25 March 2010 Overview and Scrutiny Committee

A MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON 25 MARCH 2010

Councillors Allen, Beavis (P), Champion, Dickson, Mrs Forder (P), Forder (Chairman) (P), Foster-Reed, Hylands (P), Mrs Searle, and Miss West (P).

51. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Allen, Champion, Dickson and Mrs Searle.

52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

53. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 28 January and 17 February 2010 be approved and signed by the Chairman as true and correct records.

Members thanked officers for the high quality of the minutes that had been approved.

54. DEVELOPMENT OF A WORK PROGRAMME

A) REQUESTS FOR SCRUTINY

No requests had been received.

B) WORK PROGRAMME

The Work Programme was noted.

C) OTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR SCRUTINY

The suggestion was made that Local Petitions and Calls for Action may be suitable areas for scrutiny. It was felt that these areas should be taken forward to the next Municipal Year as Members would need advice, information on protocols and possibly an introduction to these innovations before an informed decision could be made whether or not to conduct a scrutiny.

The suggestion was also made that the management of the Council's finances may be a suitable area for scrutiny. This was an area on which the Council's external auditors had reported to the Standards and Governance Committee. The current score had been considered acceptable but could be improved upon with the introduction of additional resources. It was felt that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee could have some input into achieving an improvement in the Council's rating.

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It was decided that this latter area of work be considered for scrutiny in the new Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the Work Programme of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted;
- b) Local Petitions and Calls for Action be put forward as a request for scrutiny in the 2010/11 Municipal Year; and
- c) management of the Council's finances be put forward as a request for scrutiny in the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

55. REPORTS RECEIVED

(i) ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to a report of the Chairman which provided details of the Committee's work and achievements during the Municipal Year 2009/10.

RESOLVED: That Annual Report on the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Municipal Year 2009/10 be presented to Council on 31 March 2010.

(ii) POST 16 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Consideration was given to a draft report of the Committee which set out its findings regarding Post 16 Vocational Education in Gosport and sought the Committee's agreement for the document to be submitted to Council on 31 March 2010.

Members identified a small number of minor amendments to be incorporated into the report before presentation to Council.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, setting out its findings regarding Post 16 Vocational Education in Gosport and incorporating minor amendments identified by the Committee, be presented to Council on 31 March 2010.

56. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.

The meeting ended at 5.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN