
**OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Public Protection and Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee has undertaken :-
 - (a) **Work Programme** – We considered the Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2006/07 and examined Cabinet’s Forward Plan for particular areas of interest and concern and are examining further areas for undertaking Task and Finish Review Group. Members requested that a progress report on the Licensing Act 2003 and Best Value Review of Regulatory Services Update be submitted to the next meeting scheduled for 27th March, 2007.
 - (b) **Cemeteries and Crematoria Services** – We received a report, following Members concerns on headstone safety, pollution arising from the operation of the Crematorium and the amount of burial space available in Darlington’s cemeteries. Following an in depth discussion on these issues and also this Council’s responsibility to burial services generally, agreed to undertake a visit to West Cemetery and the Crematorium.
 - (c) **Community Partnerships Progress Report** – We received a report at Members request on the progress of the Community Partnerships located in Darlington’s eleven priority wards. Following discussion on various issues including the role of the Community Development Workers; the role of the Community Partnership steering group; projects and funding; attendance at meetings; and allocation of funding to the eleven wards, it was agreed that this Scrutiny Committee undertake a full Review of Community Partnerships in the new Municipal Year.
 - (d) **Review /Task and Finish Groups – Food Safety Review** – We continue to receive updates on the progress of this Review and it is intended to bring the final report to the meeting scheduled for 27th March, 2007.

CCTV in Bus Shelters Task and Finish – The Group continue to monitor the situation and will submit their final report to the meeting scheduled for 27th March, 2007.

Uniformed Warden Service Task and Finish – The Task and Finish Review Group submitted its final report and following investigations concluded that since the commencement of the review a number of initial concerns had now been addressed and feel that a move to delegate certain powers to the warden team will allow for continual improvement within the service.

**Councillor Doris Jones
Chair of Public Protection and
Community Partnerships Scrutiny Committee**