

Scrutiny Report To Council December 2009

Report of the Chair of Scrutiny Management Committee

1. This report is submitted by the Chair of Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC), in accordance with the constitutional requirements set out in Standing Order 4.3(l) to update Council on scrutiny work during the period of activity since the last Council meeting and to set out any recommendations such as may be made to Council in relation to that work.

Update on Scrutiny Work

2. **SMC** have met to consider 3 call-ins as follows:
 - 26th October 2009
 - Green Jobs Task Force
 - Swimming Facilities
 - 23rd November 2009
 - Beckfield Lane - Extension of Cycle Route

Standing Scrutiny Committees

3. Further meetings of the standing scrutiny committees have taken place since the last Council meeting. Each has received the Second Quarter Monitoring Report for 2009/10, and each was attended by the relevant Executive Members to discuss their priorities within their portfolio areas.
4. **Health Scrutiny Committee** will meet again on 2 December 2009 when they will discuss the scoping and timetable for the agreed review of 'Childhood Obesity'. They will also receive presentations from relevant officers in the Council and from the relevant Trusts as background to the topic. They will also receive an update on dental provision in the area.
5. **Effective Organisation Overview & Scrutiny Committee** received a presentation on Risk Management at their last meeting, as they are considering carrying out a scrutiny review on how the Council manages risk. In addition, the Committee agreed the scope of their current review of the 'Effective Use of the Executive Forward Plan'.
6. **Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee** has not met formally since the last Council meeting. The Committee will, however, be meeting again on 8 December 2009 where they will be receiving, amongst other things, a scoping/timetabling report regarding Newgate Market, two feasibility studies on newly put forward topics and an interim report regarding the Water End Councillor Call for Action (CCfA).

7. The Task Group for the Water Lane CCfA has twice met informally since last Council. Once to draft a scope and timetable of the review and once to visit the site in question.
8. **Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee** met recently to receive a presentation on the national picture in regard to 'looked after' children. This was requested in an effort to analyse the reasons behind the current budget overspend in that service area. They also received a presentation on 'Playbuilder' data in support of the suggested topic on casual play opportunities.
9. The Committee is scheduled to meet again on 10 December 2009 to receive an update on the implementation of the approved recommendations arising from the previously completed Cultural Quarter scrutiny review, and a scoping report for their new review of casual play opportunities in the city.
10. **Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee** met recently to consider a report on the Council's alleygating policy and information on the restructure of North Yorkshire Police, in particular what this would mean for York.
11. **Traffic Congestion Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee** have now agreed the format and content of their city-wide residents survey. At the request of City Strategy, it has been agreed to defer the distribution of the survey until February 2010 to avoid problems with overlap with the LTP3 introductory leaflet & questionnaire. The Committee will sign off their final report once the survey results have been fed in.

Councillor Paul Healey
Chair of Scrutiny Management Committee