

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 JULY 2008

Present: Councillors Mrs W Metherell, Chairman; Mrs E Eastwood, Deputy Chairman; A Carroll; G Garrity; F Gleaves; F Heathcote; K Hitchen; J Jackson; Mrs C Watson; P Watson and Mrs J Williams.

Also present: Councillors R Pitt .

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor W Southward.

Officers: N White, Scrutiny Support Officer, K Parker, Head of Leisure and Environmental Services and C Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

SSC 01/08 Minutes of the meeting held on 1 April 2008 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Arising from the minutes, SSC 31/07 Haverigg Prison - Members were advised that replies had been received from three Members of Parliament, but nothing from the other local authorities. It was noted that Jamie Reed MP supported the proposal.

RESOLVED: that reminder letters be sent to the Local Authorities.

SSC 02/08 **Multi Storey Car Park, Whitehaven**

Members expressed their concerns with the Whitehaven Multi Storey Car Park. The Chief Executive of the Whitehaven Harbour Commission had offered her apology for being unable to attend this meeting and made a written submission regarding the Lift, Lighting and Signage issues. Members stated that not all the issues had been covered and felt they would benefit from a site visit.

RESOLVED: that a site visit for the Chair, Vice Chair and Harbour Ward Member of the panel, accompanied by the Open Spaces Manager and Member Services Technical Support Officer be arranged.

SSC 03/08 **Work Plan 2008/2009**

Members considered items for inclusion in the 2008/09 Work Plan.

During discussion of this item, it was suggested that in addition to the items shown on the draft Work Plan, Housing issues should be given

greater priority in the coming year and that Copeland Homes be invited to a future meeting to update members on the Decent Homes standard.

It was also suggested that Locality Working would be an important issue this year and Members would benefit from inviting the Chief Executive to update this Overview and Scrutiny Committee on where it is going to be asked to get involved.

With regard to the items on the draft Work Plan, Members requested that the Waste Services Manager be invited to update the Committee and also to arrange a site visit to Shanks Mechanical & Biological Treatment Plant.

In respect of Substance Abuse, the Head of Leisure and Environmental Services advised the Committee that he was currently developing the Council's policy in consultation with the Primary Care Trust.

Members requested the Open Spaces Manager be invited to report on the Quality Coast Award.

In respect of the Highway issues, Members requested that Cumbria County Council invited to attend a future meeting.

Members discussed crime issues and the perception of crime. It was suggested that the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership be invited to attend a future meeting.

RESOLVED: that

- a) Copeland Homes be invited to a future meeting to update members.
- b) the Chief Executive be invited to update this Overview and Scrutiny Committee on where it is going to be asked to get involved in Locality Working.
- c) the Waste Services Manager be invited to update the Committee and also to arrange a site visit to Shanks Mechanical & Biological Treatment Plant.
- d) the Open Spaces Manager be invited to report on the Quality Coast Award.
- e) County Council be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss Highway issues.
- f) the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss the perception of crime.
- g) the Scrutiny Support Officer update the Work Plan for 2008/09 and where appropriate establish Task and Finish Groups.

The Meeting Closed at 3:15pm

Signed:.....

Date:.....