

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2008**

Present: Councillors P Connolly, Chairman; R Pitt, Deputy Chairman; Mrs Y R T Clarkson; Mrs E Eastwood; J Kane; Mrs W Metherell; P Whalley and C Whiteside

Officers: N White, Scrutiny Support Officer; H Mitchell, Head of Policy and Performance; Martin Jepson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; M Robinson, Audit and Fraud Prevention Manager

H Mitchell. Head of Policy and Performance, Agenda items 1,8 & 9

#### **Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meetings held on 15 August and 4 September 2008 be signed as a correct record.

#### **MGT 31/08    Arrangement of the Agenda**

**RESOLVED** - That Agenda items 7,8 & 9 be considered first on the agenda.

#### **MGT 32/08    Update on Gershon Efficiencies**

Under the Gershon programme in 2004 the Government sets targets for all public sector bodies to find 2.5% in efficiencies on their baseline in 2004/05. Copeland was required to find £920,000 in total of cashable and non cashable over the three years of the Gershon programme. Consideration was given to an updating report on proposals for the three years 2005/08.

During consideration of this item members asked that in future all reports should include efficiency impact indicators, and it was moved by Councillor R Pitt duly seconded and

**RESOLVED** – That a) consideration be given to Corporate team to the inclusion of efficiency impact indicators within all reports; and

b) the report be noted.

#### **MGT 33/08    Strategic Risk Register**

In order to achieve the Council's objectives it was necessary for it to manage and identify what risks may arise so that appropriate measure may be put in place. Consideration was given to the draft strategic risk register prior to submission to the Audit Committee and subsequently the Executive for formal approval.

It was noted that the monitoring of this was included in the quarterly monitoring reports to the Audit Committee. During consideration of this item Members note that the AT 2.5 – “Customers may continue to find our services unsatisfactory” had been set at risk level 2 and asked that this be amended to 1 as this should be achievable.

**RESOLVED** - That taking on board comments made by Members the draft strategic risk register be submitted to the Executive for approval.

**MGT 34/08    National Indicators**

Consideration was given to a report detailing the National Indicators falling within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee. It was noted that a covalent report would be the subject of a report to a future meeting as progress on national indicators was developed nationally. It was noted that the outcome of the Place Survey would be reported to Committee in March 09 and Members asked for the report to be issued to all Members of the Council.

During consideration of this item it was felt that refresher training on issues such as Housing and Council Tax benefits should be offered to Members of the Council in order to enable them to be more effective in their wards.

**RESOLVED** - That a) the outcome report of the place survey be issued to all Members of the Council;

b) refresher training on Housing and Council Tax benefits be offered to Members of the Council; and

c) the report be noted.

**MGT 35/08    Honorary Aldermen**

Consideration was given to a report looking at the guidance for the role of Honorary Alderman for Copeland. It was noted that this issue was included in the work plan for the Committee however, after research throughout other authorities and guidance in “Civic Ceremonial” (History and Guide for Mayors, Councillors and Officers by Paul Millward) it was felt that there would be not enough work for a task and finish group.

**RESOLVED** – That Council be recommended that the role of the Honorary Aldermen as set out in Section 4 of the report be confirmed as Council guidance.

**MGT 36/08    Call-In Procedure**

The provision for the Call-In Procedure under Section 21(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 2000 was submitted and noted.

**MGT 37/08 Compliments, Comments and Complaints**

A report was submitted and noted updating Members on the number of Compliments, Comments and Complaints received at the Council between April and September 08. It was noted that there had been a significant reduction in complaints in comparison to the same period in 2007.

**MGT 38/08 Forward Plan**

**RESOLVED** – The Forward Plan of key decisions September – December 2008 be noted.

**MGT 39/08 Work Plan**

Consideration was given to the Work Plan of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees. During consideration of this item Members asked that in light of the recent executive decision relating to the car parking strategy this item in the work plan be brought forward

**RESOLVED** – That the Work Plan be noted.

**MGT 40/08 Executive Decisions**

**RESOLVED** – That the decisions made by the Executive at its meeting on 19 September 2008 be noted.

Chairman..... Date.....