

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COORDINATING GROUP HELD ON 1st OCTOBER 2008

Present:

Members of the Group:

Councillors:

Richard Grant (Chair)
Mick Jones
Jerry Roodhouse
Bob Stevens

Officers: David Carter, Strategic Director Performance and Development
Michelle McHugh, Interim Overview and Scrutiny Manager
John Wright, Committee Manager

1. General

(1) Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors David Booth, Ken Browne, Richard Chattaway, Alan Cockburn and Frank McCarney.

(2) Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

(3) Minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2008

The minutes of the 7th July 2008 meeting were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

(4) Matters Arising

Joint Scrutiny of LAA

Members noted that the joint scrutiny review of Area Based Grants had been completed and presented to the Public Service Board. Members requested a copy of the report be sent to them for information. It was also noted that proposals for Joint Scrutiny of LAA were being and would be reported to a future meeting to the group.

2. Action Plan for Overview and Scrutiny

The Group considered a report on the progress made against the Overview and Scrutiny Strategy Action Plan over the last 6 months including:

- Establishment of a working group, by Council, to review the constitutional change arising from the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

- Evaluation of the lessons learnt from the Warwick, North Warwickshire and Stratford Local Area Scrutiny Reviews was ongoing and would be reported to the January meeting of the Group
- Development of protocols for the new LINKs and the role/ relationships with relevant OSC's were currently being developed
- Design of an outcomes leaflet to promote outcomes achieved from scrutiny reviews
- Implementation of the Core Work Programme 2008/09

Resolved that the progress made be noted and that the further work identified in the report be supported together with any associated actions required to achieve the necessary outcomes.

3. Developing the Corporate Business Plan Process 2009-12

The Group considered a report the preparation of the Corporate Business Plan and noted that all Overview and Scrutiny Committees would, in January, consider the draft Corporate Business Plan after it had been agreed in draft form alongside the Budget by Cabinet on 11th December.

The Group considered the arrangements for the budget scrutiny event which would be held on 18th December and agreed the following

- The event would be split in to two sessions.
- The morning session would last from 10am until 12 noon and would provide an opportunity for Strategic Directors to establish the facts relating to the budget for each directorate
- The afternoon session would last from 1pm until 3.30pm and would provide an opportunity for Portfolio Holders to justify the proposed budget for their respective directorates

Resolved that

- (1) A report on the draft programme for the budget scrutiny event be submitted to the next meeting of the Group; and
- (2) A letter be sent to all members reminding of the date and times of the budget scrutiny event.

4. Future Items for OSCG and OSC's Work Programmes

The Group considered a report on the future work programme for the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Group and the current work programmes for the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

The Group was informed of two items that had been raised at recent Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings. The Children, Young People and Families OSC had requested OSCG review the structure and content of performance reports to OSC's. The Resource, Performance and Development OSC has requested that the OSCG consider proposals for joint scrutiny with partners.

The group considered the reporting of performance information relating to the LAA and were aware that there were differences in the information collated by the County Council and the District/Borough councils. The group requested clarification of the range of information that was collected.

The group expressed concern at the progress made by the Health Advocacy Partnership in establishing the LINK in Warwickshire. Members requested that representatives of HAP be invited to attend the next meeting of the Group to explain progress made.

Resolved

- (1) A report be submitted to the next meeting of the Group on the performance indicators relating to the LAA including the different indicators which are collated by the County Council and the District/Borough councils
- (2) Representatives of the Health Advocacy Partnership be invited to attend the next meeting of the Group explain progress made in establishing the LINK in Warwickshire.
- (3) A report be submitted to the April 2009 meeting of the Group on the role of Scrutiny in the Comprehensive Area Assessment Group to consider performance reports at its meeting in January Group to consider proposals for joint scrutiny and scrutiny of LAA at its meeting in Jan

5. Any Other Business

None

6. Date of Next Meeting

The Group noted that their next meeting would be held on Wednesday 19th November 2008 at 2.00 p.m.

.....
Chair

The Group rose at 3.05 p.m.