

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

26th March, 2008

Scrutiny Co-ordination
Committee and
Substitute Members

Present:- Councillor Arrowsmith (Chair)
Councillor Crookes (Substitute for Councillor Lee)
Councillor Duggins
Councillor Maton
Councillor Mutton
Councillor Ridge
Councillor Williams

Co-opted
Member Present:- Councillor Clifford

Other Members Present:- Councillor Mrs. Bigham
Councillor Harvard
Councillor Nellist

Employees Present:- N. Clews (City Development Directorate)
J. McGuigan (Director of City Development)
C. Steele (Chief Executive's Directorate)
A. Townsend (Customer and Workforce Services Directorate)
A. West (Chief Executive's Directorate)

Apologies:- Councillor Ms. Hunter
Councillor Lee

169. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

170. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th March, 2008, were signed as a true record.

171. Call-In Stage 1

The Committee noted that no call-ins had been received yet that week. The deadline for call-ins for Cabinet and Cabinet Member decisions made during the week commencing 17th March, 2008, was 9.00 a.m. on Friday 28th March, 2008. 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 Customer and Workforce Services (Paragraph 5.4.5.25.4 of the City Council's Constitution refers).

172. Paragon Park Redevelopment and Proposed Relocation of European Metals Recycling

With reference to Minute 146/07, the Committee considered a briefing note of the Director of City Development that provided an update on the request by this Committee to give consideration to the relocation of European Metals Recycling (EMR) to sites identified at Black Horse Road and Ibstock Road as an alternative to the currently identified site at Oban Road. Councillor Nellist also presented a petition, bearing 62 signatures objecting to the change of use of the Oban Road site.

The officers explained that an international recycling and waste management company had recently acquired the land and metal recycling operation at Ibstock Road. It was believed that it was unlikely that the site would become available although a response to an enquiry was awaited. With regard to Black Horse Road, the agents acting for Paragon had written to the owner to establish if the site was available for development; it was understood that the current owner had ambitious plans for the site and it was likely the cost of the land would make this solution uneconomic.

Members enquired why a leaflet had recently been sent to limited areas of the local community and suggested whether the distribution could be increased and whether s106 monies associated with the Paragon Park planning permission could be used to cover costs associated with relocating EMR to a location other than Oban Road. The Officers explained that the leaflet had been distributed by the Developer, it was thought possible to extend the distribution if Ward Councillors indicated an appropriate area; the leaflet was also available from the Developer's website. With regard to the use of s106 monies the Officers indicated that these could not be used to relocate EMR and it was highlighted that the situation was further complicated as the Black Horse Road site was within the control of another Planning Authority.

It was suggested that, in order to ensure that Members were familiar with the sites being discussed, it would be appropriate to arrange a site visit prior to this Committee receiving a further update on the position in four weeks time. This approach was agreed.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That a further update on progress in identifying alternative sites for the relocation of European Metals Recycling be made to this Committee in four weeks time.**
- (2) That officers be requested to arrange a site visit for this Committee to the current European Metals Recycling operation, Black Horse Road, Ibstock Road and Oban Road.**

173. Report Back on Civic Visit – Civic Visit to Volgograd, Russia on the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of Stalingrad

The Committee considered a report of the Lord Mayor that set out details of the above Civic Visit to Volgograd on 31st January to 3rd February, 2008. The Committee questioned why two officers had accompanied the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress on the visit and requested officers to obtain a response.

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee note the report on the Civic Visit to Volgograd and request officers to obtain details on the reasons for two officers to accompany the Lord Mayor on this visit.

174. Outstanding Issues

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

175. Work Programme 2007/08

The Committee considered and noted the Work Programme for the Scrutiny Co-Ordination Committee for the 2007/08 Municipal Year.

176. Other Business

There were no other items of public or private business.