Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 6 December 2005

Present: -

Members of the Committee: Councillor Ken Browne (Chair)

" George Atkinson

" Gordon Collett

" Jose Compton

" Eithne Goode

" Katherine King

" Joan Lea

" Morris-Jones

" Ray Sweet

" Mick Stanley

Officers: Elaine Bettger, Group Assistant, Chief

Executive's Dept.

Glen Fleet, Sustainability Unit, PTES Jean Hardwick, Principal Committee Administrator, Chief Executive's Dept.

Jonathan Horsfield, Sustainability Unit, PTES.

Ian Marriott, Principal Solicitor, Chief

Executive's Dept.

Jacky Lawrence, Sustainability Unit, PTES Gerient Stoneman, Corporate Review Officer,

Chief Executive's Dept.

John Robinson, Financial and Office Services,

PTES

Martin Stott, Deputy Director and Head of

Strategic Services, PTES.

1. General

(1) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Richard Chattaway (Vice Chair), Nina Knapman and Bryan Levy.

(2) Members Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None

(3) Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held 8 November 2005.

The minutes of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 8 November 2005 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

2. Public Question Time

None

3. Climate Change Strategy for Warwickshire

Part 1 Low Carbon Strategy

Part 2 Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning Transport and Economic Development.

The report provided an introduction as to why climate change strategies were being developed; an overview of both the draft low carbon and adaptation strategies; and a review of relevant current/proposed work within the County Council and Strategic Partnership and resource issues. Members' views were sought on the issues.

Members expressed the view that the report, as a basis for discussion, and public consultation was too full, complex and technical in nature to enable them to understand it fully or to make constructive comments.

Martin Stott, gave an undertaking that the strategies would be revised, and advised Members to hear the officers' power-point presentation, which would simplify the issues.

Jonathan Horsfield and Jacky Lawrence then explained the draft strategies. (A copy of the presentation material was circulated to Members).

In reply to questions the officers explained that -

- The statistics reported related to domestic emissions and did not include aircraft emissions:
- Nuclear fuel production had not been included in the report because the Strategies were looking at what Warwickshire could do on its own;
- The Strategies had been produced and endorsed by the County Council, in consultation with partners;

Following further discussion the Committee requested that:

- The officers prepare revised, more user-friendly draft strategies in consultation with the Chair and Group Spokespersons;
- (2) The draft strategies be circulated to other Members of the Committee for comment;
- (3) The Committee consider approving revised draft strategies as the basis for public consultation and policy development at a future meeting.

3. PTES Performance Report Half-Year Update

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy.

The report presented the latest performance update with respect to Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy (PTES) objectives. In addition, it contained details of consultation activity that had taken place in the last six months and an analysis of complaints received during April to September 2005.

The Committee -

- (1) Noted the PTES Department's performance for the half-year 2005/06.
- (2) Endorsed the proposed remedial actions.

4. 2005/06 Cost Effectiveness Savings – Department of Planning Strategy and Economic Strategy Progress Report.

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy.

The report outlined the progress the Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy Department had made to date in delivering the required cost effectiveness savings in 2005/06.

Members noted amendments to the figures in Table 1, savings to be identified, which should read £325,000 instead of £305,000 and similarly in paragraph 3.5, and also to amend the figure of £12,000 in paragraph 3.3 to read £120,000.

The Committee noted the progress made by the Department of Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy in delivering 2005/06 cost effectiveness savings target.

5. Future Work Programme and Items Relevant to the Work of this Committee

(a) Provisional Items for Future Meetings

Members noted the table setting out provisional items for future meetings.

(b) Forward Plan

Members noted Forward Plan items relevant to the work of this Committee.

Cabinet - 8 December 2005

1. Street Column Advertising Award of Contract (Exempt)

- 2. LTP Settlement and Outline Capital Programme for Transport 2006-07.
- 3. Delegation of Powers for Determining Objections to Traffic Orders with a purely local interest.

Cabinet - 12 January 2006

The Parade, Victoria Terrace, Ball Street, Royal Leamington Spa.

– Mixed Priority Demonstration Priority Project.

Council – 2 February 2006

Delegation of Powers for Determining Objections to Traffic Orders with a purely local interest

6. Any Other Business

There were no items of urgent business.

Chair of Committee

The Committee rose at 3:55 p.m.