

REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

GENERAL REPORT

1. This report summarises the business transacted at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 1 June 2010.

Safer Chorley and South Ribble Partnership

2. The Committee considered the minutes of the joint meeting of representatives of Chorley and South Ribble Overview and Scrutiny Committees that had been held on 31 March 2010 to scrutinise the performance of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.
3. Members noted that two Member Learning Session that were to be delivered jointly with South Ribble on Crime and Disorder related topics.
4. The Committee received a report of the Director of People and Places informing Members of the progress and outcome of the Merged Partnership which provided detail on the performance of the pilot merger against the agreed evaluation criteria and crime levels and made recommendations relating to the future arrangements for delivering community safety across Chorley and South Ribble Borough footprints.
5. The Committee supported the model of collaboration for the Chorley and South Ribble Partnership and recommended that the Executive Cabinet look specifically at the role of the Elected Member within the Partnership to ensure democratic accountability and effective communications.

Business Plan Monitoring Statements

6. We considered the Business Plan and Monitoring Statements for the final quarter of 2009/10 for the three new directorates, Partnerships, Planning and Policy, People and Places and Transformation.
7. Members were informed that the new government had stated that it planned to abolish Comprehensive Area Assessment, therefore all work on updating the area assessment and organisational assessment had ceased.
8. It was noted that meetings were currently underway to discuss Locality working and to better forge partnership arrangements between Council Leaders and Chief Executives following the abolishment of the Lancashire Locals and that the County Council were considering some services being delegated to District Councils to deliver.
9. The Members were informed that eighty percent of the total £500,000 debt outstanding over the 90 day period had been collected, some of which had been connected to Section 106 money.

Revenue and Capital Outturn for 2009/10

10. The Committee received a report of the Director of Transformation on the provisional outturn figures for the Council's budget for the 2009/10 financial year. The forecasted revenue underspend had been improved on with the revenue outturn now coming in under budget by £181,000. In terms of the Capital programme, a number of schemes

had had slipped and borrowing was therefore contained within the estimates and working balances were set to increase.

Corporate Strategy Key Projects: Forth Quarter Performance 2009/10

11. The Committee considered a report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy which set out and reviewed the Authority's performance both in respect of the 33 projects included in the Corporate Strategy and the National Indicators for which the Council were responsible, during the fourth quarter of 2009/10 ending in March 2010.
12. The report revealed a commendable performance in the delivery of the 33 Corporate projects, with 100% being either already completed or on track for delivery. In addition, the report confirmed that 17 of the 25 National Indicators had matched or exceeded target.

Chorley Partnership annual Report for 2010

13. We received a report of the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy presenting the Chorley Partnerships end of year performance report for 2009/10. A number of key issues were highlighted to Members including that the delivery of affordable homes had increased by 174% since last year and the overall crime rate had reduced by 2.1% over the past 12 months.

Annual Review of Overview and Scrutiny 2009/10 and Topics for 2010/11

14. We considered a report which presented a review of the issues covered by Scrutiny in 2009/10 and outlined future Task Group topics suggested at the "Scrutiny - A review of the year session" held prior to the last meeting.
15. Members agreed that the review topics for 2010/11 be:
 - Asset Management to be Chaired by Councillor Alan Cullens
 - Allotments to be Chaired by Councillor Julia Berry

A Member Learning Session would also be delivered on Chorley Community Housing available for all Members and the issue of CH transfer promises be looked at specifically at a future meeting of the Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

16. The Council is recommended to note this report.

COUNCILLOR A LOWE
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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There are no background papers to this report.