

## MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 02 NOVEMBER 2010

**Present:**

Councillor Ms P.A. Broom (Chairman)

Councillor S.J. Rough (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

Miss M.M. Bain

H.R. Jaffer

L.E. Nichols

A.P. Hirst

Mrs I. Napper

G. F Trussler

**Apologies:** Councillors Mrs E.M. Bell, S.E.W. Budd, K. Chouhan, Mrs C.E. Nichols and Mrs M.W. Rough

### 331/10 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

None reported.

### 332/10 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 09 September 2010 were approved as a correct record.

It was noted that the Minutes of the Special Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 20 October 2010 would be submitted to the next committee meeting.

### 333/10 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Committee discussed the outcome of the Special Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held to consider the proposed development of an Eco Park at Charlton Lane and what further involvement the Scrutiny Committee could have. Dr Sandy Muirhead, Head of Sustainability and Leisure Services confirmed that the planning application had been submitted and as statutory consultees the Planning Committee at its meeting in January 2011 would scrutinise the application.

Members of the Committee voiced concerns about handing over the Eco Park proposals to the Planning Committee and required specific details about their remits and whether the Committee could continue scrutinising the proposals of the Eco Park. The Chairman mentioned that residents had another chance to have their questions answered by Surrey County Council at an event held by the Shepperton Residents Association taking place on 02 November 2010.

**RESOLVED** that the Head of Corporate Governance be asked to confirm in writing whether the Overview and Scrutiny Committee could continue to scrutinise the Eco Park proposals as requested in the meeting.

**334/10 CALL IN AT CABINET DECISIONS**

No decisions had been called in for review

**335/10 2010-11 REVENUE MONITORING REPORT**

The Committee discussed with Adrian Flynn, Senior Accountant, the revenue monitoring report outlining the current spending and income figures for the period April to September 2010, which revealed that £4.816m had been spent against the full year budget of £13.851m. The Committee discussed with the officer the need for further information to be provided to clarify the statistics, data and the general layout of the report.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The Revenue Monitoring report of the Chief Finance Officer for the period April to September 2010 be noted; and
2. A revised report as indicated at the meeting be circulated to all members of the Committee to include the significant factors that had an impact on the overall projection.

**336/10 2010-11 CAPITAL MONITORING REPORTS**

The Committee discussed with Adrian Flynn, the Senior Accountant the capital monitoring report which covered the period April to September 2010

He reported that £742k had been spent to date against an original budget of £2,204k and a revised budget of £2767k

During the discussion the officers responded to numerous questions raised by members of the Committee and agreed to provide additional information in relation to the 5 a-side pitches as well as on Surrey County Council's match funding.

**RESOLVED** that the report of the Chief Finance Officer outlining the Capital Monitoring position for the period April to September 2010 be noted.

**337/10 RECYCLING UPDATE**

A short presentation was given to the Committee by Dr Sandy Muirhead, Head of Sustainability and Leisure Services which provided details about the waste facilities that are currently being used in the borough including the waste and compost bins. A copy of the presentation is **attached**.

An update was also given about current projects that focused on reducing side waste. Such projects included developing greater awareness of recycling waste for younger residents within the borough by having an increased presence of recycling facilities within schools.

A discussion took place about the feasibility of using kitchen and food waste bins that residents in the borough could use within their homes. Members of the Committee raised concerns about the size of food waste bins and the

practicality of using them within homes. The Committee discussed other current projects proposed by the Sustainability and Leisure Services and raised issues of marketing and promotion to residents. A discussion had also taken place about the effectiveness of current recycling facilities.

The Committee discussed the opportunity to approach major supermarkets within the borough to ascertain information about what they were currently doing about handling waste and packaging and what could be done to improve sustaining recycling within the borough.

**RESOLVED** that the report by the Head of Sustainability and Leisure Services on recycling progress be noted.

### **338/10 CORPORATE DEBT POLICY**

The Committee were presented with information and updates about the corporate approach to debt management and collection by the Assistant Chief Executive, Terry Collier. A discussion took place about the recovery of debts and the current strategies that had been put in place; including setting clear targets to improve the recovery of debts. The Committee raised concerns about the recovery of overdue tax payments from residents and the tracing methods to track absconders.

**RESOLVED** to support the adoption of the corporate debt policy as attached to the report of the Chief Finance Officer for implementation from 01 December 2010.

### **339/10 CABINET FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee received the Cabinet forward plan covering the period up to 15 February 2012.

### **340/10 WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11**

The Chairman reported on the request received from Councillor L.E. Nichols for the Committee to look at the future funding of the Stanwell New Start Scheme and the potential financial impact on the Council.

The Committee noted that the Chairman would continue to review the work programme and identify issues for the committee to look at.

**RESOLVED** that the Stanwell New Start Scheme be added to the work programme.

### **341/10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No notification of further business was received.