
MEETING	SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
DATE	26 JUNE 2006
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS KIRK (CHAIR), CUTHBERTSON, HILL AND LIVESLEY AND LOOKER (AS SUBSTITUTE FOR COUNCILLOR MERRETT)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS MERRETT AND HYMAN
IN ATTENDANCE	COUNCILLOR FRASER

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair reported that there were no declarations of interest.

10. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 May 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

12. DRAFT SCRUTINY ANNUAL REVIEW 2005/6

Members considered a report informing them of the progress made with the preparation of the Scrutiny Annual Review for 2005/6.

The report highlighted that many of contributions from Chairs of former Scrutiny Boards etc were still outstanding. Deadlines for receipt of those had been set to allow the final draft of the Annual Report to be prepared and brought back to the next meeting of SMC.

Members were informed of the proposed format for the Annual Review which would include the individual reports from each of the scrutiny boards, and updates on the progress made with previous scrutiny recommendations.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and that the responsibility for approving the content of the 2005/6 Annual Scrutiny Report be delegated to the Chair and Vice-Chair

13. SUSTAINABLE STREET LIGHTING SCRUTINY DRAFT FINAL REPORT - STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT & PROCUREMENT TO REDUCE CARBON DIOXIDE (CO2) EMISSIONS & WASTE

Members were presented with the draft final report of the Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee which was set up to conclude the review outstanding from the last Municipal Year on 'strategic management & procurement to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and waste'.

Following consultation with appropriate officers, the report had been updated to include a summary of their comments on the proposals. A copy of the amended report had been circulated to Members incorporating changes made at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee.

Members made the following comments on the draft final report prior to its submission to the Executive:

- More detailed consideration of any potential saving on street lighting emissions further to the comparators referenced in paragraph 7 of the final report;
- Improved coordination of the Council's own floodlighting of the Guildhall for instance, with consideration being given to activation by light sensor;
- In relation to the suggested arrangements for the reporting the findings of the proposed Street Lighting questionnaire, as at paragraph 33 of the final report, that be done by the Council's Member Energy Champion through the EMAP process and not at full Council as proposed in the report; and
- Short glossary of terms to be extended to include PV(photovoltaic)

RESOLVED:

That all those Members and Officers involved in the review be thanked for their work in bringing this review to a conclusion and the final report be referred to the Executive for consideration, subject to the above revisions being made.

14. HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE PROGRESS

Members considered a report from Cllr Ian Cuthbertson as chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee which highlighted the activities and work to date of the Committee.

It was noted that the emphasis of the committee had changed slightly to that of the former Social Services & Health Scrutiny Board, in that its primary role was to scrutinise (NHS) health provision for York residents which would include the scrutiny of health provision by Adult Social Services.

The report included a review of the financial recovery plans of Selby and York PCT and the effect of the resulting changes on services to the people of York. Members expressed their concern that the effect was as yet

unknown and that a formal scrutiny of the recovery plan was needed once the plan was made public at the next PCT Board meeting. It was expected that material would then be available for consideration.

RESOLVED:

That the update report and current position be noted.

15. FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON PROPOSED NEW SCRUTINY TOPICS - HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND PUBLIC ART

Members considered a report which included the topic registration forms and feasibility reports for two newly registered scrutiny topics:

- No 135 Highways Maintenance Procurement Process – registered by Cllr Simpson-Laing in April 2006

In order to decide whether or not to progress the topic, Members requested a future presentation from Highways Procurement team on the processes involved, and agreed to defer a decision until this could be received.

- No 137 Public Art – registered by Cllr Hogg in May 2006

Members suggested that a decision be deferred until further information could be provided on whether or not the policy approved in 1998, which proposed that 1% of the total cost of any new development be set-aside for Public Art, had been implemented.

RESOLVED:

That a decision on both topics be deferred until the further information requested could be provided and that those Members who had registered the topics be asked to be present at the meeting next considering the issues.

16. SCRUTINY BUDGET OVERTURN 2005/6 AND BUDGET POSITION 2006/7

Members considered a report which briefly detailed the scrutiny budget overrun position for 2005/6 and asked how they wanted to allocate budget resources in 2006/7.

The overrun position for 2005/6 had previously been included in a full City Strategy EMAP report and this highlighted a final under spend of circa £7k due to staffing vacancies and the fact that one member of staff had opted not to be in the pension scheme.

Members considered whether to continue to allocate a nominal fee of £250 to each established Scrutiny Committee, Ad-hoc or Standing, to support their administration costs in undertaking reviews. It was suggested that

this should be reviewed by SMC should Committees find this amount does not adequately cover the associated ancillary costs.

RESOLVED:

- That the budget outturn for 2005/6 be noted
- That a flat sum of £250 be allocated per Scrutiny Committee to assist with administrations costs for the time being

Councillor Kirk, Chair

[The meeting started at 6.00 pm and finished at 7.45 pm].