

## **SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE**

**10<sup>th</sup> December, 2008**

### Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Members

Present: Councillor Arrowsmith  
Councillor Clifford  
Councillor Crookes  
Councillor Duggins  
Councillor Mutton  
Councillor Ridge (Chair)

Employees Present: P. Barnett (Chief Executive's Directorate)  
J. McLellan (Customer and Workforce Services Directorate)  
A. West (Chief Executive's Directorate)

Apologies: Councillor Charley  
Councillor Maton

#### **106. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **107. Consideration of Call Ins – Stage 1**

The Committee noted that the deadline for call-ins for Cabinet and Cabinet Member decisions made during the week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2008, was 9.00 a.m. on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 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 4.5.25.4 of the City Council's Constitution refers).

#### **108. Local Area Agreement and Corporate Plan Half Year Report**

The Board considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which was also to be considered by the Cabinet at their meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2008. The report provided a review of the progress made against the Local Area Agreement Performance Indicators and the Management Objectives set out in the Corporate Plan.

Coventry's Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) was agreed by the Council and Coventry Partnership in March 2008 and the Local Area Agreement (LAA) signed off by Government in June. They set out the vision and priorities for Coventry. In September, the Council adopted its Corporate Plan 2008-11, aligning its corporate objectives with the SCS and building the LAA indicators into its performance management framework. A new report format had been developed to help focus on significant issues and any action required and this was attached at Appendix 1.

Each LAA Indicator had its own report card, one sheet of paper showing performance graphically, compared to target and previous performance where this was available. Where appropriate, this was supported by further graphics illustrating progress in relation to key target groups or geographical areas and any relevant comparative data.

These would be developed over time as more information became available. The data was supported by a short analysis of "what we've achieved" (an explanation of progress to date) and "what next" (an explanation of future action required).

Each SCS Theme had a theme summary which showed a red or green progress rating for each of the LAA indicators in that theme, together with a summary of progress and key issues to be addressed for the theme as a whole.

Finally, there was an overall summary of progress against the LAA, highlighting both significant progress and areas requiring action by lead organisations and partners.

The City Council agreed its new Corporate Plan in September 2008, aligning its corporate objectives with the priorities in the SCS. As part of this process, the supporting performance indicators were significantly revised to include measures from the new national indicator set and a number of gaps were identified where other measures needed to be developed. Some smaller amendments were made to the management objectives and accompanying indicators to reflect performance priorities that had emerged during the last year.

As the Corporate Plan was only two months old and there was further work to be done to establish some of the indicators, a full review was not being carried out at this point. However, the summary of progress based on the LAA indicators would provide a partial overview of progress against the Council's corporate objectives. A full report on the Council's management objectives was attached at Appendix 2.

The report also reviewed the progress being made in delivering the priorities set out in the Local Area Agreement and the management objectives of the Corporate Plan. This information would be used to identify further action that needed to be taken to improve performance and services to the people of Coventry and provide performance information to assist in the budget setting process.

The issues identified in the performance report, potentially had implications for all of the Council's functions and activities. Any specific implications for services from this half-year progress report were detailed in the appendices.

Progress on the Local Area Agreement was also reported to the Local Public Service Board on the 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2008.

The Committee considered the report and the arrangements for monitoring the progress made.

**RESOLVED that the Cabinet be informed that the information contained in the report would influence the Scrutiny Boards' Work Programmes and that further information on areas of concern would be considered by the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee.**

#### 109. **Outstanding Issues**

There were no outstanding issues.

110. **Work Programme 2008/09**

The Committee considered the Work Programme.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (1) **That the meetings of the Committee scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2008 be cancelled.**
- (2) **That the officers be requested to speak to the report author to ascertain the reason why the "pre-budget report" was being submitted to the Committee after it had been considered by the Cabinet.**

111. **Meeting Evaluation**

The Committee discussed the meeting to evaluate its effectiveness and commented that the meeting was very good and that the LAA report was excellent.

112. **Other Urgent Items of Public Business**

There were no other items of public business.