
Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee

5th April 2011

Report of the Assistant Director Governance & ICT

Update on Implementation of Recommendations of Previous Scrutiny Reviews

Summary

1. This report provides Members with updated information on the implementation of recommendations made as a result of previously completed scrutiny reviews on Guidance for Sustainable Development (Annex A) and Planning Enforcement (Annex B).

Background

2. In the past the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) had monitored the implementation of recommendations arising from Scrutiny Reviews. Under the new scrutiny structure responsibility for this falls with the individual scrutiny committees.

Consultation

3. Relevant officers have provided updated information on the recommendations arising from the reviews and will be in attendance at the meeting to answer any questions.

Options

4. With regard to Annexes A and B, Members may choose to do one, some or all of the suggestions below:
 - a. Sign off those recommendations where implementation has been completed
 - b. Request further updates to clarify any outstanding recommendations

Analysis

5. The review on Guidance on Sustainable Development was completed in October 2006. Members of SMC had signed off some of the recommendations already and this report presents updated information on those that are still

outstanding. The update on the implementation of the recommendations is provided at Annex A to this report.

6. Members last considered this at a meeting on 28th September 2010 when they noted that the Guidance for Sustainable Development scrutiny review was intrinsically linked with the Local Development Framework. As work was still ongoing with this at that time, the Committee did not feel that they were in a position to sign any of the recommendations off and agreed to add this back to the work plan for reconsideration in 2011.
7. As part of the update on the Guidance for Sustainable Development scrutiny review (**Annex A refers**) the Head of Design, Conservation and Sustainable Development has also provided the following comments:

'The scrutiny process is an invaluable part of the Council's governance arrangements and many useful improvements have been made to policy and practice through its operation. In this case though the queries date back to 2007 and whilst I appreciate that a number have already been signed off we need to see the remaining points in the following context:

- The final draft of the Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy has now been completed (Feb 2011)
- The Interim Planning Statement (IPS) on Sustainable Development is being used to inform Development Management decision making
- We have a Renewable Energy Viability Study as part of the LDF evidence base
- PPS 5 Planning for the Historic Environment includes Policy HE 1 on Climate Change and promotes appropriate adaptation of Historic Buildings.
- The Council Executive / Without Walls Partnership Board have agreed a Climate Change Framework and Action Plan for the City which will be published in April 2011

All of these directly address the concerns identified by the scrutiny review - I wonder therefore whether it is possible to close or agree a timeframe for closing this particular review.'

8. The review of Planning Enforcement was completed in May 2009. This Committee has already signed off, as complete, several of the recommendations arising from the review. The update on the implementation of the remaining recommendations is provided at Annex B to this report.

Corporate Strategy 2009/12

9. The process of monitoring the implementation of approved recommendations helps us to be an 'Effective Organisation'.

Implications

10. There are no known Financial, Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, ITT or other implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Risk Management

11. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with this report.

Recommendations

12. Members are asked to note the contents of this report and agree which recommendations arising from previously completed scrutiny reviews can be signed off.

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations which have still to be implemented.

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Report Approved



Date

22.03.2011

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes

Annex A – Update on Guidance on Sustainable Development

Annex B – Planning Enforcement