

Minutes of: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 7 June 2010

PRESENT: Councillor Sandiford (Chair)
Councillors L Barnes, Cheetham (Substituting for Morris), Christie, Kenyon, Lamb, Oakes, Stansfield, Thorne,

Irene Divine (Co-opted Member)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Essex, Portfolio Holder, Finance and Resources

IN ATTENDANCE: Cath Sissons, Senior Manager, Rossendale Enterprise Anchor Limited (REAL)
Dorothy Mitchell, REAL
Pat Couch, Scrutiny Support Officer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Crawforth, Milling, Morris and H Steen.

2. MINUTES

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2010 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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 first meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in the New Municipal year and asked everyone to introduce themselves. The Chair then informed Members of the following:

- Rehabilitation Services in the new health build - a meeting had taken place to discuss concerns relating to the rehab provision at the new centre. A number of actions were agreed at that meeting. A representative from the PCT would attend the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee meeting on 7 February 2011. The Chair also asked the Scrutiny Support Officer to arrange a visit to Pendle Community Hospital Rehabilitation Services to enable Members to compare the services provided at Pendle to those rehabilitation services on offer at Rossendale. It was suggested that it would be worth republishing what came out of the Meeting Patients Needs consultation to enable Members to question the Trust on any difference in service provision.
- In February a response group met to respond to the LCC Adult Social Care Commissioning consultation. A further response group was established to look at the draft PPS Planning for a Natural and Healthy Environment. Copies of the responses were available from the Scrutiny Support Officer on request.
- Lancs Locals - the Leader of Lancashire County Council wrote to the Leaders of all district councils explaining that the proposals and options would now be discussed with each district council with a view to finding the solution which best fits each individual district.
- Community Payback – The Scrutiny Support Officer circulated information on the number of Community Projects undertaken in Rossendale between May 2007 to date, as part of the Community Payback Scheme and the hours worked. A Member highlighted the excellent work which had been undertaken in Whitworth and the appreciation from the public.

7 PRESENTATION BY ROSSENDALE ENTERPRISE ANCHOR LIMITED (REAL)

The Chair welcomed Cath Sisson and Dorothy Mitchell from REAL and congratulated them on behalf of the Council on their recent Regional Award for Excellence in Training.

The Senior Manager of REAL, Cath Sisson, gave a presentation on the work of the organisation, which is a community organisation doing things with and for people to make Rossendale a better place to live and work and provided the following information on the types of services available:

- REAL Wellbeing – psychotherapy services

- REAL Office - -support for small organisations and looking at developing new services
- REAL BOARD
- REAL STAFF
- ProPs – Professional Pensioners – who live an active life and who want to give things back to the community
- Volunteers
- REAL COOL – for young people (action workshops for those not in employment)
- REAL Involvement – work in the community, building organisations and partnerships

A question was raised about how REAL links with the Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Services and the Senior Manager gave a brief overview indicating that REAL meets them every six weeks so that they can share information and avoid duplication to make the best of everyone's effort for the good of Rossendale.

Members congratulated the work undertaken with the young people of the Borough. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Lancashire County Council's Director of Targeted and Intervention Services informing them of the work of REAL and young people.

Resolved:

That Cath Sisson and Dorothy Mitchell be thanked for their presentation.

8. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10

The Chair presented the Annual Report for 2009/10, which was a combined report of the work of Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Task and Finish Groups and other relevant scrutiny information.

The Scrutiny Support Officer indicated that the report would be presented to the Full Council meeting on 1ST July 2010.

Resolved:

1. That the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2009/10 be noted.
2. That the report be presented to the Full Council for approval.

9. WORK PROGRAMME 200/10

The Committee considered the ideas put forward by members of the public, elected members and Council Officers.

The projects for inclusion in the 2010/11 Work Programme were agreed as follows:-

- Review of Enforcement – Policy Overview and Scrutiny to continue to review enforcement briefing policies for Taxis/Customer Services/Anti Social Behaviour and Planning to demonstrate how they are adhering to the Regulators' Compliance Code.
- Value for Money of the Council's Services – to conduct further value for money reviews of the main recipients of grants to outside bodies funding. Also to review the Homecare Improvement Agency that is currently undertaken by St Vincents on behalf of the Council as part of LCC's Supporting People Directorate.
- Reviewing Local Area Agreements and Multi Area Agreements – to continue to look at the performance management arrangements for the remaining LAA themes – Children and Young People and Communities.
- Rossendale Transport Ltd – to monitor the 09/10 outturn. 2010/11 budget and medium term business plan and the 2010/11 performance of Rossendale Transport. **This will be a confidential item on the Performance Scrutiny Committee agenda.**
- Polling District Review – A Task and Finish group to be established to look at polling district boundaries and the provision of polling stations. **Awaiting information from Central Government on when/how to take this forward.**
- Unadopted Roads – To discuss with LCC how to take this piece of work forward and seek information on how to address this issue on behalf of the residents of Rossendale.

The Scrutiny Support Officer indicated that other items would be added to the Work Programme during the year, as necessary.

Resolved:

That the Work Programme for 2010/11 be approved.

10 PROGRESS REPORT ON PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

The Scrutiny Support Officer presented a report on the findings of previous recommendations from Task and Finish Groups. The report provided information on the recommendations which had been

implemented and actions to date, together with detailed information on why some recommendations could not be implemented.

Members asked for clarification on the following:

- When the Community Toilet Scheme would be rolled out throughout the Borough
- Need for signage erected at Bacup Toilets indicating the location of the Community Toilet Scheme
- A list of who is able to carry out enforcement in the Borough
- If PCSO's carry out enforcement?

Members requested that a report be presented to the next Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee answering Members' queries on Enforcement issues outlined above.

The Scrutiny Support Officer to make enquiries in relation to the questions raised about the Community Toilet Scheme.

The Chair would write to the secretary of state for transport to have the Highways Agency included in the list of Partners subject to scrutiny

Resolved:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a report be presented to the next meeting relating to queries by Members on enforcement issues.
3. That the Scrutiny Officer seek an update on the Community Toilet Scheme and report back to Members.
4. The Chair to write to the Secretary of State for Transport to request that the Highways Agency be included in the list of Partners subject to Scrutiny.

11. EVALUATION ON THE SCRUTINY PROCESS AT ROSSENDALE

The Scrutiny Support Officer presented a report on the evaluation of the scrutiny process within the Council, using the Centre for Public Scrutiny self evaluation framework. The results would be used as a basis for developing Overview and Scrutiny further.

The Scrutiny Officer explained the process used to evaluate the scrutiny process. Each Member of Overview and Scrutiny and each Cabinet Member, together with Officers of the Council were asked to complete the evaluation forms. Ten Scrutiny Members, 2 Cabinet Members and 15 Officers responded.

Resolved:

That the report be presented to Cabinet in July.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 8.15pm

Signed (Chair)

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