

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES  
17 MARCH 2008**

Present: Councillors Chowney, Dowling, Fawthrop, Smith, Waite  
(until 7.30pm), Wilson and Webb (in the Chair)

**24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Minute</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Waite, Wilson and Webb	26	Personal - Any item relating to East Sussex County Council as CC Councillors
Bird and Webb	26 (in relation to any discussion relating to the Foreshore Trust)	Prejudicial - Trustees
Waite	28	Prejudicial - Owns an empty property in the town

**25. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** - that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2008 be approved as a true record.

**26. QUARTER THREE PERFORMANCE**

Jane Hartnell, Head of Policy and Performance, presented the Quarter Three Performance report.

The report detailed performance by exception of Corporate Plan actions, financial performance, Best Value and Local performance Indicators within the Community Well-Being, Environmental Services and Regeneration and Planning Directorates, including Performance Indicators that had exceeded targets, were below target and 'Hothouse' Performance Indicators (including those that were considered to be at risk of poor performance).

As with the Resources Committee, Members discussed the merit of future reporting by exception only, to try and simplify the reporting process. This

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would be explored at a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Chairs after the Borough Elections in May.

Members discussed the report in detail, paying particular attention to building control, capital projects and housing targets. Members also asked that thanks be given to the Community Partnerships team for their work on Community Cohesion and to the waste team for exceeding their 'hothouse' target, BV199a.

There was much discussion on the review of existing performance indicators and proposals for indicators from April 2008. Members' comments were as follows:

- L190 Homes with Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) adaptations - officers to look at a way to keep this target and make measurable;
- Keep L234 % Average capacity per show at White Rock Theatre over L233 Number of people attending White Rock Theatre performances;
- BV218a Percentage of new reports of abandoned vehicles investigated within 24hrs of notification - extend this to untaxed as well as abandoned;
- BV175 The percentage of racial incidents that resulted in further action - would like to keep this indicator;
- L162 % Full plans receiving 14 day response from Building Control and L165 % ongoing work inspected within 3 months by Building Control - would wish to keep, for at least 2008-09 and then reviewed, bearing in mind current concerns;
- BV126a Domestic Burglaries per 1000 households and BV128a Vehicle Crimes per 1000 population - keep both indicators as per 1000, rather than actual crime numbers

**RESOLVED that:**

1. **staff in the Community Well-Being, Environmental Services and Regeneration and Planning Directorates be thanked for their hard work;**
2. **the committee is assured that action is being taken to improve any poor performance identified; and**
3. **the report be noted.**

**27. EAST SUSSEX INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY - PRIDE OF PLACE**

Jane Hartnell, Head of Policy and Performance, presented the final draft of the East Sussex Integrated Community Strategy.

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Members welcomed and endorsed the strategy and asked that their comments be referred to Cabinet as part of the consultation.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**28. FINAL REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT OF NEW EMPTY HOMES  
STRATEGY 2007-2013 POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

Councillor Bird presented the final report on the Development of New Empty Homes Strategy policy development project.

Members asked that those involved in the project be thanked for the work undertaken.

Members welcomed the revised strategy and felt this was a comprehensive document that should be publicised where possible.

**RESOLVED that:**

- 1. the report and action plan be agreed and forwarded on to Cabinet for discussion; and**
- 2. those involved in the project be thanked for the work undertaken.**

**29. ST LEONARDS GARDENS HERITAGE LOTTERY FUNDED  
RESTORATION PROJECT - MEMBERS' UPDATE**

Peter Mead, Amenities Manager and Jane Dodson, Community Development Officer for St Leonards presented an update for members on progress towards the physical restoration of St Leonards Gardens, restoration of South Lodge and the ongoing community development project.

Members asked that all those involved in the restoration and ongoing development work be thanked for their efforts.

**RESOLVED that:**

- 1. the progress of the project and ongoing community development activity be noted;**
- 2. it be noted that Burton's St. Leonards Society is now in occupation of the West Lodge and setting up an exhibition on the ground floor. The Society will provide a range of**

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linked activities, including staffing the Lodge and providing a series of interpretive walks;

3. an opening event is taking place on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2008, celebrating the restoration and promoting the future use of the gardens be noted; and
4. acknowledgements and thanks be extended all those who contributed; especially the Heritage Lottery Fund, who made the project possible.

**30. UPDATE ON SCRUTINY REVIEW OF MAINTAINING AND PROTECTING SEAFRONT/DELIVERY OF SEAFRONT STRATEGY - VERBAL REPORT**

Councillor Chowney gave a verbal update on this review. He explained that the review was nearing its conclusion, although there were still a few outstanding issues to investigate.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**31. UPDATE ON SCRUTINY REVIEW OF CCTV MONITORING AS A CRIME DETERRENT INCLUDING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - VERBAL REPORT**

Councillor Fawthrop gave a verbal update on this review. He explained that the review team had held their initial meeting and agreed the terms of reference and scope of the review. The review team had already decided which groups and organisations they wished to interview, along with a visit to the CCTV control room.

Councillor Fawthrop mentioned to the committee that the name of the review had been changed slightly to 'anti-social behaviour' rather than 'youth nuisance'.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**32. MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CABINET DECISIONS**

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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 8.55pm)