

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

21st December, 2005

Members Present:- Councillor Crookes (Substitute for Councillor Mrs. Dixon)
Councillor Duggins
Councillor Field
Councillor Mutton
Councillor Patton
Councillor Ridge (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Sawdon (Chair)
Councillor Williams

Co-opted
Member Present:- Councillor Clifford

Employees Present:- P. Barnett (Legal and Democratic Services Directorate)
M. Coult (Finance and ICT Directorate)
C. Hinde (Director of Legal and Democratic Services)
R. Hughes (Head of Corporate Policy)
J. Jardine (Legal and Democratic Services Directorate)
C. Steele (Legal and Democratic Services Directorate)
A. Townsend (Legal and Democratic Services Directorate)

Apologies:- Councillor Mrs. Dixon

142. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 23rd and 30th November, 2005, were signed as true records.

143. Call-Ins Stage 1

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services reported on the following call-in that had been received:-

Student Accommodation

The report had been called in by Councillors Batten, Mrs. Lacy and Patton.

The reason for the call-in was, "To seek further opportunities to reduce the impact on residential homes being extended in order to accommodate larger numbers of students at the expense of communities. Residents associations having direct input at meetings with Officers and the two Universities. Review the ENTEC report (Area of Student Housing Restraint) (ASHORE)/Criteria Based Constraint Policy."

The Committee noted that the deadline for call-ins for Cabinet and Cabinet Members' decisions made during the week commencing 12th December, 2005, was 9.00 a.m. on Friday 23rd December, 2005. Any further call-ins received after this meeting and before that deadline would be considered for validity by the Chair of the Scrutiny Co-

ordination Committee in consultation with the Director of Legal and Democratic Services (Paragraph 4.5.25.4 of the City Council's Constitution refers).

RESOLVED that the call-in detailed above be considered in detail by the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee at their meeting on 18th January, 2006, and that the Cabinet Member (Urban Regeneration and Regional Planning) be requested to attend.

144. Capital and Revenue Budget Report 2006/2007

The Committee considered and noted a report of the Director of Finance and ICT which updated members on the work undertaken in preparation for the 2006/2007 revenue budget and financial plans for 2007/08 to 2008/09, it also provided Members with the latest information on work to draft the Capital Programme for 2006/2007 to 2010/2011.

The report had previously been considered by the Cabinet at their meeting on 13th December, 2005 (their Minute 166/05 refers), and had been referred to this Committee in order that Scrutiny had the opportunity to influence the Council's priorities and budget proposals.

The Members questioned the Officer on aspects of the report in particular whether it included the Revenue Support Grant settlement, any job losses associated with Gershon savings and Children Services issues.

145. Reports on the Work of Scrutiny Boards

This item had been deferred to the meeting on 18th January, 2006.

146. Outstanding Issues

The Committee noted that there were currently no outstanding issues.

147. Work Programme 2005/2006

The Committee considered and noted the work programme for 2005/2006.

148. Swanswell Initiative – Residents' Meetings

Councillor Mutton reported that meetings with the residents of Cygnet and Orwell Courts had not yet been arranged (Minute 138/05 refers). The Committee agreed that a date should be set as soon as possible and that this would be discussed further at the meeting on 4th January, 2006.