

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3 November 2010

Agenda

A meeting of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held at the
SHIRE HALL, WARWICK on WEDNESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2010 at 10.00 a.m.

Morning Session starting at 10:00 am

1. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

Members are reminded that they should disclose the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a prejudicial interest the Member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies.

'Membership of a district or borough council is classed as a personal interest under the Code of Conduct. A Member does not need to declare this interest unless the Member chooses to speak on a matter relating to their membership. If the Member does not wish to speak on the matter, the Member may still vote on the matter without making a declaration'.

(3) Minutes of the meeting of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 8 September 2010

(4) Chair's Announcements

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/committee-papers

2. Public Question Time (Standing Order 34)

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting is available for members of the public to ask questions on any matters relevant to the business of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Questioners may ask two questions and can speak for up to three minutes each.

For further information about public question time, please contact Ann Mawdsley on 01926 418079 or e-mail annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk.

3. Questions to the Portfolio Holders (Customers, Workforce and Partnership and Community Safety)

Councillor Colin Hayfield (Lead Portfolio Holder, Customers, Workforce and Partnership)

Councillor Richard Hobbs (Community Safety)

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting is available for Members of the Committee to put questions to the Portfolio Holders on any matters relevant to the Communities remit.

4. Implementing the Fire and Rescue Service Improvement Plan

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

The Fire and Rescue Service is making good progress on delivering the Improvement Plan. Robust arrangements are being put in place to ensure the Improvement Plan is deliverable and will reallocate resources to improve the safety of our local communities. Benefits delivered to date include:

- Starting to release capacity from changing the response to automatic fire alarms (AFAs)
- Increasing home fire safety checks to help local people be safer in their homes and reduce accidental dwelling fires
- Providing increased training for firefighters.

Recommendation

The Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the report and make recommendations as appropriate

For further information please contact Gary Phillips, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Tel: 01926 423231 E-mail garyphillips@warwickshire.gov.uk.

5. Strategic Review of Domestic Abuse Support Services in Warwickshire

Report of the Strategic Director for Customers, Workforce and Governance

Community Safety, Supporting People and the district and borough councils commissioned an independent strategic review into domestic abuse support services in Warwickshire. This paper outlines the key conclusions and asks the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide comment on the content of the report before it is presented to Cabinet for authority to consult.

Recommendation

That the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments upon the options to remodel the services and support available for those affected by domestic abuse in Warwickshire in light of the outcome of the strategic review, withdrawal of government LPSA 2 funding and anticipated government spending reductions.

For further information please contact Sue Ingram, Domestic Abuse Manager, Tel: 01926 412016 E-mail sueingram@warwickshire.gov.uk or Kate Nash, Head of Community Safety and Localities, Tel: 01926 412177 E-mail katenash@warwickshire.gov.uk.

6. Winter Service Review 2010

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy

This report provides the Committee with a thorough update and a basis for discussion of County Highway's Winter Service.

Recommendation

That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the findings of the 2010 Winter Maintenance Service Review.

For further information please contact Bryn Patefield, Contract and Improvement Officer, Tel: 01926 736533 E-mail brynpatefield@warwickshire.gov.uk.

7. High Speed Rail 2

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Economy

This report outlines the status of the Government's proposals for HS2, confirms Warwickshire County Council's role to date and updates Members on the next steps.

Recommendation

That Members:-

1. Note the content of the report and status of the Government's proposals for HS2.
2. Comment on the officers' suggestions for the next steps for the Council to take (section 6).
3. Receive subsequent reports on HS2 and in particular the Government's formal consultation in the New Year on the proposed HS2 route.

For further information please contact Mandy Walker, Group Manager
Regeneration Projects and Funding, Tel: 01926 412843 E-mail
mandywalker@warwickshire.gov.uk.

8. Questions to the Portfolio Holder (Environment and Economy)

Councillor Alan Cockburn (Lead Portfolio Holder, Environment and Economy)

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting is available for Members of the Committee to put questions to the Portfolio Holders on any matters relevant to the Communities remit.

9. Household Waste Recycling Centres (report to follow)

To receive the report and recommendations from the Task and Finish Group established to scrutinise contract specification for the Household Waste Recycling Centres

For further information please contact Alwin McGibbon, Overview and Scrutiny Officer, alwinmcgibbon@warwickshire.gov.uk, Tel 01926 412075

10. Committee Work Programme and suggested topics for Task and Finish Groups

This report outlines the draft work programme for the Committee and review outlines for suggested Task and Finish Groups to be passed onto the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration..

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to agree:

- i) the work programme, to be reviewed and reprioritised as appropriate throughout the year
- ii) the suggested review outlines and forward them onto the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration

For further information please contact Michelle McHugh, Overview and Scrutiny Manager, Tel: 01926 412144 E-mail michellemchugh@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Forward Plan

For information:

Cabinet – 18 November 2010

Strategic Review of Domestic Abuse Support Services in Warwickshire
Moving forward Locality Working and closing in on the Big Society
Concessionary Travel funding position from DfT
Disposal of Land at Ufton Fields and Stockton Cutting nature reserves
Housing Policy
Review of Safety Cameras
West Midlands (Fire) Regional Management Board
Framework Contract for Building Responsive and Planned Maintenance and Minor Improvement Works
Land adjoining Cape Road, Warwick - Exempt

Cabinet – 16 December 2010

Rugby Western Relief Road
Proposed Abandonment of the Boughton Road Relief Road
Education Business Partnership Review – Exempt

10. Any Other Items

which the Chair decides are urgent.

JIM GRAHAM
Chief Executive

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Councillors

Sarah Boad, Richard Chattaway, Jeff Clarke, Barry Lobbett, Mike Gittus, Phillip Morris-Jones, Martin Shaw, Ray Sweet, John Whitehouse (Chair), Chris Williams

Cabinet Members

Councillor Alan Cockburn (Lead Portfolio Holder for Environment and Economy)

Councillor Colin Hayfield (Lead Portfolio Holder for Customers, Workforce and Partnerships)

Councillor Richard Hobbs (Lead Portfolio Holder for Community Safety)

The reports referred to are available in large print if requested

General Enquiries: Please contact Ann Mawdsley on 01926 418079

E-mail: annmawdsley@warwickshire.gov.uk

Enquiries about specific reports: Please contact the officers named in the reports.