

## **Scrutiny Report to Council**

### **Report of Chair, Scrutiny Management Committee**

Since the last report to Council, there has not been a meeting of Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC).

The next meeting is scheduled for 29 January 2008 and we are expecting an interim report from the Traffic Congestion Ad-hoc Scrutiny Committee. We also continue to receive updates on the implementation status of recommendations arising from previously completed scrutiny reviews.

### **Ad-Hoc Scrutiny Committees**

#### Barbican

This ad-hoc committee have recently held their first meeting to consider a scoping report for this review and agree a timetable and the level of officer involvement required.

#### Highways

This review has now been completed and the Ad-hoc committee are scheduled to meet at the end of this month to consider their draft final report prior to its presentation to SMC.

#### Traffic Congestion

An interim report will be presented to SMC at the end of January detailing the work completed to date. It will request an extension to the timeframe of the review in order that full consideration can be given to the remaining objectives. It will also include a request for additional funding as the Committee would like to carry out a survey of residents on the recommendations arising from the review so that their views can be incorporated into the Committee's final report.

### **Education Scrutiny Committee**

The review of School Governors is ongoing. A survey has been sent out to each individual school governor to gather information about the current make-up of governing bodies in regard to their age, gender, socio-economic and ethnic diversity. The survey also seeks governors views on the training they've received and the skills they bring to their role.

The findings will be fed into the Governor Support & Development Service database, and used to identify improvements to the training provided. They will also be compared to statistics held on ward residents to check if the current governing bodies reflect the diversity of pupils in the school and the local community, and used to identify ways of attracting a more diverse mix of individuals to the role of Governor.

At their next meeting the committee will consider a scoping report for part B of the review – 'To investigate the role of Governors and current clerking arrangements in extended schools'.

## **Health Scrutiny Committee**

In December members heard from representatives of North Yorkshire and York Primary Care Trust on the provision of NHS dental services in York. This has been an ongoing concern of committee members for the last two years, and they have regularly asked about the allocation of York patients to dental practices and the numbers of people waiting on the database. They have also recently had a presentation from the Director of Public Health at the PCT on the priorities and expenditure of the trust. Discussions were held with the Medical Director on clinical guidelines for treatments and referral to secondary care.

As NHS Trusts are in the process of completing their self-assessments for the "Annual Healthcheck" required by the Healthcare commission, three members are currently involved in planning how the committee can best provide their comments on whether some or all of these standards have been met, along with their evidence for this opinion.

On 31 January, members and relevant officers will be hosting a stakeholder event for partners interested in Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) - a network of organisations and individuals whose role will be to promote and support the involvement of local people in the commissioning and delivery of health and social care.

**Councillor John Galvin**  
**Chair of Scrutiny Management Committee**  
January 2008