

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES
30 MAY 2007**

Present: Councillors Chowney, Dowling, Fawthrop, Smith, Waite
(until 8.10pm), Webb (in the Chair) and Wilson

Apologies were received from Richard Homewood.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following councillors declared an interest in the minutes as indicated:

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Minute</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Lock	3	Personal - Any relating to East Sussex County Council and member of Pebsham Countryside Park Management Board (Target 10 Leisure & Culture)
Smith	3	Personal - on project board for Street Cleansing contract (Target 5 Environment & Safety).
Waite	3	Personal - Any relating to East Sussex County Council and member of Pebsham Countryside Park Management Board (Target 10 Leisure & Culture)
Webb	3	Personal - Any relating to East Sussex County Council
Wilson	3	Personal - Any relating to East Sussex County Council. On project board for Street Cleansing contract (Target 5 Environment & Safety). Lead Member (Targets 2, 3, 7, 9, LPP Shortfalls Target 4 and

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES
30 MAY 2007**

		BV166a Environment & Safety). Member of Fire Authority (Target 10 Environment & Safety).
--	--	--

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2007 be approved as a true record.

3. CORPORATE PLAN PART III - YEAR END PERFORMANCE DATA AND TARGET SETTING TO 2009/10

Jane Hartnell, Policy and Performance Manager presented a report on the 2006-07 end of year performance and target setting to 2009/10.

Members raised questions on the twin bin project, air quality, empty homes and Environmental Health inspections. Members also expressed dissatisfaction regarding the lack of information on failed bin collections. With regard to the Empty Homes Strategy, Richard Peters Corporate Director offered to report the findings of the ongoing review to the committee at a future meeting.

In particular, members were concerned about revised targets resulting from the change from Local Performance Plan to the Corporate Plan. They asked that it be highlighted in future reports where revisions had been made.

Councillor Chowney asked that a Local Performance Indicator be introduced regarding the length of time taken to process Disabled Facilities Grants. Richard Peters replied that performance in this area was good, but grants could only be given in accordance with the amount of money available.

Members asked about progress on the Pebsham Countryside Park and St Leonards Gardens. Also raised was the improvement of access to the Castle. Virginia Gilbert and Martin Etchells said they would report back to the committee on progress of both.

Members also asked for more information regarding Marina Pavilion; Simon Hubbard, Corporate Director said he would report back on this after speaking to Seaspace.

Finally, Councillors Waite and Chowney expressed concern over the funding and implementation of 24 hour CCTV monitoring for a one-year period. They felt that more CCTV monitoring did not, necessarily, deter more people to

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES
30 MAY 2007**

commit crimes. They asked that the committee consider this for a scrutiny review at the annual meeting on 19 June.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. a Scrutiny Review of the effectiveness of CCTV in terms of detection of crime be considered at the annual meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees on 19 June (by 4 vote to 2 with 1 abstention);**
- 2. Members note the information that will form Part III of the Corporate Plan;**
- 3. the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the proposed performance indicator targets for 2007/08 to 2009/10 be referred to the Cabinet meeting on 11th June 2007; and**
- 4. the Overview and Scrutiny Committee thank staff for achieving the targets in the Local Performance Plan.**

4. AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PLANNING POLICY

Councillor Webb introduced the final report on existing affordable housing policy and its relationship with planning policy.

The 2006/2007 Annual Meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committees agreed to incorporate a policy development project on Affordable Housing and Planning Policy in its work programme.

The team consisted of Councillors Poulter (part), Smith, Soan and Webb. Members looked at the effectiveness of existing affordable Local Plan policies, particularly in light of recent Housing Need and Housing Market assessment studies and in advance of the Local Development Framework (LDF) review.

Members raised the issue of whether the report adequately addressed potential demand for key worker accommodation. Also discussed was the importance of social rented accommodation in the town, particularly as it was more secure than privately rented housing.

RESOLVED (by 4 votes to 2) that:

- 1. revised planning policy for affordable housing be considered for adoption through the emerging Local Development Framework; and**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES
30 MAY 2007**

2. **new planning policy for affordable housing be informed by the 10 key recommendations attached at Appendix A of the report.**

5. MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CABINET DECISIONS

Katrina Strong, Scrutiny Officer, presented a report on the recent Cabinet Decisions made since the last formal meeting, highlighting areas that fell within the committee's remit.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.50pm)