

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

24 June 2009

Scrutiny Co-ordination
Committee Members

Present: -

Councillor Arrowsmith
Councillor Bains (substitute for Councillor J. Mutton)
Councillor Charley
Councillor Clifford
Councillor Crookes
Councillor Duggins
Councillor Maton
Councillor Ridge (Chair)

Cabinet Members

Present: -

Councillor Ridley

Other Elected

Members Present: -

Councillor Gazey

Others Present: -

B. Holt (Brian Holt Estate Agents)

Employees Present: -

R. Brankowski (Customer and Workforce Services Directorate)
T. Errington (Head of Strategic Planning and Transportation)
J. Parry (Assistant Chief Executive)
C. Steele (Chief Executive's Directorate)
A. West (Chief Executive's Directorate)
L. Wroe (City Planning Manager)

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillor J. Mutton (for whom Councillor Bains substituted).

17. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

18. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2009 were agreed as a true record

19. Coventry's Core Strategy

The Committee noted that the agenda for this meeting had indicated that, when this matter comes before the Cabinet on 29 June 2009, approval has been requested that it should be dealt with on grounds of urgency and that call-in should not apply.

The reason for urgency is the requirement to submit the relevant document to an independent planning inspector by the deadline of the end of June 2009.

This matter had also been considered earlier that day by Scrutiny Board 3, and members of this Committee had been invited to attend as observers for that consideration, on the basis that the item would also be considered at their meeting later that day.

The Director of City Development emphasised that the report to Cabinet related solely to minor changes recommended in response to representations received following the decision of the City Council on 17 March 2009 to approve the submission of the Core Strategy for examination and to invite representations in accordance with the regulations. In addition, the Director summarised the complexities of the background and the process, explained the proposal and its justification, and responded to questions.

The Committee discussed whether, in accordance with paragraph 4.5.27.3 of the Constitution, to give their approval to a decision being taken urgently by the Cabinet so that call-in does not apply. To that end, they examined at some length a range of relevant considerations and suggestions.

In addition, the Committee noted that, following a full discussion of the key areas earlier that day, Scrutiny Board 3 had agreed to support the recommendations in the report but also to propose some minor changes.

These were:

(1) That paragraph 7.1 (page 7 of the Cabinet report) is amended to read:

"If, as intended the Core Strategy is submitted for examination at the end of June, then a decision from the Inspector, that would be binding on the Council, can be expected early 2010."

(2) That, in the Core Strategy submission document, there should be an amendment to Schedule 2, page 23, paragraph 7.25, sentence 4, by deleting "safeguarded" and inserting "reserved".

RESOLVED that approval be given to a decision in respect of the above-mentioned matter being taken urgently by the Cabinet so that call-in does not apply.

20. **Outstanding Issues**

There were no outstanding issues.

21. **Meeting Evaluation**

The Committee very briefly discussed the meeting and collectively evaluated it as "fine".

22. **Any Other Public Business**

There were no other items of public business.