

REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

General Report

1. This report summarises the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 1 December 2008.

Items from Executive Cabinet on 4 December 2008

2. We considered a number of reports, including Strategic Housing issues and Performance of Key Partnerships - 2008/09 Midterm Progress Report from the Executive Cabinet agenda.
3. We supported the introduction of a new housing allocations policy. The members of the Chorley Community Housing task and finish group were requested to consider the new allocation policy and feed their views into the ongoing consultation process.
4. The Assistant Chief Executive (Business Transformation) answered several queries from Members on the performance of key partnerships report.

Overview and Scrutiny Inquiry - Streetscene

5. The report of the Streetscene task and finish group was received. We welcomed Councilor Eric Bell, (Executive Member (Neighbourhoods)), and invited his comments on the report. We discussed the recommendations and certain points were clarified by the Corporate Director (Neighbourhoods).
6. We agreed to present the report to Executive Cabinet in January. The Executive Cabinet will respond to the issues raised in due course.

Overview and Scrutiny Inquiry - Chorley Community Housing

7. We considered a report and recommendations of the Chorley Community Housing task and finish group. The Chair reported that there were concerns regarding certain aspects of the relationship between the Council and Chorley Community Housing, including the detail and evidence behind performance information and the delivery of the affordable housing target.
8. We agreed to present the report to Executive Cabinet in January. The Executive Cabinet will respond to the issues raised in due course.

Local Government Pension Scheme and Redundancy Discretionary Payments

9. The report was presented to enable Members to raise any queries. It was noted that the Trade Unions had made a request relating to augmentation, but it was accepted that this would have a huge cost implication for the Council. The report was considered at the December Council meeting and Members approved several recommendations as a result of changes to the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) Regulations 2006.

Update from Task and Finish Groups

10. The Joint Scrutiny of Affordable Housing with South Ribble and Preston task group would be meeting tomorrow. Various pieces of work have been assigned to be compiled by each of the participating authorities, the next ones being maximising the Housing Corporation Grant and social rented / shared ownership affordable housing tenure splits.
11. The Chorley Partnership task group had met last week and had finalised their scoping document which was approved by the Committee .

Recommendation

12. The Council is recommended to note this report.

COUNCILLOR DENNIS EDGERLEY
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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There are no background papers to this report.