

## **Report from Overview and Scrutiny**

Lead Members: Councillors B Dixon, Mrs Y R T Clarkson, J Kane, Mrs W Metherell

### **1. Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

#### **Greater Public Involvement in Overview and Scrutiny**

- Management Committee has considered a number of proposals for securing better public engagement in overview and scrutiny activities. These include holding more meetings away from the Copeland Centre, on a rota basis around the main towns of Whitehaven, Egremont, Cleator Moor, Millom, Mid Copeland (Seascale, Gosforth etc), and North Copeland (Distington); seeking a better understanding in the press and media of overview and scrutiny activities; a greater profile for task and finish groups; and co-option of members of the public and representatives of partner organizations onto committees and/or task and finish groups.
- These proposals will be considered again at the next meeting of the Management Committee and will be reported to Council for a full debate.

#### **Place Survey Task and Finish Group**

- This Group will be having further meetings in mid October and will be looking at good practice from other local authorities who score well on keeping the public informed on local services and enable citizens to influence decisions affecting their area. The Group will be looking at the possibility of co-opting members of the public onto the Group and/or holding meetings in local communities.

### **2. Children, Young People and Healthy Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

#### **Youth Engagement Task and Finish Group**

- This Task Group will meet on 19 October with the Consultation Officer for Eden District Council and will also look at good practice guidance on how local authorities engage with young people.

### **3. Economic Development and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

- This Committee has received updates on:

The World Heritage Status Bid for the Lake District National Park

Marketing in Copeland

The Closure of Inkerman Terrace Whitehaven in September/October

Millom and Egremont Market Towns Initiative  
Cleator Moor Town Square Initiative.

#### **4. Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

##### **Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership**

- The Committee received a report on the revised strategic priorities and structure of the CDRP. The strategic priorities are now centred around violent crime, domestic abuse, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour, casualty reduction, drugs and alcohol, public perception and engagement and neighbourhoods and localities.
- A new Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed by the CDRP Strategy Group, which identifies and explains the roles and responsibilities of partners, and assists councillors in understanding their role in the partnership.
- The Committee will consider a further report at the October meeting on its new role as the Council's statutory crime and disorder committee and the duties and responsibilities this brings.

##### **Liveability Task and Finish Group**

- The Liveability Task and Finish Group continues to meet and is now close to reporting to the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It will need one more meeting to draw up its recommendations.

##### **Copeland Homes**

- The Portfolio Holder has asked this OSC to review Copeland Homes and their progress in meeting the Decent Homes Standard for their stock. This will be considered after the meeting of the Strategic Housing Panel in November.