

DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL

Venue: Bailey Suite, Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road,
Rotherham.

Date: Thursday, 3 June 2010
Time: 3.30 p.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies and Communications.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Questions from members of the public and the press.

For Decision:-

6. Priorities of the Cabinet Member for Community Development and Engagement, Councillor Mahroof Hussain.
7. Rotherham Voluntary Sector Update – Janet Wheatley, Chief Executive of Voluntary Action Rotherham.
8. Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel Draft Work Programme (report herewith) (Pages 1 - 4)

For Monitoring:-

9. 2009-2010 Year End SRP Performance Suite Returns (information herewith) (Pages 5 - 8)
(This document is for noting and information only)
10. 2009-2010 SRP Year End Performance Summary (information herewith) (Pages 9 - 13)
(This document is for noting and information only)

Minutes - For Information:-

11. Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel held on 22nd April, 2010 (herewith). (Pages 14 - 18)
12. Minutes of the meetings of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 16th and 30th April, 2010 (herewith) (Pages 19 - 31)

**Date of Next Meeting:-
Thursday, 15 July 2010**

Membership:-

Chairman – Councillor Austen

Vice-Chairman – Councillor J. Hamilton

Councillors:- Currie, Cutts, Dodson, Hughes, Johnston, Littleboy, Mannion,
Nightingale, Parker, Pickering, Sims and Tweed

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL
2.	Date:	3rd June, 2010
3.	Title:	Draft Work Programme 2010/11
4.	Programme Area:	Chief Executive's

5. Summary

This report sets out to the panel its draft work programme for the 2010/11 municipal year that includes the key matters for scrutiny known to date. The report also presents several options for the panel to consider concerning future reviews, frequency of Crime and Disorder meetings, and moving meetings around the borough.

6. Recommendations**That the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel:**

- a. Notes the work programme for the 2010-2011 municipal year, and considers any other areas for future consideration, including any group visits;
- b. Identifies an initial area for review;
- c. Considers how often the Crime and Disorder Committee should meet;
- d. Consider whether it would like to hold meetings around the borough.

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 Each scrutiny panel must plan its forward work programme on an annual basis structured in line with the panel's terms of reference.

7.2 Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel Draft Work Programme 10/11 as at 25th May 2010.

Date	Items	Communications/ Monitoring
3rd June 2010	Cllr Hussain update Voluntary Services update Janet Wheatley Draft work programme	SRP Partnership Plan 09/10 year end
15th July 2010 Safe Theme Meeting Meeting of the Crime and Disorder Committee	Safer Rotherham Partnership update SRP Partnership Plan 09/10 Probation Services presentation Maryke Turvey Cllr Akhtar update	Performance against LAA inquisitive and serious crime Representatives on working groups and panels
16th September 2010 Proud Theme Meeting	PROUD Indicator progress New Arrivals/ Rotherham New Lives	Local Democracy Week Cabinet report on May Local Elections
28th October 2010 Equalities and Diversity Meeting	Rotherham Diversity Festival Community cohesion in schools / Connecting Classrooms Update on Connecting Communities/ Community Cohesion/ Equality Framework review	
9th December 2010	The Council Website Progress of the Community Asset Audit/Community Asset Management Plan CLF value for money Area Assemblies Parish Review Monitoring	
27th January 2011	Crime and Disorder issues from New Town Centre SNT,	

	Fear of crime statistics / evaluation of the PACT process, The effectiveness of ASB interventions, Bottle Watch Scheme/Operation Stay Safe, Domestic Violence, Victim Support.	
10th March 2011 Equalities and Diversity Meeting	Additional issues to be timetabled	
21st April 2011		
2nd June 2011	Representatives on working groups and panels Draft work programme	
14th July 2011		

7.3 As the appointed 'Crime and Disorder Committee' as a minimum requirement the panel must also meet once in every twelve month period to scrutinise crime and disorder issues and will receive an annual report from the Safer Rotherham Partnership. Owing to the nature of the issues and statutory changes, however, members may consider holding crime and disorder themed meetings more often. A meeting every six months may be considered.

7.4 Scrutiny Reviews

The first draft of the Devolved Budget review will be completed by July. The panel is also currently conducting a review, with the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, into the Perception of Rotherham, which is also due to be completed in July. Members are invited to suggest any further areas for review and may wish to consider one of the following:

- **Wider community leadership role of councillors.**

Building on the previous review into Community Leadership the panel might like to consider looking at how members are supported in these additional representative roles.

- **A review around a Crime and Disorder Function.**

Given this panel's role as the Crime and Disorder Committee, the panel may consider initiating a review around a crime and disorder issue. The 09-10 Safer Rotherham Partnership performance summary is contained in the papers for this meeting and members may consider a review around a failing indicator such as those relating to domestic violence.

- **The Council website.**

In relation to the panel's role to scrutinise issues relating to public access, the panel might consider looking at the new council website. Comments have been received that the website is difficult to use and navigate, and staff trying to put information onto the website find it cumbersome. This could be considered as a half day review.

8. Finance

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, recommendations arising from the panel may have financial implications should they be implemented.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The Panel needs to be realistic in terms of its capacity to properly examine issues that come before it. Issues may be referred to the Panel which are not known about at this stage and therefore, the work programme must be flexible enough to re-schedule items as required.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Scrutiny panels have a key role in scrutinising the effectiveness of services. The areas identified for future scrutiny should complement the authority's priorities.

Officer contact: *Ben Knight, Scrutiny Officer, direct line: (01709) 254452.*
ben.knight@rotherham.gov.uk

Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP) Performance Suite March 2010 (Provisional Year End)

Ref	Priorities and targets	NI Ref	Suite	Lead Organisation/ Manager/Deputy	Baseline	March 10	09/10 Target	What is good performance?	Current Performance	Notes
SRP Priority 1: OFFENDER MANAGEMENT (Including Acquisitive Crime)										
SRP1.1	Serious acquisitive crime	NI 16	LAA	SY Police Craig Robinson	19.52 offences per 1000 population (4943 offences (2007/08))	3962	18.2 (4596) 7% reduction	Lower is Better	★	
SRP1.2	Serious knife crime rate	NI 28	NI Set	SY Police Craig Robinson	71	73	69 (3% reduction)	Lower is Better	▲	
SRP1.3	Gun crime rate	NI 29	NI Set	SY Police Craig Robinson	34	19	34	Lower is Better	★	
SRP1.4	Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders	NI 30	NI Set	Probation Service Maryke Turvey	2.2	38	2.2 (77 offences)	Lower is Better	★	
SRP1.5	Drug related (Class A) offending rate	NI 38	NI Set	NHS Rotherham Anne Charlesworth	No baseline	NA	NA	Lower is Better	NA	
SRP1.6	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders	NI 19	NI Set	YOS Paul Grimwood	97 per 100 offenders	46/163 (28.2) re-offending rate after 6 months	97/100	Lower is Better	★	New Cohort established and rate slightly better than same period last year. (Due to the drop in First Time Entrants the cohort for this period is considerably lower than last year. Cohort numbers have reduced from 287 to 163, and the cohort therefore contains more young people with a high risk of re-offending. There is therefore a risk that re-offending will increase within this group over time.
SRP1.7	Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	NI 43	NI Set	YOS Paul Grimwood	7.50%	7.1% (6/85%)	7.50%	Lower is Better	★	0.4% below 09/10 target of 7.5%. This target is adversely effected by the dropping number of first time entrants and is likely to increase next quarter as a result of a number of Crown Court cases.
SRP1.8	Ethnic composition of offenders on Youth Justice System disposals	NI 44	NI Set	YOS Paul Grimwood	No baseline	Annual return	?	Higher is better	NA	This target is designed to drive down disproportionality in the youth justice system. The 40% target figure is an error and makes no sense in the context of reducing the number of BME young people in the system. Neither does "higher is better". No targets have been set for Rotherham as performance has consistently demonstrated that BME young people are not over represented in the youth justice system.
SRP1.9	Young offenders engagement in suitable education, training and employment	NI 45	NI Set	YOS Paul Grimwood	75.20%	71%	78%	Higher is better	▲	4.2% below 09/10 target of 75.2% Performance is adversely effected by the reduction in first time entrants who constitute those who are most likely to be in ETE or less challenging to place.
SRP1.10	Young offenders access to suitable accommodation	NI 46	NI Set	YOS Paul Grimwood	97.80%	98.60%	97.80%	Higher is better	★	1.2% above 09/10 target of 97.8%
SRP1.11	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17	NI 111	LAA	Youth Justice Simon Perry / Paul Grimwood	Revised DCSF baseline for 2007/08 580 (2140)	202 (Dec 09)	536 (1980 per 100,000)	Lower is better	★	Accum YOS total 212 April - Dec 2009 (784 per 100,000)

SRP 1.12	Offenders under probation supervision living in settled and suitable accomodation at the end of their order or licence	NI 143	NI Set	Probation Service Maryke Turvey	76%	82%	75%	Higher is better	★	
SRP1.13	Offenders under probation supervision in employment at the end of their order or license	NI 144	NI Set	Probation Service Maryke Turvey	35.50%	27%	40%	Higher is better	▲	Has been steep reduction since previous month which reflects unemployment situation in Rotherham
SRP1.14	PPO's who commence community order or are released from custody subject to license shall have an up to date assessment and sentence plan within 5 working days		SRP	Probation Service Maryke Turvey	100%	92%	100%	Higher is Better	▲	
SRP1.15	Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision	NI 18	LAA	Probation Service Maryke Turvey	11.72% offending rate (2007/08) Baseline Info Required	11.04%	10.20%	Lower is Better	★	Figures are for 1.4.08 - 31.3.09
SRP Priority 2: DOMESTIC ABUSE										
SRP2.1	Domestic Abuse - murder	NI 34	NI Set	SY Police Craig Robinson	0 (2008/09)	4	0	Lower is better	▲	
SRP2.2	Domestic abuse sanction detection rates		SRP	SY Police Simon Palmer	61.00%	55%	3% increase (63%)	Higher is better	▲	
SRP2.3	Repeat incidents domestic abuse	NI 32	SRP	RMBC Cheryl Henry	26.03%	27.00%	5% decrease (24.73%)	Lower is better	▲	
SRP2.4	Number of victims supported by IDVA Service		SRP	RMBC Cheryl Henry	89	222	150	Higher is better	★	
SRP Priority 3: ALCOHOL RELATED CRIME AND DISORDER										
Priority 4: PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME, ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND PUBLIC CONFIDENCE										
SRP4.1	Perceptions of anti social behaviour	NI 17	LAA	RMBC/Survey	29%	Bi-annual survey	Lower is better	NA	Baseline from Place Survey 2008	
SRP4.2	Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police	NI 21	NI Set	RMBC/Survey	19%	Bi-annual survey	Higher is better	NA	Baseline from Place Survey 2008	
SRP4.3	Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children in the area	NI 22	NI Set	RMBC/Survey	20%	Bi-annual survey	Higher is better	NA	Baseline from Place Survey 2008	
SRP4.4	Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and consideration (dignity?)	NI 23	NI Set	RMBC/Survey	42%	Bi-annual survey	Lower is Better	NA	Baseline from Place Survey 2008	
SRP4.5	Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police	NI 27	NI Set	RMBC/Survey	20%	Bi-annual survey	Higher is better	NA	Baseline from Place Survey 2008	
SRP4.6	Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem	NI 41	NI Set	RMBC/Survey	32%	Bi-annual survey	Lower is Better	NA	Baseline from Place Survey 2008	
SRP4.7	Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem	NI 42	NI Set	RMBC/Survey	40%	Bi-annual survey	Lower is Better	NA	Baseline from Place Survey 2008	
SRP4.8	To reduce by 2% the number of residents who think nuisance motorcycles are a very big or fairly big problem in their locality		SRP	RMBC/Survey	29%	Bi-annual survey	Lower is Better	NA	Baseline from Place Survey 2008	
SRP Priority 5: IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR MOST VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES										
SRP5.1	Assault with injury crime rate (Less serious)	NI 20	LAA	SY Police C Robinson	8.52 Offences per 1000 population (2159)	1709	2101 (2.7% reduction)	Lower is Better	★	

SRP 5.2	Recorded Hate Crimes(Including Race/Religion,Sexuality,Homophobia,Transphobia,Disability,Age and Gender)		SRP	RMBC Gail Wilcock	New baseline 2009/10	390	?	Higher is Better	?	
SRP5.3	Recorded Community Tension(Community, Political, Crime and Disorder, Immigration, National/International and Hate Crime)		SRP	RMBC Gail Wilcock	New baseline 2009/10	436	?	Higher is Better	?	not all reports of hate incidents represent a community tension
SRP5.4	The number of racial incidents recorded per 100,000 population		SRP	RMBC Gail Wilcock	218 (86.02 per 100,000 population)	430	240 (94.7 per 100,000 population)	Higher is Better	★	
SRP5.5	The percentage of racial incidents reported that resulted in further action.		SRP	RMBC Gail Wilcock	100%	100%	100%	Higher is Better	★	
SRP5.6	People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents (LAA - Region)	NI 47	LAA	RMBC Stuart Savage	641 (3 year rolling average to Dec 2007)	530 (end of December)	600 (LAA - Region) (2010 target)	Lower is Better	★	January to December target
	People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents (LAA - Rotherham)				102	93 (end of December)	99 (2010 target)	Lower is Better	★	January to December target
SRP 5.7	Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	NI 48	SRP	RMBC Stuart Savage	17	8 (end of December)	15 (2010 target)	Lower is Better	★	January to December target
SRP5.8	Serious violent crime	NI 15	NI Set	SY Police Craig Robinson	193	223	193	Lower is Better	▲	
SRP5.9	Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence	NI 26	NI Set	SY Police/Terry Mann	NBI	NA	NA	Higher is Better	NA	Deferred to 2010
SRP5.10	To reduce by 2% by March 2010 the number of domestic noise incidents across the Borough		SRP	RMBC Lewis Coates	1626 (3 year average 2006-2009)	1618	1594	Lower is better	▲	
SRP5.11	Number of deliberate primary fires	NI 33	SRP	SY Fire Service/Nicola Smith	454 (Average 2005-2008 baseline)	264	426	Lower is Better	★	
	Number of deliberate secondary fires	NI 33		SY Fire Service/Nicola Smith	1653 (Average 2005-2008 baseline)	916	1554	Lower is Better		
SRP5.12	Number of primary fires and related fatalities and non-fatal casualties (excluding precautionary checks)	NI 49	SRP	SY Fire Service/Nicola Smith	714	546	642	Lower is Better		
		NI 49		SY Fire Service/Nicola Smith	0	0	22 (combined)	Lower is Better	★	
		NI 49		SY Fire Service/Nicola Smith	9.07	13		Lower is Better		
SRP5.13	To reduce by 3% the number of reports of nuisance motor cycles		SRP	RMBC Paul Spivey	1472	1106	1428 (3% reduction)	Lower is better	★	
SRP5.14	Number of incidents of fly tipping		SRP	RMBC Peter Hyde	4188	3107	3908	Lower is Better	★	
SRP5.15	Number of incidents of graffiti		SRP	RMBC Colin Knight	1535	602	921	Lower is Better	★	
SRP5.16	To reduce criminal damage by 5% by March 2010 and a further 5% by 2011		SRP	SY Police Marissa Cooper	6149	4704	5842 (5% reduction)	Lower is Better	★	
SRP5.17	To achieve a take up rate of the pre-trial visit offer from the Witness Service through pro-active contact of 60%		SRP	Victim Support Yvonne Cherry	55%	62%	60%	Higher is Better	★	
SRP PRIORITY 6. DRUG MISUSE										
SRP6.1	Drug users in effective treatment	NI 40	LAA	NHS Rotherham Debbie Stovin	1256 (2007/08)	1227 (Dec 08-Nov09)	1,307 (4% from baseline)	Higher is Better	▲	Some improvement evident. Recovery plan being implemented and discussions initiated with NTA to revise baseline and target.

SRP PRIORITY 7. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS											
SRP 7.3	SRP7.1	The number of safeguarding adults cases completed		SRP	RMBC	413	114	600	Higher is Better	★	New definition
	SRP7.2	Number of safeguarding adults referrals		SRP	RMBC	526	175	650	Higher is Better	★	New definition
		The percentage of substantiated safeguarding adults cases		SRP	RMBC	24% (125)	61%	20%	Lower is Better	★	New definition



Safer Rotherham Partnership
March 2010 – Provisional Year End
Performance Summary

Introduction

This report focuses on the refresh of the 2009/10 suite of indicators. It includes the National Indicator Set and the targets set within the recently submitted refresh of the Local Area Agreement, reported to the Safer Rotherham Partnership and progressed against some of the original community safety strategy (CSS) targets.

The suite covers the following indicators:

- SAFE Board Indicators (SAFE)
- Local Area Agreement (LAA) Targets
- Community Safety Strategy (CSS) Targets
- CDRP Best Value Performance Indicators
- Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy
- Place Survey
- APACS

Performance reporting - SRP Annual Suite

There are 49 indicators in the suite focusing on the following agreed priorities:

- Offender Management
- Domestic Abuse
- Alcohol Related Crime And Disorder
- Perceptions Of Crime, Anti Social Behaviour And Public Confidence
- Improving The Quality Of Life In Our Most Vulnerable Communities
- Drug Misuse
- Safeguarding Adults

Performance Overview

There are 49 indicators included in the suite and at the end of March 2010, performance can be reported on 36 compared to 36 in February 2009.

At the end of March (Provisional Year end), of the reportable indicators, 26 (72%) provisionally achieved their year end targets, this compares to 75% in February and 77% last year.

There are 10 indicators that are currently 'off target' against the year end targets set by action managers, these are:

- NI 28 (SRP1.2) Serious Knife Crime – 73 incidences of knife crime (5.8% above target) at the end of March, with a year end target of 69 incidents. Performance has improved slightly in the last quarter. (SY Police – Craig Robinson)

- SRP 5.10 To reduce by 2% by March 2010 the number of domestic noise incidents across the Borough – This indicator failed to achieve the year end target of 1594 incidents by 22 with a year end out turn of 1618 incidents in the year. (RMBC – Lewis Coates)
- NI 144 (SRP 1.13) Offenders under probation supervision in employment – Performance at the end of March of 27% continued to be well below the year end target set of 40%, with a significant reduction in the 2nd half of the year. The economic climate continued to impact on the achievement of this indicator throughout the year.
(Probation Service – Maryke Turvey)
- NI 34 (SRP 2.1) – Domestic Abuse (murder) –. Performance at the end of March 2010 reflects murders being committed in the 2nd half of the year.
(SY Police – Craig Robinson)
- SRP 2.2 Domestic Abuse sanction detection rate – Performance increased in March (55%) which compared to 54% at the end of February, which is well below the year end target of 63%. A performance clinic regarding Domestic Abuse took place on 3rd February which identified a change in internal Police processes as impacting on reported performance.
(SY Police – Simon Palmer)
- NI 32 (SRP2.3) Repeat incidents of Domestic Abuse - Performance at the end of March (27%) compared to 28% in February. The last quarter has seen an improvement in performance since the peak in January of 29% however it remains well above the year end target of 24.73%. A performance clinic regarding Domestic Abuse took place on 3rd February.
(RMBC – Cheryl Henry)
- SRP 1.14 PPO's who commence community order or are released from custody subject to license to have an assessment and sentence plan within 5 working days – Performance at the end of March 2010 is 92% compared to 91% in February and is below the year end target of 100%. Performance continued to be consistent at around 100% per month since the poor start to the year (Probation Service – Maryke Turvey)
- NI 15 (SRP 5.8) Serious Violent Crime – SY Police set a year end target to maintain performance at current levels (193 incidents 2008/09). Performance at the end of March was 223 incidents compared to 206 in February (15.5% above target).
(SY Police – Craig Robinson)

- NI 40 (SRP 6.1) Drug users in effective treatment – NHS Rotherham (NHS) were involved in a realignment process which was completed in February 2010. This indicated a reduction in the number of people in the system to 1182 (Aug 08 – July 09) in November compared to 1347 reported previously. At the end of March there were 1227 users in treatment (Dec 08 – Nov 09) compared 1221 in February, an increase of 6 in the month. Performance currently indicates there could be a significant impact on the delivery of the LAA target (1320 in treatment) at the end of the LAA period 2008 -2011. NHS Rotherham have developed an action plan to mitigate the risk. The take up of this service is essential, however there seems to be little take up of the service currently.

RMBC's Corporate Performance Team have requested a data quality audit which is a normal process at year end, prior to submission of returns to Government Office. (NHS Rotherham – Anne Charlesworth)

- NI 45 (SRP 1.9) Young offenders engagement in suitable education, training and employment – March performance (3rd Quarter), 71%, is 4.2% below 09/10 target of 75.2%. Performance is adversely affected by the reduction in first time entrants who constitute those who are most likely to be in ETE or less challenging to place. Year end performance outturn is due following submission in April to Youth Justice Board. (YOS – Paul Grimwood).

<i>Indicators not reported in year</i>

Of the 13 indicators not reported, 8 were informed by the results of the 2008 Place Survey

Current performance relating to the remaining indicators is not reportable due to the following;

- SRP 5.2 & 5.3 – Hate Crime – Reporting information currently provided is measured differently to that reported by SY Police. Discussions have taken place between RMBC and SY Police. Clinic to be arranged to agree target setting process. (RMBC – Gail Wilcock)
- NI 26 – Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence – Indicator deferred to 2010. (SY Police – Craig Robinson)
- NI 38 – Drug related (Class A) offending rate –The ownership for reporting this indicator was agreed at SRP Exec Group in September (NHS Rotherham – Anne Charlesworth)

- NI 44 – Ethnic composition of offenders on Youth Justice System disposals – No recent data available. Information has been received from YOS stating that this is an annual measure and the year end target requires amending as the measure is aimed at larger YOT's (Youth Offending Service –Paul Grimwood)

Recorded Overall Crime

Overall crime within the borough in 2009/10 has seen excellent improvement in key areas with almost 3000 less victims of crime within the year.

Headline Recorded Crime – March 2010

Class	Apr - Mar 2008	Apr - Mar 2009	% Change	Value
All Crime	22,360	19,373	-13.4%	-2987
Assaults with less serious injury	2,159	1,709	- 20.8%	-450
Burglary	2,858	2,588	-9.4%	-270
Criminal Damage	6,149	4,704	-23.5%	-1445
Serious acquisitive crime	4,181	3,962	- 5.2%	-219
Serious violent crime	193	223	+15.5%	+30
Theft of or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle	838	627	- 25.2%	-211
Violent crime	3,850	3,322	- 13.7%	-528

Local Area Agreement (LAA)

NI 47, the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents has achieved the target set for South Yorkshire for January – December 2009 with local targets also being achieved.

There are potential risks in the delivery of 2 indicators included within the LAA 2008-11, these are;

NI 18 Re-offending rates of prolific and priority offenders

NI 40 Drug users in effective treatment

Performance Management Recommendations

- SRP Board note and support the provisional year end position.

DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL
Thursday, 22nd April, 2010

Present:- Councillor Austen (in the Chair); Councillors Currie, Dodson, J. Hamilton, Littleboy, Pickering and Tweed.

Also in attendance was Councillor A. Buckley (Parish Representative).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Johnston and Sims and Joanna Jones and Taiba Yasseen (Community Representatives).

85. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

86. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

87. WORK PROGRAMME 2010/2011

Consideration was given to a report presented by Ben Knight, Scrutiny Officer, which set out this Panel's terms of reference and suggested areas for an outline work programme for the 2010/11 municipal year that included the key matters for scrutiny known to date and incorporated those areas identified by the Panel at previous meetings, suggested agenda items, items for quarterly updates, all of which were structured broadly in line with the Local Strategic Partnership theme boards.

It was also suggested that Members may also find it useful to request a report from the Safer Rotherham Partnership which from 1st April, 2010 included the Probation Service as a responsible authority with its duties expanding to include reducing re-offending.

In terms of Scrutiny Reviews, the panel was currently conducting a review into Devolved Budgeting and, with the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, into the Perception of Rotherham. Members were, therefore, invited to suggest any further areas for review.

In the main the Scrutiny Panel were happy with the suggested content of the Work Programme and were in agreement that at some point in the year consideration be given to the content and access to the Council's website, further reports arising from adoption of the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review into Debt Recovery and possibly external funding.

It was noted during the course of the discussion that an evaluation of the recent emergency planning exercise was requested and should be made available to all Members.

Resolved:- (1) That the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel's Terms of Reference be noted.

(2) That the draft work programme and its priorities with suggestions for the coming year be approved.

(3) That areas for review to be undertaken in the 2010/2011 municipal year be forwarded onto the Chairman and the Scrutiny Team.

88. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF DEBT RECOVERY

Consideration was given to a report presented by Colin Earl, Director of Internal Audit and Governance, which drew attention to the Corporate Debt Policy, produced following a scrutiny review of debt recovery arrangements and after consultation with relevant parties.

The Corporate Debt Policy was to be submitted to Cabinet for approval, subject to any comments by the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel.

The Corporate Debt Policy was part of a suite of four key documents explaining the approach and procedures relating to the collection of debt. The policy stated the over-riding principles applying to each area of debt collection. It was supplemented by three additional information notes covering the main areas of income collected by the Council, i.e. council tax and business rates, housing rents and sundry accounts.

The Corporate Debt Policy explained the Council's principles that would be applied in the recovery of all debt

The Corporate Debt Policy provided details of advice and support services available to help residents in debt and had been subject to wide consultation.

Comments from a range of stakeholders have been taken into account in drafting the policy, including:-

- Members of the original Scrutiny Review Group.
- Voluntary Action Rotherham - 'Advice In Rotherham'.
- Citizens' Advice Bureau.
- Relevant Council Services.
- Bailiffs.

When approved, the Corporate Debt Policy would be included on the Council's website and copies and/or links made available to relevant organisations to publicise its existence.

The additional information notes also provided more detail on arrangements for collecting debt in each of the specific areas.

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

- Selling on the Council's debt to bailiffs.
- Triggers and early intervention/advice for vulnerable groups and the inclusion of "carers".
- Debt breaks.
- Impact on the capacity of advice centres.
- Possibility of bringing the bailiff service in-house.
- Recovery arrangements.
- Trial of personal contact arrangements for those people experiencing difficulty for Council Tax.
- Recovery performance.
- Monitoring and evaluation of the bailiff service with further reports to this Scrutiny Panel.
- Amount and kind of debt owed to the Council.
- Debt accruals and process of debt repayment.

Jane Woodford, Financial Inclusion Manager (VAR), was involved with the original scrutiny review and applauded the Council on the clear and sensitive proposals for debt recovery now being taken forward.

Resolved:- (1) That Colin Earl be thanked for his report and the information be provided.

(2) That comments on the Corporate Debt Policy be provided prior to the report's submission to the Cabinet for approval.

(3) That further information be provided on debt breaks, kind and amount of debt owed to the Council and the process of debt repayment.

89. FINANCIAL INCLUSION UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report presented by Jane Woodford, Financial Inclusion Manager (VAR), which updated the Panel on the progress of the financial inclusion project, its links with the Council's Credit Crunch response and plans for the future of financial inclusion in Rotherham post March, 2011.

All the factors together reinforced the need for financial inclusion work to continue, in particular in relation to working in partnership with key organisations, sharing information within the Financial Inclusion Network and to the wider public and more effectively co-ordinating activities.

The report set out more clearly the key achievements, including those of the Financial Inclusion Team, the Credit Crunch Partnership, RIEP and future plans.

Further information was provided on the work now being undertaken on

the 2011-2014 Financial Inclusion Strategy, the influence that financial inclusion work had had on the investments in Rotherham, sub-regional links, importance of improvements to financial capability training, priorities for 2011, economic arguments for financial inclusion, core elements and targeting of resources for deprived communities and vulnerable groups.

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

- Timing of the Financial Inclusion Strategy and the impact it had had.
- Money and debt advice to schools.
- Financial capability training and money advice.
- Excellent partnership working.

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

(2) That the achievements of the Financial Inclusion Project be noted, as outlined in the "Quids In" document, in particular, the productive joint work with:-

- The Council's Credit Crunch Response Initiative.
- Sub-regionally with the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership.

(3) That the activities of the Financial Inclusion Team up to and beyond the life of this current project which has secured funding until March, 2011 continue to be supported and promoted.

(4) That a further update of the Financial Inclusion Project be submitted to this Scrutiny Panel in approximately six months time in conjunction with the updated Financial Inclusion Strategy for 2011-2014.

90. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON 11TH MARCH, 2010

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel held on 10th March, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman, subject to Councillor Currie being included in the list of apologies.

91. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT HELD ON 8TH MARCH AND 12TH APRIL, 2010

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet Member for Community Development and Engagement held on 8th March and 12th April, 2010.

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

92. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE HELD ON 12TH AND 26TH MARCH, 2010

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 26th March, 2009.

Discussion ensued on the availability of the minutes to Members and what action could be taken to assist in the reduction of paper. This would be subject to further discussion to ascertain the best solution.

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

(2) That discussion take place on how the minutes of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee could be made available to Members to prevent any unnecessary reproduction of paper copies.

93. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NEW ARRIVALS WORKING PARTY HELD ON 31ST MARCH, 2010

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meetings of the New Arrivals Working Party held on 31st March, 2010.

It was suggested that the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel be asked to review the action plan of the Scrutiny Review of Newly Arrived Children and that this information be shared with Members of this Scrutiny Panel.

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

(2) That this Scrutiny Panel be informed of any information following a review of the action plan from the Scrutiny Review of Newly Arrived Children.

94. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL HELD ON 25TH MARCH, 2010

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meetings of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 25th March, 2010.

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

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
Friday, 16th April, 2010

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

Also in attendance was Councillor Burton for Item 177 below (Scrutiny Review – Breastfeeding for Rotherham : A Health Future)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Boyes and License.

172. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

173. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

174. 500 BABIES

Julie Slatter, Head of Policy and Performance, gave a presentation on the imagined prospects of 500 notional babies born in Rotherham if nothing changed (250 living in the 10 most deprived areas and 250 living in the 10 least deprived areas).

The presentation covered:-

- Rotherham in 2010
- Rotherham has:
 - 7 area assemblies
 - 21 wards
 - 166 Super Output Areas (SOAs)
- Most and least deprived SOA's
- Impact of inequality on life chances
- Demographics
- Home and family
- Education
- Crime experiences
- Work

- Health
- Later years
- Summary of inequalities
- Are we making a difference?
- Corporate priorities?
- Possible priorities
- Next steps?

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

- criteria for deprivation
- likelihood of living in council rented home
- likelihood of earning above £30,000
- differences made utilising funding regimes
- early years as a priority needed stressing
- impact on shared services
- impact of locality teams on deprivation in areas
- information held locally but not covered in presentation regarding for example :-
 - drugs
 - prostitution
 - child abuse
 - alcohol
 - long term disability
- need to present statistics at area assemblies
- need to break down the relevant information for discussion at respective scrutiny panels with an open invitation to all members of the Council
- need to link emerging corporate priorities with the work programme

Resolved:- (1) That the presentation be welcomed and endorsed.

(2) That Cath Saltis and Julie Slatter liaise regarding spreading the message.

(3) That the information be disseminated and referred to respective scrutiny panels.

(4) That Miles Crompton report to a future meeting of this Committee on information that is held locally.

175. CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

Rob Houghton, Governance and Risk Manager, presented the submitted report which showed the Council's most significant risks and a summary of how they were being managed.

The reporting format had two key features:-

- An 'at a glance' picture showing the pattern of risk assessments for corporate priorities or projects both before and after risk management actions
- A more detailed summary of the risk register that reflected the current risk assessments for each corporate priority or project as at 31st December, 2009

Changes to the previous style of presenting information and the significant changes to the register since the previous report were outlined.

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

- evidence to support that the new power of wellbeing for parish councils, Councillor Call for Action and new scrutiny functions were being implemented
- evaluation of the closure of Chesterhill
- discussions with directorates regarding risk levels
- direction of travel and timescale implications
- comparisons with numbers of risks in similar organisations
- role of the Corporate Improvement Board
- possibility of bringing risk champions to the Committee to discuss performance

Resolved:- (1) That the updated Corporate Risk Register be noted.

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(2) That the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of scrutiny panels liaise with scrutiny advisers to identify any specific risks that needed consideration at the respective scrutiny panel.

176. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN SCRUTINY SUB-PANEL REVIEW OF CORPORATE PARENTING ARRANGEMENTS

Councillor Austen presented a report which set out the findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review into corporate parenting arrangements undertaken by the Looked After Children Scrutiny Sub-Panel. The Sub-Panel supported a comprehensive presentation on the review outlining the process, findings and draft recommendations. The review document was submitted.

Highlighted were the background to, and rationale for, the review, membership, scope, terms of reference, findings and recommendations.

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

- need to keep children informed and up to date
- timeliness of the review
- scrutiny arrangements
- creation of the Corporate Parenting Board to replace the Looked After Children Scrutiny Sub-Panel
- suggested alternative titles for the Corporate Parenting Board
- corporate parenting as part of the induction process

Resolved:- (1) That the review, together with the findings and recommendations, be supported.

(2) That further consideration be given to the title of the proposed board.

(3) That the review and its recommendations be forwarded to Cabinet for consideration for response within two months.

177. SCRUTINY REVIEW - BREASTFEEDING FOR ROTHERHAM : A HEALTHY FUTURE

Councillor Burton presented the submitted report which set out the findings and recommendations of the joint Adult Services and Health and Children and Young People's Services scrutiny panel review into the social and community aspects of breastfeeding in Rotherham. The report was endorsed by the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 1st April, 2010. The review document was submitted.

Highlighted were the background to, and rationale for, the review, membership, scope, terms of reference, findings and recommendations.

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

- linking to the Rotherham 500 Babies work
- facilities for breastfeeding in public
- breastfeeding friendly Council buildings
- promotion of breastfeeding
- awareness of the working group, dealing with the new Council building, regarding provision of facilities
- importance of Rotherham as a breastfeeding friendly area
- need to promote and disseminate the health benefits of breastfeeding
- need for mothers to have an informed choice

Resolved:- (1) That the review, together with the findings and recommendations, be supported.

(2) That the review and its recommendations be forwarded to Cabinet for consideration for response within two months.

(3) That, with regard to (2) above, Cabinet be requested to refer the health aspects to NHS Rotherham for consideration.

(4) That Cath Saltis clarify with Paul Smith the issues now raised regarding the new Council building.

178. PLANNING DAY/WORK PROGRAMME

Cath Saltis, Head of Scrutiny, referred to emerging issues and the need for a planning session to consider the work programme.

Resolved:- That a half day planning session be held in the Eric Manns Building on Tuesday, 18th May, 2010 commencing at 10.00 a.m.

179. MINUTES

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 26th March, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

180. WORK IN PROGRESS

Members of the Committee reported as follows:-

(a) Councillor Whelbourn reported :-

- Acting Chief Superintendent Richard Tweed was attending the next

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meeting of this Committee. Members needed to consider issues to raise

- Recent issues regarding direct payments and the need to re-visit the previous review of direct payments

(b) Councillor Jack reported that the Rotherham Women's Counselling Service was in receipt of funding from NHS Rotherham

(c) Councillor Swift reported:-

- a meeting had taken place with the Chief Executive regarding the review of the image of Rotherham
- the review of PE and sport in schools was completed and the draft report would be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee

(d) Councillor G. A. Russell reported that the latest meeting of the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel held on 9th April, 2010 had considered:-

- Young People's Mental Health Services
- Personal, Social and Health Education : Scrutiny Review
- Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013
- Children and Young People's Services Improvement Notice and Action Plan
- GCSE Examination Results Key Stage 4
- Machinery of Government

(e) Cath Saltis reported that Cabinet, at its meeting on 7th April, 2010 recommended to Council "That the Head of Scrutiny Services and Member Support be designated as the Council's "Scrutiny Officer" under Section 21ZA of the Local Government Act, 2000."

181. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no formal call in requests.

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
30th April, 2010

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Hamilton and P. A. Russell.

182. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

183. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

184. POLICING IN ROTHERHAM

The Chairman welcomed temporary Chief Superintendent Richard Tweed, South Yorkshire Police and Steve Parry, Safer Rotherham Partnership Co-ordinator, who gave a presentation on policing in Rotherham.

The presentation covered:-

- last year's performance against previous year
- new priorities
- challenges
- priority setting
- priorities 2010/11
- performance

Also submitted were:-

- recorded crime statistics by class in Rotherham for the single months of March, 2009 and March, 2010 and also for the periods April, 2008 to March, 2009 and April, 2009 to March, 2010
- Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP) Performance Suite March, 2010 (provisional year end)

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

- background context including average number of incidents per day

and the number of police officers in Rotherham

- perception, particularly of women, that the town centre was not a safe place
- perception, in rural areas, of groups of youths hanging around and that no action was taken against off road motorcycle nuisance
- 'operation coverage'
- public sector budget constraints
- need for consistency of approach to elected members attending meetings of safer neighbourhood teams (SNT's) and neighbourhood action groups (NAGs)
- acknowledgement that elected members were also key to the success of the process
- role of victim support officers and provision of feedback information to victims even when the designated police officer was not on duty
- improved situations on the ground due to working in partnership
- importance of communication
- provision of sessions on how the Council works

Resolved:- (1) That the information be noted and Richard and Steve be thanked for the informative and interesting presentation.

(2) That the view that elected members should attend SNT meetings and be part of the process be cascaded to facilitate a consistent approach to welcoming elected members at SNT meetings.

(3) That training sessions on how the Council works be made available, as appropriate, to newly recruited police officers and officers attending SNT meetings.

185.

ECONOMIC DOWNTURN - ONE YEAR LATER

Colin Earl, Director of Internal Audit and Governance, presented the submitted report which detailed how, in February, 2009, the Local Strategic Partnership approved its strategy and action plan for responding to the economic downturn.

This report referred to a document entitled 'Economic Downturn: One Year Later', which identified how the Council and its partners had responded to the downturn and the positive outcomes from the work done and investment made.

Proposals were, therefore, included for publicising the document.

The report showed that the impact of the downturn appeared to stabilise during the second half of 2009, after major redundancy announcements and a large increase in the number of people claiming jobseekers' allowance during late 2008 and early 2009 and highlighted the significant prevention work done by partners including:-

- Providing a wide range of support to people finding themselves unemployed, helping 85% of people to find new jobs or training within 1 year.
- Providing loans to 340 families to secure private sector rented accommodation and saving over £2 m in homelessness costs to use on other services.
- Providing 300 furnished properties to residents who might not otherwise have been able to afford to take up a tenancy.
- Making £200,000 available through the Rothersave Credit Union to assist residents in greatest financial need, including mortgage arrears.

The report also summarised the impact of the additional investment of £174,000 made by the Council (£121,000) and NHS Rotherham (£53,000) in voluntary sector advice services between February, 2009 and March, 2010. Citizen's Advice Bureau statistics showed that the investment enabled Rotherham to help a greater proportion of its residents than other districts.

This has been a significant success story, with an extra 5,000 residents helped in 2009/10.

It was proposed to place the document on the Council's credit crunch website and on partners' sites. It was proposed to draft an article for inclusion in Rotherham News and to send a press article to relevant agencies.

The document had been sent to the Audit Commission, for consideration as part of the 2010 comprehensive area assessment.

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

- publicity arrangements
- ongoing commitment next year
- advice centre leaflets

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

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(2) That advice centre leaflets be provided for ward members to utilise.

186. REVIEW OF PE AND SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Councillor Boyes presented the submitted report which set out the findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review of P.E. and sport in school.

The review was received by the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 9th April, 2010. The review document was submitted.

Highlighted were the background to, and rationale for, the review, membership, scope, terms of reference and recommendations.

The report covered:-

- overview of policy framework
 - o national level
 - o local level
 - o structure for sport and physical activity in Rotherham
 - o local performance in P.E. and sport
 - o Physical Education and Sport Strategy for Young People (PESSYP) data for Rotherham schools
- factors that hinder 100% P.E. and sport provision
 - o limitation of PESSYP statistics
 - o curriculum timetabling
 - o skilled P.E. teachers
 - o children disengaged from P.E. and sport
 - o extended school services
- services linking to the provision of P.E. and sport
 - o healthy schools programme
 - o P.E., sport and buildings schools for the future
 - o funding and resources

The Chairman welcomed Peter Harper (Partnership Development Manager, Wickersley School Sport Partnership) and Matt Wainwright (Partnership Development Manager, Rawmarsh School) and a discussion and question and answer session ensued.

The following issues were covered:-

- glossary details
- reasoning behind schools not offering a minimum of two hours P.E. and sport per week
- clarification of NI 57

- deletion of recommendation 16 in the review document
- progress made since the review
- impact of the structuring of lessons in secondary school
- transport issues such as mini bus provision, training staff to drive mini buses, costs etc.
- P.E. time not to be used for catch up initiatives
- accessibility issues for unaccompanied under sixteens to gymnasium facilities
- sports action groups
- need to appreciate that exercise covers more than sport on a field
- participation levels in TAKE 10
- walk to school initiative
- Playground to Podium initiative
- school governor awareness of issues affecting provision of P.E. and sport in schools

Resolved:- (1) That the review, together with the findings and recommendations, be supported.

(2) That the review and its recommendations be forwarded to Cabinet for consideration and response within two months.

(3) That the Committee's thanks to all concerned with the review be placed on record.

187. UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

The Chairman welcomed Carrie Warr, Director of External Relations at the University of Sheffield, who outlined briefly hopes that the University could work in partnership with the Council and referred to early discussions that had taken place with officers and the Leader.

Carrie explained the work of her team in the neighbourhood and desire to do something in Rotherham. She also outlined available monies that could be tapped into and bids that were being worked on. Reference was also made to the outreach work conducted in schools.

Resolved:- (1) That the information be noted and prospective joint working

be welcomed.

(2) That a further report be submitted on the way forward.

(3) That Carrie provide a list of schools participating in the University's outreach programme.

188. MINUTES

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

189. WORK IN PROGRESS

Members of the Committee reported as follows:-

(a) Councillor McNeely reported that the latest meeting of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel had considered the scrutiny review of climate change activities. Each of the subject matters would be looked at individually.

(b) Councillor Boyes reported that there had been further meetings of the town centre review group and assessment of the evidence taken was ongoing.

She also reported that, prior to the latest meeting of the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, members had taken a tour of the town centre developments. Particular reference was made to the need for (i) the opening up of space and removal of hoardings in All Saints Minster Square and (ii) better signage to indicate to the public that the Imperial Building was open and occupied.

(c) Councillor Austen reported:-

- positive response to debt recovery review and updated position on review recommendations
- corporate parenting review had been submitted to Cabinet on 28th April, 2010

(d) Councillor Jack reported that the joint meeting of the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel and LinkRotherham had taken place yesterday to consider the draft quality of accounts for Rdash and the Rotherham Foundation Trust.

(e) Cath Saltis reported that the session on the role of co-optees had been well attended and the co-optee positions would be considered at the Committee's away session on 18th May, 2010.

190. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no formal call in requests.

191. COUNCILLOR GEORGINA BOYES

The Chairman reported that, as Councillor Boyes was not seeking re-election, this was her last meeting of the Committee.

Members of the Committee placed on record their thanks to Georgina for her services to Scrutiny and to the Council over the last twenty two years and wished her all the very best for her new life in Belgium.