
MEETING	SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
DATE	22 JANUARY 2007
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS MERRETT (VICE-CHAIR), BLANCHARD, HILL, LIVESLEY, VASSIE (SUBSTITUTE) AND KIRK (CHAIR)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS CUTHBERTSON AND HYMAN

45. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made in relation to the items of business on the agenda.

46. MINUTES P1

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 18 December 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

47. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting.

48. UNDERSTANDING TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN YORK

Members received a briefing paper from the Assistant Director (City Development & Transport) on the key issues relating to traffic congestion and its effects in York, together with an initial draft remit based on the original topic registration submitted by Councillor Simpson-Laing.

A full discussion took place on whether to proceed with a review around the registered topic and if so, what remit for any such review would be suitable given available resources to support it.

RESOLVED:

That an Ad-Hoc Scrutiny Sub-Committee be established on a 4:2:1 basis to review issues surrounding 'traffic congestion' in York with a view to any such review being concluded within 6 months on the basis of an appropriate remit being put together and emailed to SMC Members focusing on the impact of traffic congestion upon the following matters:

- Air quality;
- Economic performance;
- Quality of life;
- Accessibility to services, employment, education & health;
- Physical environment;
- Road safety;

- Bus reliability;
- Journey times; and
- Co2 emissions.

49. GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER - 'STRONG & PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES'.

Members considered a further report on the potential implications of the White Paper (Strong & Prosperous Communities) for the scrutiny function in York. The report illustrated how existing processes with the function could be adapted to meet the requirements of 'community call for action' and suggested alternatives for managing reviews with partners.

Members were reminded that processes were already in place to deal with a corporate response to the wider implications for local authorities contained within the White Paper and it was suggested that any comments they might have at this stage be fed into that process.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and Members concerns generally regarding the resource implications arising from the new arrangements for scrutiny contained within the White Paper be referred for consideration as part of any wider response to it from the Council.

Councillor Kirk, Chair

[The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 7.50pm]