

sc100107

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE**10th January, 2007**

Members Present:-	Councillor Bains Councillor Crookes (Substitute for Councillor Williams) Councillor Duggins Councillor Hunter (Substitute for Councillor Asif) Councillor Lee Councillor Mutton Councillor Ridge (Deputy Chair) Councillor Sawdon (Chair)
Co-opted Member Present:-	Councillor Clifford
Other Scrutiny Board Member Present:-	Councillor Gazey
Employees Present:-	C. Hinde (Director of Legal and Democratic Services) R. Hughes (Head of Corporate Policy) P. Jennings (Finance and ICT Directorate) C. Steele (Chief Executive's Directorate) C. Swann (Legal and Democratic Services Directorate) J. Venn (Chief Executive's Directorate) C. West (Acting Director of Finance and ICT)
Apologies:-	Councillor Asif Councillor Williams

152. Call-Ins Stage 1

The Committee noted that no call-ins had been received yet this week. The deadline for "call-ins" for Cabinet and Cabinet Member decisions made during the week commencing 2nd January, 2007, was 9.00 a.m. on Friday 12th January, 2007. Any "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 5.4.5.25.4 of the City Council's Constitution refers).

153. Corporate Plan 2006/07 – 2008/09 – Half Year Progress Report

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive, which had been considered by the Cabinet on 19th December, 2006 (their Minute 157/06 refers) providing a review of the progress made in the first half of the current financial year on the Corporate Plan and summarising the progress made against each of the Council's Corporate Objectives and Management Objectives. Details of current progress and projections for each of the targets in the Corporate Plan, together with an update on progress on the CPA Action Plan adopted by the Council, were also appended to the report.

It was reported that the Cabinet had noted the progress being made on the Corporate Plan and CPA Action Plan and had undertaken to take this information into account when considering proposals for the budget for the coming financial year.

Arising from the consideration of the issues raised in the report, the Committee:-

- (a) Requested that a report be submitted to a subsequent meeting of this Committee on the results of the Customer Satisfaction Survey.
- (b) Requested that a report be submitted to Scrutiny Board (2), as necessary, on any concerns regarding the allocation of social workers to children on the Child Protection Register.
- (c) Suggested that issues involving the availability of Council services through electronic delivery means; the performance of Coventry Direct and Consumer Direct; support for elected members; sickness absence and targets for Council Tax collection be examined by Scrutiny Board (1) at their meeting on 24th January, as part of their consideration of the appropriate Cabinet Member's Strategic Plan.
- (d) Requested that the appropriate officers establish whether there is any report available on the review of the first round of Ward Forum meetings, and advise Councillor Ridge accordingly.
- (e) Suggested that the issue regarding the take up of the Equity Release Scheme be examined by Scrutiny Board (4) as part of their consideration of the appropriate Cabinet Member's Strategic Plan.
- (f) Requested that the appropriate officers supply Councillor Mutton with a copy of the approved Value for Money Strategy.

RESOLVED that the Committee concur with the decisions of the Cabinet and that the various actions as indicated above, arising from the consideration of the report, be implemented.

154. Developing the City Council's Vision

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive, which had been considered by the Cabinet at their meeting on 19th December, 2006 (their Minute 159/06 refers), setting out proposals to reaffirm the City Council's vision for Coventry; to consult on amending the City Council's corporate objectives; and to develop and deliver the Council's vision through the development of the core strategy of the Local Development Framework, in consultation with local organisations and communities. The report also set out the regional and sub-regional context within which the Council is currently working to deliver its vision for Coventry.

The report confirmed that the Council's vision is for "**Coventry to be a growing accessible city where people choose to live, work and be educated and businesses choose to invest**". The vision and corporate objectives had been developed through consultation with local people and partners and was adopted by the Council in June 2005.

It was proposed in the report that the following suggested amendments to the vision, were considered as part of the annual consultation exercise with local organisations due to take place in January 2007:-

- Regenerate the city and ensure that people have a good choice of jobs and housing **and transform the city centre.**
- To make the city clean and green and **work to tackle climate change.**

The Committee were informed that the Cabinet had decided to:-

- (1) Endorse the Council's vision for **"Coventry to be a growing accessible city where people choose to live, work and be educated and businesses choose to invest"**.
- (2) Consult on the proposed amendments to the Council's corporate objectives to reflect the Council's priorities about the city centre and climate change as referred to above.
- (3) Develop and deliver the Council's vision for **"Coventry to be a growing accessible city where people choose to live, work and be educated and businesses choose to invest"** through the core strategy of the Local Government Framework.
- (4) Note the current activity being undertaken by the Council at local, sub-regional, regional levels and with Central Government, to deliver the Council's vision for Coventry.

RESOLVED that the Committee concur with the decisions of the Cabinet as indicated above.

155. **Revenue and Capital Pre-Budget Report 2007/08**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Finance and ICT, which had been considered by the Cabinet at their meeting on 19th December, 2006 (their Minute 161/06 refers), giving an update on the work undertaken in preparation for the 2007/08 Revenue Budget and Financial Plans for 2008/09 and 2009/10, and the 2007/08 – 2011/12 Capital Programme.

It was noted that the Cabinet had decided to note the progress made to date in preparing the 2007/08 Revenue and Capital Programmes and to agree that the contents of the report be used as the basis of the initial consultation process with the Council's external partners.

RESOLVED that the Committee concur with the decisions of the Cabinet as indicated above.

156. **Outstanding Issues**

The Committee considered and noted a report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services that identified those issues on which further reports had been requested in order that Members could monitor progress.

RESOLVED that the delay in the submission of the report on the work of the Economic and Social Renaissance Sub-Board be drawn to the attention of the Conservative Group's Whip.

157. **Work Programme 2006/2007**

The Committee considered and noted the work programme for the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee for the 2006/2007 Municipal Year and that the quarterly reports from the Chairs of the Scrutiny Boards would be submitted to the meeting of the Committee on 7th February, 2007.