

**Minutes of: SPECIAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**Date of Meeting:** 3 August 2010

**PRESENT:** Councillor Sandiford (Chair)  
Councillors Aldred (substituting for McInnes), L  
Barnes, Crawford, Driver (substituting for Milling),  
Lamb, Morris, Oakes, C Pilling, Robertson  
(substituting for A Barnes), Stansfield, H Steen and  
Thorne.

Irene Divine (Co-opted Member)  
Keith Pilkington, (Co-opted Member)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Stuart Sugarman, Director of Business  
Fiona Meechan, Director of Customers and Communities  
Phil Seddon, Head of Finance and Property Services  
Liz Sandiford, Head of People and Policy  
Andrew Buckle, Head of Customer Services and ICT  
Stephen Jackson, Head of Health and Regeneration  
Janice Crawford, Finance Manager  
David Heyes, Accounts Manager  
Stephen Stray, Planning Manager  
Pat Couch, Scrutiny Support Officer

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Cheetham and Councillor Unsworth  
Councillor Essex, Smith (Cabinet Members)

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Barnes,  
Christie, McInnes and Milling.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the last meeting held on 19 July be agreed as a  
correct record and signed by the Chair.

**3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items for discussion.

## **5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

## **6. CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the second special meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny to discuss budget savings.

Any recommendations made at the two meeting would be incorporated into the final consultation report being presented to Cabinet.

The Chair informed the Committee that Cabinet Members had been invited to observe the meeting and if required, answer any issues raised by Members.

The Chair asked the Head of People and Policy to provide a brief update on the public consultation process, indicating that information on the consultation was now available on the Council's website asking the public to send it their ideas on how savings can be made. The consultation will run until end of October. Other ways that the public can put their ideas forward if through Neighbourhood Forum. Posters are also being placed in community notice boards and libraries.

Young people would be able to contribute during Local Democracy Week in October when all High Schools in the Borough had been invited to attend an event called Helping Shape the Future of Rossendale 'Your Borough Your Decision'.

## **7. PRESENTATION**

The Director of Customers and Communities gave a presentation on the purpose of the meeting, which was to investigate and discuss where and how savings could be made across the Council's priority areas of:

- Providing Value for Money
- Promoting the Borough
- Delivering Quality Services to our Customers
- Delivering Regeneration across the Borough

Members were also asked to discuss possible impacts of any savings and provide feedback on the findings.

The Director of Customers and Communities informed Members of the savings the Council had already made in relation to the four priorities detailed above and clarified the funding that had already been cut by Central Government and the future cuts the Council was expected to make.

Members were then asked to break into groups to focus on the following:

- a) Services which are considered to be the most important; and
- b) Services which could be delivered differently, less, or not at all, to save money

Each group fed back their findings and these would be included in the full consultation process.

The Director of Business reiterated how important the consultation process was and thanked Members for their contributions.

Members were asked to submit any additional ideas to the Senior Management Team.

The Chair thanked Officers for providing the support to Members.

**The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 8.30pm**

**Signed .....** (Chair)

**Date.....**