
CORPORATE ISSUES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

13 OCTOBER 2008

Present - Councillor Shaw (Chairman), Hollick (Vice Chairman) Allen, Ayub, Mrs Brierley, Cottam, Hayes, Hornby, Iqbal, Mistry, A.N. Spencer and J. Walsh.
Also in attendance:

Councillor Mrs. Thomas - Executive Member for Corporate Resources; Councillor Kay - Executive Member for Human Resources and Diversity; Mr. P. Molyneux - Assistant Director of Highways and Engineering and Committee Chief Officer Support; Mr. I. D. Mulholland - Scrutiny Team Leader; Mr. S. M. Arnfield - Director of Finance and Deputy Chief Executive; Mr. D. Winstanley - Assistant Chief Executive; Mrs. M. Stoney - Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services; Mr. P. Marsh - Assistant Director Corporate Property Services; and Mr. B. Colquitt - Asset Strategy Manager.

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors P Brierley, Darvesh and Morris (as Executive Member for Strategy and External Relationships).

Councillor Shaw in the Chair

21 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 18th August, 2008 were submitted.

Resolved - That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

Attached Reports:

[Minutes](#)

22 DECISION MONITORING ITEM

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report which provided details of the progress of decisions taken at previous meetings of this Committee

Resolved - That the report be noted.

Attached Reports:
Decision Monitoring item

23 WORK PROGRAMME

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report which provided Members with suitable criteria to aid in the selection of topics for scrutiny and outlined the Committee's work programme.

Members' views and comments were sought in relation to any further items and issues that they wanted including on the Committee's work programme.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

Attached Reports:
Work Programme

24 MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Extracts of the minutes of meetings of the Executive held on 1st and 29th September, 2008 were submitted.

Further to minute 27, TIF Referendum, Members enquired as to how the, Yes Campaign Web Site was funded.

Resolved - (i) That the decisions of the Executive be noted.

(ii) That Members of this Committee be notified of what the funding arrangements are for the, TIF Referendum Yes Campaign Web Site.

[illegible]

25 MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CORPORATE RESOURCES

The minutes of the meetings of the Executive Member for Corporate Resources held on 2nd and 30th September, 2008 were submitted.

Further to minute 24, Area Working - Round One Report, the Committee discussed the arrangements for the Charing of Area Forum meetings, which was an agreement between the Members concerned.

Resolved - That the decisions of the Executive Member be noted.

26 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR STRATEGY AND EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS

The minutes of the meetings of the Executive Member for Strategy and External Relationships held on 3rd September and 1st October, 2008 were submitted.

Further to minute 33, Contractors Framework - Supplementary Report, Members enquired as to when further information would be forthcoming. It was indicated that further discussion was likely to be held in November, 2008.

In respect of minute 37, East Lodge Heaton Cemetery, Members enquired as to the reason for the Council funding the erection of a fence from the roadway, instead of the purchaser.

The Committee was informed that the Council had paid for the fence in order to control the quality.

Resolved - That the decisions of the Executive Member be noted.

27 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND DIVERSITY

The minutes of the meetings of the Executive Member for Human Resources and Diversity held on 3rd September and 6th October, 2008 were submitted.

Resolved - That the decisions of the Executive Member be noted.

28 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE RESOURCES POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Resources Policy Development Group held on 12th August, and 15th September, 2008 were submitted.

Further to minute 7, information about Post Office Closures in Bolton, Members indicated that the views of the Council had been ignored in this regard.

Resolved - That the minutes be noted.

Attached Reports:

[Policy Development Group Meetings](#)

[Policy Development Group Meetings](#)

[Policy Development Group Meetings](#)

29 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES AND DIVERSITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The minutes of a meeting of the Human Resources and Diversity Policy Development Group held on 3rd September, 2008 were submitted.

Resolved - That the minutes be noted.

30 LICENSING FEES AND CHARGES UPDATE - VERBAL REPORT

Mrs M. Stoney, Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services reported that a study was underway in terms of the fees and charges for the various elements of the Licensing Function. Evidence was being amassed in terms of the costs of each service.

Furthermore the Joint Finance Team was involved in the process so that funding could be allocated on an equitable basis.

Resolved - (i) That the update position be noted.

(ii) That a further update be provided in the new year.

31 SICKNESS ABSENCE MONITOR

The Assistant Chief Executive submitted a report which set out details of the Council's sickness absence statistics for 2007/08.

The report highlighted that overall sickness absence levels (including teachers) had reduced in 2007/08 to 4.71% from 4.98% in 2006/07.

The majority of employees had very few absences with

approximately 79.64% having 2 or less absences in the year and 37.49% who had more. Those figures were a slight improvement with those reported in 2006/07.

Resolved - That further consideration be given to the statistics together with the updated figures for the next meeting.

Attached Reports:

[Sickness Absence Monitor \(copy to follow\)](#)

[Sickness Absence Monitor \(copy to follow\)](#)

32 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE - POSSIBLE SCRUTINY PANEL - FURTHER DISCUSSION

A paper was submitted which set out further information in respect of the Corporate Asset Management Programme and performance issues.

By way of background information, the paper explained that at the last meeting Members discussed the possible establishment of a Scrutiny Panel on the issue of property maintenance.

In their deliberations, Members discussed the need for the Panel, if established, to focus on strategic and key policy elements

Resolved - That approval be given to the establishment of the Property Maintenance Scrutiny Panel and that Council at its next meeting, be asked to appoint the membership.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 7.05 p.m.)

Attached Reports:

[Property Maintenance - Possible Scrutiny Panel - Further Discussion](#)