

# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COORDINATING GROUP HELD ON 20 MARCH 2007

Present:

Members of the Group:

Councillors: David Booth  
Ken Browne (Chair)  
Richard Chattaway  
Mick Jones  
Frank McCarney

Officers: Jane Pollard, Overview and Scrutiny Manager

## 1. General

### (1) Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of

Councillors: Richard Grant, Jerry Roodhouse, Alan Cockburn, and Bob Stevens

Officers: Jim Graham, David Carter and Ann Mawdsley

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

None.

### (3) Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2007.

The minutes of the 17 January meeting were agreed as a correct record subject to the following amendment

Minute 3 resolution (b) to read as follows

'(b) requests the Strategic Director of Performance and Development to consult the Leaders Liaison Group, the Cabinet and other County Councillors/Council on the issues to be included in the Core Work Programme.'

## 2. Developing the Core Work Programme

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development advising members of the feedback on the elements to be included within a core work programme for overview and scrutiny.

During the ensuing discussion the following points were noted

1. The comments of the Leaders Liaison Group and Cabinet were welcomed and would be taken account of in developing the work programme for the various committees

2. The arrangements for Directorate Report Cards and performance reporting to Overview and Scrutiny Committees would be considered by the Group at its next meeting
3. Councillor Browne had already commissioned the Overview and Scrutiny Team to provide him with a report on those key indicators relevant to his Committee where there was either a need for performance improvement, or where performance was exceptionally good, in relation to other authorities, to ensure resources were being allocated in the most effective ways.
4. One of the key issues for the council over the next 12 months was the performance of adult social care services. Therefore the following should be added to the draft core work programme in Appendix 1
  - Home Care Services for Older People
  - Mental Health and Dementia Services for Older People
  - Supporting People

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the Draft Core Work Programme in Appendix 1 is amended to include
  - Home Care Services for Older People
  - Mental Health and Dementia Services for Older People
  - Supporting People
- (2) That the revised Core Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny 2007/08 is recommended to Council for approval.
- (3) That the Core Work Programme is reviewed on an annual basis

**3. Local Area Scrutiny – Next Steps**

The Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development advising the Group of the suggestions made by Area Committees and some of our key external partners and the comments of the Strategic Directors on the potential topics for local area scrutiny. The Group considered the topics which should go forward in each Area and the process for putting into place the practical arrangements to carry out the exercises.

During the ensuing discussion the following points were agreed:

1. The Group would like to thank our partners for taking the time to make suggestions and would bear these in mind in developing future work programmes.
2. It would not be appropriate to pursue local area scrutiny at this point in time in relation to the 'Assimilation of EU Nationals, Rural Transport, (Gypsy) Traveller Services or the Speed Management Strategy as this would duplicate ongoing work elsewhere.
3. The timing of this particular round of local area scrutiny was not appropriate in relation to
  - the Alvecote Traveller Site as by the time the review got off the ground the site would be refurbished/relet and
  - the Stratford BID proposals were at too an early stage

4. That where there was a choice of acceptable topics the Area Committee be asked to make the final decision

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the Group agrees that the topics that are suitable for taking forward at this time as local area scrutiny exercises in each area are.

**Warwick Area Committee**

Social Care of Elderly People within Warwick District

**North Warwickshire Area Committee**

- (a) Underperformance of educational achievement and skill levels of young people at age 16 in North Warwickshire **OR**  
(b) Youth activities across North Warwickshire

**Stratford Area Committee**

Parking, including verge parking within Stratford District (not simply the town of Stratford –upon –Avon) . This should be a joint review with Stratford District Council.

**Rugby Area Committee**

- (a) To review the impact of existing major sources of travel movements within the borough, and the plans being made to address the impact of known future developments on the Borough's transport infrastructure (suggestion for a joint review put forward by Rugby Borough Council) **OR**  
(b) Participation in the Rugby Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Panel to look at the performance of the Rugby Crime and Disorder Partnership and specific related topics within that.

**Nuneaton & Bedworth Area Committee**

- (a) The Skills agenda including educational attainment. We have a low skills base in this area **OR**  
(b) Quality of Life Indicators and Inequalities in Warwickshire

- (2) That the proposals for taking forward the local area scrutiny exercises in paragraphs 10 to 13 of the report are agreed

- (3) That the Area Committees be invited to nominate a working group/panel to take forward the scrutiny exercise in their area.

- (4) That where joint exercises with partners are envisaged appropriate nominations for panel/working group membership be sought.

**4. Date of Next Meeting**

The Group noted that their next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 25 April 2007 at 2.00 p.m.

The Group rose at 2.30 p.m.

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Chair