
OVERVIEW OF RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last ordinary meeting of Council, the following are the main areas of work the Resources Scrutiny Committee has undertaken :-
 - (a) **Anti-Social Behaviour Services** – At the request of a Member of the Scrutiny Committee, we have looked into the structure and role of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit and the levels of financial support and performance. A significant amount of work is taking place on interventions and enforcement action within the Borough and the Unit currently employs 16 full time staff who are dedicated to addressing anti-social behaviour and environmental crime within the Borough.
 - (b) **Health and Safety** – As part of our monitoring role, we have received information on progress within the Authority against health and safety related performance indicators. It is pleasing to report that the Council has had a further period free from any official enforcement activity by the Health and Safety Executive, and that reportable accident statistics are very encouraging with 22 accidents reported to the Health and Safety Executive for the year to date. If this trend continues, the projected figure for 2006/07 will be 30 accidents, which will represent a significant reduction on previous years. The Safety Unit will continue to take a pro-active approach to the management of health and safety within the Authority and we will continue to monitor performance in this area on a six-monthly basis.
 - (c) **Development and Environment Support Services Performance 2006/07 – 3rd Quarter** – Again, as part of our monitoring role, we have looked into the progress on the implementation of the Development and Environment’s Support Services Section’s Service Plan. It is pleasing to report that overall, performance is generally within the parameters of PerformancePlus.
 - (d) **Combined Financial and Service Performance Report 2006/07** - We have received a report combining financial and service performance for the Council for the period April to December 2006, and it is pleasing to report that, overall the Council is on target for service performance and efficiency gains. In relation to the financial performance, the budget is projected to be fractionally overspent by £0.012 million and further work is being done by the Officers to reduce this overspend.
 - (e) **Capital Programme Quarterly Monitoring Report – December 2006** - Consideration has been given to the Capital Programme Quarterly Monitoring Report for the period ending December 2006.

- (f) **Efficiency Review** – The Efficiency Review Group has continued to meet and we have considered the mid-year Annual Efficiency Statement Report which has been forwarded to the Department for Communities and Local Government in accordance with the ‘Gershon Efficiency Agenda’.
- (g) **Medium-Term Financial Plan** – At a special meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 16th February, 2007, we considered a number of issues referred to us by Cabinet in relation to the Revenue and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2007/08 – 2010/11 and the Prudential Indicators and the Treasury Strategy Report 2007/08. The majority view of the Committee was to support Cabinet’s recommendations in relation to these items, however, a minority view to accept the information contained in the reports but not to accept Cabinet’s recommendations thereon was also put forward. All of these views will be forwarded to Cabinet for their consideration.

I, as Chair, have continued to have various meetings with Officers and have pursued a number of issues raised with me, by Members of the Scrutiny Committee, and reported the responses back to them accordingly.

Councillor Ian Haszeldine
Chair Resources Scrutiny Committee