

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2007

Present: Councillors Mrs A Bradshaw (Chair); Mrs E Eastwood (Deputy Chair); Mrs M Barnes; F McPhillips; J Park; W Southward

An apology for absence was received from Councillor B Dixon

Officers: J Carrol, Waste Services Manager; T Capper, Democratic Services Manager; L Taylor, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 October 2007 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to Councillor Park's inclusion in the attendance list.

OSC-ENV143 Doorstep Recycling Collection

Members received an update on the progress of the Council's kerbside recycling collection service. This included efforts made to improve the service which included a restructure of the rounds and the addition of 520 new properties since October 2006.

Members were informed of the Waste Resources Action Programme report (WRAP) outlining how the service should be provided into the future, the primary recommendation being that the kerbside service remains with Copeland's in-house team as the Best Value option for the Council.

It was **AGREED** that a copy of the WRAP report be presented and explained at the next meeting of the Committee, following which a report updating Members on targets achieved by the doorstep recycling collection service be brought to the Committee in six months time.

The Committee discussed the lack of plastic and cardboard collection points in Haverigg and Millom, it was explained that this was due to high transportation costs. Members pointed out the possibility of working with other authorities in order to cut costs. The Waste Services Manager agreed that this option would be explored and that the Committee would be informed of developments. It was noted that the addition of further recycling sites were being looked at in Whitehaven and Millom.

The issue of bulk waste collections was discussed and the problems associated with appointments for pick-up. Members were informed that problems were occurring due to the appointments part of the CRM computer system not working properly, and that appointments recorded by the Contact Centre were not reaching waste services.

It was **AGREED** that the Head of Customer Services and Waste Services Manager are invited to the next meeting of the Committee to provide details of bulk waste collections and possible resolutions to the appointment problems.

OSC-ENV144 Task and Finish Group – Enforcement

The Committee received the report to Executive of the Task and Finish Group on Enforcement, which contained recommendations for the future of the service. Members were informed that the report had been deferred at the meeting of the Executive on the 20 February pending a further report from the Chief Executive on management issues.

Members expressed concern and stressed that action on the Task and Enforcement Group recommendations needed to be taken for the future of the enforcement services.

The Chairman thanked Councillors Eastwood and Southward for their contribution as members of the Task and Finish Group.

It was **AGREED** that the report be noted.

OSC-ENV145 Joint Scrutiny – Cumbria Strategic Waste Strategy

The Committee received an update on the joint scrutiny work taking place on the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership. The Committee were informed that good progress had been made and that the Partnership would be looked at again in up to 12 months.

Members noted a letter from the joint scrutiny committee to the Chair of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership outlining outstanding issues identified. A reply to the letter was circulated affirming that these issues would be addressed at future meetings of the CSWP.

It was **AGREED** that the report and the reply be noted.

OSC-ENV146 Forward Plan

The forward plan of key decisions taken by Executive was received and noted.

OSC-ENV147 Work Plan

The Work Plan of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees was received and noted. Councilor Eastwood informed the Panel of her attendance, as part the joint sub group, at a workshop at Lakes College outlining the development of the Play Strategy. It was felt that all age groups were not covered and that the focus was on pre-school children only. It was felt that an update on the play strategy was needed.

It was **AGREED** that the Parks Development Officer would be invited to the next meeting of the committee to give an update on the play strategy.

Progress on the Energy Policy was discussed. Members were informed that this would be one of priorities following the appointment of the new Scrutiny Support Officer.

The Meeting Closed at 3.50pm

Chairman