

## **COMMUNITY PROTECTION & COHESION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of a meeting of the Community Protection & Cohesion Scrutiny Committee held on Tuesday, 12th October 2010 at 10.00 am in the Reception Suite, Civic Offices, Telford**

**PRESENT:** A.A.Meredith (Chairman), D.G.Allen (Vice-Chairman), R.T.Kiernan and A.A.Mackenzie.

#### **CPC-1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors K.L.Tomlinson and H.J.Unwin.

#### **CPC-2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED** – that Councillor D.G.Allen be appointed as the Vice-Chairman of the Community Protection & Cohesion Scrutiny Committee.

#### **CPC-3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

#### **CPC-4 REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S FORUM**

The Chairman provided a report on the Scrutiny Chairman's Forum that had been held on 16th August 2010. He confirmed that the Forum had decided on the in-depth reviews that would be undertaken, which included – Budget formulation – suggestions about how to save money; Working with community groups to help improve the local environment and Affordable, available and flexible childcare. Meetings had been allocated to each Scrutiny Committee according to the statutory responsibilities and additional work requirements. The database of previous scrutiny recommendations had been reviewed, and the Chairman had decided which should be archived, which would require one further update and which would continue to be monitored. Updates would be circulated to relevant committee members and put on the extranet.

#### **CPC-5 BACKGROUND PAPER ON SERVICE REVIEWS**

The report of the Corporate Director Environment & Rural Area and Housing, Regeneration and Prosperity was received which sought to inform the Scrutiny Committee on the ongoing service reviews that were currently being undertaken within the Council.

These reviews were examining how services were managed and operated and to identify how these services could be delivered to the local community more efficiently and effectively. There was a requirement that these reviews needed to produce operational (non-staff) savings of 20% and were likely to lead to restructuring of services.

Members were informed that a Service Review Steering Group had been established to oversee the programme and to monitor the progress of each service delivery unit which included information on proposed changes in activity and savings. The lead

Corporate Director for this review was Meredith Evans. The Committee was referred to the table within the report that outlined the current timetable for the service reviews that were being undertaken across the Council.

Service reviews had been categorised in 3 ways:

Category 1 were services expected to make savings over £1m.

Category 2 were services expected to make savings between £550k-£1m savings.

Category 3 were services expected to make less than £500k savings, which collectively made up a significant proportion of the overall savings.

The involvement of the Steering Group in supporting the reviews depended on the level of savings required. In addition to non-staff savings, there was a 15% savings target on staff savings from the restructure. Staff at all levels were being involved in the service reviews. To date there had been 140 engagement sessions which involved 80% of all staff including schools.

## **CPC-6      2010/11 WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee received the report of the Scrutiny Manager which requested Members to plan the work programme for the Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the 2010/11 Civic Year.

Members were reminded that the current scrutiny arrangements established in June 2010 enabled each Scrutiny Committee to determine its own work programme within the resources available. The Committee were advised on the process that would lead to the development of the work programme for each Scrutiny Committee as outlined within the report. The report also detailed how many meetings of the Scrutiny Committee could be held during the remainder of the Civic Year together with the numbers for each of the Scrutiny Committees. It was also required for the Scrutiny Committee to reserve one of the allocated meetings for consideration and scrutiny of the forthcoming budget proposals.

The Committee were then referred to Appendices A which detailed the suggestions for items that had been made at the Scrutiny Assembly Workshop and B set out the outstanding items detailed within the Community Protection & Cohesion Forward Plan. The Committee agreed that the following action should be taken with regard to the Work Programme suggestions.

### Scrutiny Assembly Workshop

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Suggestion</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>A</b>	Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Enforcement (lack of)	The Committee requested an update on the implementation of recommendations in the Scrutiny Report on Taxi Services and information about matters raised by a member of the Taxi Forum, and the outcome of the Licensing Committee meeting reviewing these matters. The Committee would review the information and decide if any further issues

		should be included within the work programme.
<b>B</b>	Alcohol-related crime	The Committee would review the current Alcohol Strategy to confirm actual responses to ongoing reports of alcohol related crime to establish current position.
<b>B</b>	Anti Social Behaviour	That the Committee would receive a presentation on the Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership as background information. This would include evidence supplied from the results of calls received at the Anti-Social Behaviour hotline, and links with social workers.
<b>B</b>	Domestic violence support	The Scrutiny Officer would find out whether the multi-agency event on Domestic Violence had taken place. If it had, a report on the outcome would be requested. If not happened a request would be made for members of the Committee to be invited to attend. The Committee would then decide if there were any further issues they would like to be included in the work programme.

Outstanding Items from the Community Protection & Cohesion Forward Plan

<b>From</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Action agreed by committee</b>
Scrutiny Leadership Board	CDRP Scrutiny	It was recognised that the CP&C Scrutiny Committee was the designated body to undertake the statutory scrutiny of the Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership (SSCP). A presentation on the SSCP would be given at the next Committee meeting.

It was agreed that future meetings would be held during the daytime, preferably at 10.00 am on either a Tuesday or a Thursday.

The meeting ended at 11.00 am.

**Chairman:**

**Date:**