be carried out and for the Equestrian Crossing to be implemented during the 2010/11 financial year.

CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURAL SERVICES AND SPORT
Tuesday, 6th October, 2009

Present:- Councillor St. John (in the Chair); and Councillor Falvey.

19. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 1ST SEPTEMBER, 2009

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member held on 1st September, 2009 be signed as a true record.

20. ARCHIVES AND LOCAL STUDIES SERVICE ANNUAL CLOSURE

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Principal Officer, Archives and Local Studies, which requested permission to close the Archives and Local Studies Services to the public for five days at the end of November, beginning of December, to carry out essential work on its collections.

The Archives and Local Studies Service had an annual closure week. During this time the staff would undertake work on the historic collections it held which could not be completed at any other time as it required all staff to be available and the use of the space in the public search room. This was normal practice within Archive Services nationally to allow necessary collections work to be undertaken.

This year it was intended to close to the public for the week commencing Monday, 30th November to Saturday, 5th December inclusive. December was historically one of the quietest months, which was why in past years the closure week had been scheduled for this time

It was, therefore, suggested that the intended closure be publicised well in advance to users, including on the Council's webpages, in the search room and through press releases.

The closure would enable staff to focus upon the Service's earlier ordnance survey map collection. The impending relocation of the service meant that a clear and careful catalogue of collections needed to be undertaken to ensure that transfers could take place with minimum risk to the integrity of the service and its collections.

Resolved:- That the closure to the public of the Archives and Local Studies Service for five days to carry out essential work on its collections be approved.

21. MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & HERITAGE - 2007-2009 BIENNIAL RETURN FOR THE ACCREDITATION STANDARD FOR MUSEUMS IN THE UK

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Senior Officer, Collections, which detailed the Museums Accreditation Scheme, which was the national minimum set of standards for UK museums. Museums qualified for the scheme by meeting clear requirements on how they cared for and documented their collections, how they were governed and managed and on the levels of information and services they offered to their users and visitors.

A report was submitted to the relevant Cabinet Member in July, 2006 asking for approval for the 2006/2007 Service Development Plan and the Acquisition and Disposal Policies for the three venues (Clifton Park Museum, Rotherham Art Gallery and the York and Lancaster Regimental Museum). The venues achieved Accredited status in June, 2007. This was reported to the relevant Cabinet Member on 15th October 2007.

The Service was now required to submit Biennial Returns for the three venues covering the period 2007 to 2009 (from the attainment of Accredited status to now).

The Service was, therefore, seeking approval for the policy document which must be submitted as part of the Return (along with a copy of the signed and dated Cabinet Member Minute).

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.

(2) That the policy document be approved, in order that the returns for the Biennial Review be submitted.

22. AUGUST REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Consideration was given to a report submitted by the Senior Accountant, which detailed the performance against the revenue budget for the Environment and Development Services Directorate as at the end of August, 2009 and to provide a forecast outturn for the whole of the 2009/10 financial year.

The report reflected the position against budget for the period 1st April, 2009 to 31st August, 2009 and a summary was provided of the projected 2009/10 revenue position for the Directorate.

Following the August cycle of budget monitoring the Directorate identified that it was likely to incur an overspend of £631,000 (1.38%) against its total net revenue budget of £45,814,106. However, all possible actions to mitigate this would be taken.

The key pressures contributing to this position of relevance were the restructuring costs within Culture and Leisure.

A full breakdown of the Culture and Leisure Services budget was requested and this would be provided in due course.

Resolved:- (1) That the current forecast year end outturn position of an overspend of £631,000 for the Environment and Development Services Directorate based on expenditure and income as at August, 2009 be noted.

(2) That a breakdown of the Culture and Leisure Services budget be provided to the Cabinet Member and Adviser.

23. ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS LIBRARY SERVICE - CURRENT PRIORITIES AND FUTURE PROPOSALS

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Manager for Service Design and Development, which detailed developments in the Schools' Library Service (SLS). These developments were necessary in order to maintain and enhance the Service's relevance to the needs and aspirations of schools in Rotherham, to better support schools in meeting the challenges they faced and to play a key part in building links between schools and local community libraries.

Recognition of these functions brought the need to ensure secure funding of the Schools' Library Service for the future and that security would only come with a clear confidence and understanding that the Schools' Library Service could help to deliver school improvement.

Discussion ensued on the contact mechanisms with schools and emphasis placed on the need to contact schools for their continued support to the Schools' Library Service on a regular basis.

Resolved:- (1) That core service and current priorities should be maintained in order to ensure delivery was of the highest possible standard.

(2) That the new ways of working and action for the four proposals identified be approved.

(3) That additional areas of external funding be explored which may supplement current school subscription levels.

(4) That contingency plans be formulated in order to manage the risk of reduced subscriptions.

(5) That past consultation be built upon by embedding further consultation with schools into the service planning process.

(THE CHAIRMAN AUTHORISED CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IN ORDER TO PROCESS THE INFORMATION REFERRED TO)

24. PLAY PATHFINDER PROJECT BOARD

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Play Pathfinder Project Board held on 18th September, 2009.

Reference was made to the new benches in Clifton Park and a request made for future use of the old benches if they were still available.

Resolved:- (1) That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th September, 2009 be received.

(2) That the request regarding the benches in Clifton Park be followed up and investigated further.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:-	Regeneration Scrutiny Panel
2.	Date:-	6 November 2009
3.	Title:-	Streetpride Response Times
4.	Directorate:-	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

Streetpride is undertaking a review of its current set of 30 target response times and wishes to invite the Panel to contribute to the process

6. Recommendation:

That Panel Members contribute to the review of Streetpride's response time targets

7. Proposals and Details

Streetpride has recently commenced a review of its current set of 30 response time targets and a peer review has been undertaken to compare Rotherham's targets with those of other similar Local Authorities (see Appendix 3). It is proposed to submit a report to the Cabinet Member for Streetpride in December 2009 making recommendations following the review thereby establishing an up-dated set of targets for Streetpride's response times to the most common types of request for service. The review will need to consider the balance between meeting customer expectations and council priorities whilst not setting targets which are so onerous as to adversely affect operational efficiency and cost.

The review of targets is currently focussing on the following areas:

- Street lighting
- Blocked gullies
- Dangerous defects in the carriageway
- Dangerous defects in the footway
- Missing covers in the highway / footway
- Overflowing litter / dog bins
- Reports of litter
- Drug litter

It is proposed any changes would come into effect from 1 April 2010. Members of the Scrutiny Panel are invited to contribute to the review process

8. Finance

Of the 30 response times, 27 are wholly funded from the Streetpride budget but 3 areas, namely drug litter fly tipping and graffiti are funded jointly with Neighbourhood Services. Costs incurred in delivering the vast majority of the current target response times are hence covered by the Streetpride Revenue Budget for 2009/10. The financial implications of any proposed changes will be assessed as part of the review process so that any changes can be taken account of in the budget setting process for 2010/11.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Streetpride's overall efficiency in meeting target response times can be adversely affected by factors beyond Streetpride's control (such as flooding) and will to be dependant on the Service receiving adequate levels of funding.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Streetpride's rapid response in dealing with environmental issues makes an important contribution to three of the Council's corporate priorities: 'Rotherham Safe', 'Rotherham Proud' and Sustainable Development. This is achieved through Streetpride's rapid and efficient response to local environmental issues including the

timely clearance of litter, disposal of abandoned cars, dealing with fly tipping, and removal of graffiti and dog fouling.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Appendix 1 – The current set of targets and actual performance in 08/09

Appendix 2 - Minutes of the Streetpride DPM Meeting of 2 September 2009

Appendix 3 - Table of response times compared with other Local Authorities (peer review)

Neighbourhood Services have been consulted regarding the proposed review

Contact Name: *Jon Surridge, Projects and Performance Officer (Streetpride)*
Extension 2908 e-mail: jonathan.surridge@rotherham.gov.uk

STREETPRIDE RESPONSE TIMES			
	Request for Action	Current Target Response times	% within target response time (08/09)
1(a)	Make safe dangerous overhanging trees/vegetation on highway land.	If necessary, the danger signed and guarded within 4 hrs.	100.0%
1(b)		Cutting back will be carried out within 5 days.	100.0%
2(a)	Make safe dangerous overhanging trees/vegetation on private land.	If necessary, the danger signed and guarded within 4 hrs.	100.0%
2(b)		Cutting back by the landowner - within 14 days (after written notice received from Streetpride).	100.0%
3	Provision of estimate for vehicular dropped crossing.	Within 10 working days (after receipt of written request)	97.9%
4	Street light out.	3 working days (for a non supply fault)	91.6%
5(a)	Faulty traffic lights.	All lights out - 1 hr	100.0%
5(b)		Single bulb failure - 24 hrs	98.5%
6	Dangerous defect in carriageway.	4 hrs (after being reported by the public)	97.5%
7	Dangerous defect on footpath.	4 hrs (after being reported by the public)	96.9%
8	Removal of fly tipping	Within 1 working day	86.2%
9	Removal of dog mess	Within 1 working day	94.4%
10(a)	Removal of abandoned car.	Burnt out - Same day (if reported before 12.00 noon) otherwise 24 hrs	100.0%
10(b)		Wreck or dangerous - Within 24 hours	100.0%
10(c)		Runner - 15 working days	100.0%
11	Make safe missing cover e.g. public and private sewers, gas, water or BT apparatus.	4 hrs to make safe and inform the owner. (Owner carries out repairs.)	98.8%
12	Clear up spillage on carriageway.	Within 4 hrs	97.2%
13	Empty overflowing litter bin/dog bin	Within 4 hrs	100.0%
14(a)	Clear blocked gully causing severe ponding.	Sign and guard within 4 hrs	100.0%
14(b)		Blockage relieved within 1 working day.	100.0%
15	Empty missed wheelie bin	Same day (if reported before 1.00pm) Within 1 working day (if reported after 1.00pm)	100.0%
16	Remove bulky item (after receipt of payment).	Within 9 working days.	95.0%
17	Remove racist or offensive graffiti	Within 1 working day.	94.0%
17a	Remove 'other' graffiti	Within 4 working days	93.2%
18	Request for an enforcement visit	Within 4 working days.	97.3%
19	Clear up drug litter	Within 2 hrs	94.7%
20	Report of a stray dog	Within 1 working day	99.8%
21a	Investigate un-taxed vehicle	Within 24 hours	98.9%
21b	Remove untaxed vehicle	Within 24 hours (after authorisation from DVLA)	100.0%
22	Remove litter following report	Within 7 working days	91.0%
Overall results			97.4%

CABINET MEMBER FOR STREETPRIDE
Wednesday, 2nd September, 2009

Present:- Councillor R. S. Russell (in the Chair);

Apologies for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor Ali) and Councillor Swift.

13. REPORT RE: OPENING OF TENDERS

Resolved:- That the action of the Cabinet Member in opening tenders on 13th August, 2009 for the following project be recorded:-

- the construction works (various) at the ABLE project

14. STREETPRIDE RESPONSE TIMES

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Projects and Performance Officer (Streetpride), detailing Streetpride's overall performance in respect of its efficiency in dealing with requests for service.

It was reported that:-

(a) overall performance averaged 97.6% in the first quarter of 2009/10. This was an improvement of 1.5% compared with the previous quarter.

(b) Streetpride had commenced a review of its current response time targets and a 'peer review' had been undertaken comparing Rotherham's targets with those of other similar Local Authorities.

(c) It was proposed to submit a further report on the outcome of the review in either November or December 2009

(c) The review of targets was currently focussing on the following areas:-

- Street lighting
- Blocked gullies
- Dangerous defects in the carriageway
- Dangerous defects in the footway
- Missing covers in the highway / footway
- Overflowing litter / dog bins
- Reports of litter

A discussion took place regarding:-

- Fly tipping – This has a stretching one day target which is currently achieved on 85.2% of occasions; Cllr Russell suggested splitting

the target to allow for exceptions

- Drug litter: Cllr Russell queried whether the current 2 hour target was possibly too onerous.

Resolved:- (1) That Streetpride's performance in the first quarter of 2009/10 be noted.

(2) That an outline report be submitted to the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel which would be given the opportunity to provide input into the review of the response time targets.

(3) That, following (2) above, a further discussion document be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet Member for Streetpride on the proposed changes to response time targets.

APPENDIX 3	Peer Review of published Target Response Times										Produced by: Jon Surridge July 2009
Request for Action	Rotherham MBC	Average for other Councils in this table	Sheffield City	Barnsley MBC	Sefton MBC	Oldham MBC	Doncaster MBC	Wakefield MBC	Bradford MDC	Wolverhampton	Kirklees
Street light out.	3 working days (for a non supply fault)	4.9 days	5 working days	6 working days	3 working days	n/a	7 working days	5 working days	5 working days	3 working days	5 working days
Faulty traffic lights.	All lights out - 1 hr	2.5 hours	2 hours	n/a	3 hours	n/a	2 hours	3 hours	n/a	1 hour	2 to 4 hours
	Single bulb failure - 24 hrs	25.5 hours	n/a	n/a	6 hours	n/a	n/a	24 hours	n/a	2 working days	24 hours
Dangerous defect in carriageway.	4 hrs (after being reported by the public)	14.6 hours	24 hours	24 hours	2 hours	2 hours	n/a	24 hours	n/a	2 hours	24 hours
Dangerous defect on footpath.	4 hrs (after being reported by the public)	17.7 hours	24 hours	24 hours	2 hours	24 hours	n/a	24 hours	n/a	2 hours	24 hours
Removal of fly tipping	Within 1 working day	2.3 days	3 working days	'as soon as possible'	1 day to visit. Removal time then dependant on amount	7 working days	48 hours	12 hours	36 hours	36 hours	n/a
Removal of dog mess	Within 1 working day	2.9 days	n/a	5 working days	5 working days	n/a	n/a	12 hours	n/a	Same day or following day	n/a
Removal of abandoned car.	Burnt out - Same day (if reported before 12.00 noon)	2.3 days	n/a	'Immediately'	24 hours	n/a	24 hours	48 hours	48 hours	5 working days	4 working days
	Wreck or dangerous - Within 24 hours	2.0 days	n/a	'Immediately'	24 hours	n/a	24 hours	n/a	n/a	5 working days	n/a
	Runner - 15 working days	11.7 days	n/a	n/a	15 days	n/a	15 days	n/a	n/a	5 working days	n/a
Make safe missing cover e.g. public and private sewers, gas, water or BT apparatus.	4 hrs to make safe and inform the owner. (Owner carries out repairs.)	2 hours	n/a	n/a	2 hours	n/a	2 hours	n/a	n/a	2 hours	2 hours
Clear up spillage on carriageway.	Within 4 hrs	n/a	n/a	'will receive immediate attention'	1 hour during working day. 2 hours outside normal working hours	n/a	2 hours	n/a	n/a	Same day or following day	2 hours
Empty overflowing litter bin/dog bin	Within 4 hrs	n/a	City centre -same day Other areas 48 hours	'as soon as possible'	1 working day	n/a	n/a	12 hours	n/a	Same day or following day	n/a
Clear blocked gully causing severe ponding.	Sign and guard within 4 hrs	n/a	n/a	n/a	2 hours	n/a	n/a	1 hour	n/a	Same day or following day	n/a
	Blockage relieved within 1 working day.	n/a	'Depends on severity of flooding. If non urgent, then 20 days'	where water is likely to enter a property we aim to respond immediately'	ASAP - but if non urgent 10 working days	n/a	3 working days	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Empty missed wheelie bin	Same day (if reported before 1.00pm) Within 1 working day (if reported after 1.00pm)	n/a	n/a	'as soon as possible'	'Within 24 hours or by the next working day'	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Same day or following day	n/a
Remove bulky item (after receipt of payment).	Within 9 working days.	9.2 days	5 working days	10 working days	5 working days	n/a	n/a	n/a	15 working days	10 working days	10 working days
Remove racist or offensive graffiti	Within 1 working day.	24.6 hours	24 hours	'will be treated as a priority'	48 hours	24 hours	n/a	4 hours	n/a	24 hours	n/a
Remove 'other' graffiti	Within 4 working days	10.8 days	10 working days	5 working days	28 working days	10 working days	5 working days	7 working days	n/a	n/a	n/a
Request for an enforcement visit	Within 4 working days.	5.0days	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5 working days	n/a
Clear up drug litter	Within 2 hrs	13.2 hours	n/a	n/a	1 hour	24 hours	n/a	4 hours	n/a	same day or following day	n/a
Report of a stray dog	Within 1 working day	3.2 days	n/a	n/a	1 working day	n/a	5 working days	n/a	2 working days	5 working days	n/a
Investigate un-taxed vehicle	Within 24 hours	36 hours	n/a	n/a	24 hours	n/a	2 working days	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Remove untaxed vehicle	Within 24 hours (after authorisation from DVLA)	36 hours	n/a	n/a	24 hours	n/a	'immediately'	48 hours	n/a	n/a	n/a
Remove litter following report	Within 7 working days	2.5 days	n/a	n/a	'next cleansing schedule'	'3 days'	n/a	n/a	n/a	2 working days	n/a

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