

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
10th September, 2010

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

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

D43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

D44. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS.

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

D45. ROTHERHAM PARTNERSHIP REVIEW

Matt Gladstone, Assistant Chief Executive, presented the submitted report indicating progress on the review of the Rotherham Partnership.

The report covered:-

- background and context of the review
- Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Team self analysis
- LSP Board Members one to ones
- Future of the Partnership

The composition and workings of the LSP were outlined.

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

- new environment for LSP's under the Coalition Government and impact on scope of the review
- membership of, and attendance at, LSP meetings
- participation of members at LSP meetings
- responsibility for setting up the Board
- governance arrangements

- terms of office/ election arrangements
- involvement of non-executive members
- need to retain a sharper more focused, leaner partnership
- accountability of partner input and reviewing such before end of term of office
- flexibility of attendance at the Board based on topics discussed
- need to look at how wider number of members could be involved in the review process
- LSP a statutory requirement as part of the Community Strategy
- possible discussion item at the Members' Training and Development Panel

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

(2) That this matter be referred to every scrutiny panel for consideration.

(3) That Cath Saltis and Matt Gladstone liaise regarding possible discussion at the Members' Training and Development Panel.

D46. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Sarah McCall, Performance and Project Officer, presented the submitted report setting out how the Council was supporting currently the local economy through its procurement function and outlining actions being planned in order to strengthen that support including a proposal to take a town wide and public sector wide approach.

The report covered:-

- How procurement was supporting currently the local economy
 - Council Website
 - The Procurement Forward Plan
 - Supplier Contract Management System (SCMS)
 - Meet the Buyer
 - Standardised Contract Clauses
 - Assessing the Impact on the Local Economy

- Supporting SMEs
- SME Friendly Concordat
- Prompt Payment
- Local Consortia Building
- Monitoring Performance
- Improving Performance
 - Meet the Buyer
 - YorBuild
 - Encouraging Local Consortium Bids
 - Improving Performance Measurement Tools
 - Working with Neighbouring Local Authorities
 - Reviewing Procurement Rules
 - Encouraging Local Sub-Contracting
 - Targeting Spend to Encourage Business Growth
 - Further Capacity Building
 - Increasing Promotion of Opportunities
 - Apprenticeships
 - West Midlands Procurement Framework for Jobs and Skills
 - Performance Clinic
- A Whole Area Approach

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

- comparator authorities for local spend
- costs and outcomes of Meet the Buyer events
- invitees to Meet the Buyer events
- increased business from existing suppliers
- performance clinic
- definition of local
- LSP Chief Executives' Group and nomination of representatives
- LEPs
- ongoing work with the Chamber of Commerce regarding supplier lists

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Resolved:- (1) That the work to support the local economy be noted.

(2) That quarterly progress reports be submitted to this Committee.

D47. EQUALITY MONITORING OF COMPLAINTS

Matt Gladstone, Assistant Chief Executive, presented the submitted report setting out the current position on equalities monitoring of complaints.

The report covered:-

- A prior internal review of the existing system reports from the CRM system
- inconsistent collection of equality data monitoring across the Council
- there was no mechanism to extract automatically the equalities monitoring data on complaints from the Siebel Customer Relationship Management System but that this had been under review and a possible solution identified.

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

- legal duty to collect the information
- need to understand the customer base
- the progress of the action plan, implemented in response to the scrutiny review of complaints
- scale of complaints received
- that Councillor surgeries were not included as complaints

Resolved:- That the information be noted and a further report be presented as appropriate.

D48. REGIONAL SCRUTINY

Further to Minute No. 148 of the meeting of this Committee held on 26th February, 2010, Cath Saltis, Head of Scrutiny, presented the

submitted briefing note updating members on the progress made.

Particular reference was made to the Members' Regional Network Event to be held in York on 29th September, 2010 and that the agenda would include:-

- The Regional Context
- LEPs and City Regions
- The future role of scrutiny, including health scrutiny (abolition of PCT's etc.)
- Community Safety

Elected member attendance at the event was invited.

Resolved:- That details of the York event be distributed to members and anyone wishing to attend notify the Scrutiny Office.

D49. MINUTES

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd July, 2010 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Swift in the list of apologies.

D50. WORK IN PROGRESS

(a) Councillor Whysall reported that the next two meetings of the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel to be held on 6th and 20th October, 2010 were to be themed meetings on economic regeneration and transport respectively.

(b) Councillor G. A. Russell reported that the latest meeting of the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel considered:-

- Aiming High for Disabled Children – Short Breaks Services
- Rotherham Imagination Library Annual Report 2009/ 10
- Corporate Parenting Review – Cabinet response
- Inspection of Fostering Services
- Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children

- Road Safety Outside Schools – Scrutiny Review
- Children and Young People’s Services – Performance Indicators Quarter 1
- Children and Young People’s Services – Budget update

(c) Councillor Jack reported that the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel at its meeting yesterday had considered:-

- Presentation in respect of the Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2009/ 10
- Presentation in respect of Supporting People Programme, Contribution to Prevention
- Presentation in respect of Personalisation in Rotherham
- Shaping Our Future – Community Health Services
- Briefing on the Equity and Excellence White Paper : Implications for Rotherham
- Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Councillor Jack also reported that the final meeting of the Assistive Technology Review Group had been held and papers had been distributed in respect of the Diabetes Review.

(d) Councillor Whelbourn reported the need for every scrutiny panel to consider the budget following the comprehensive spending review.

D51. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no formal call-in requests.

(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following items to enable the necessary arrangements to be made)

D52. CARE SERVICE

The Chairman reported a request for scrutiny views in respect of the Care Service.

Resolved:- That reports be submitted to this Committee for consideration whereupon invites be extended to interested members from the relevant scrutiny panels.

D53. POLICE REFORM - CONSULTATION

Cath Saltis, Head of Scrutiny, reported on proposals to respond to the above consultation paper, the deadline for which was 20th September, 2010.

Resolved:- (1) That the matter be considered by the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 16th September, 2010 and any views be forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Safe and Attractive Neighbourhoods.

(2) That Councillor S. Wright be invited to the discussions at the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel.

(3) That the finalised Council response to the consultation should be forward to the local M.Ps.