

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR SERVICES
28 MAY 2008**

Present: Councillors Chowney, Fawthrop, M J Lock (as the duly appointed substitute for Councillor Bird), Soan, Wilson and Webb (in the Chair)

Apologies were received from Councillors Bird and Palmer. Apologies were also received from Richard Homewood, Corporate Director of Environmental Services and Andrew Palmer, Head of Housing Services.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Minute</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Fawthrop	2	Personal - Any item relating to Community Partnerships as trustee of Citizens Advice Bureau
Webb and Wilson	2	Personal - Any item relating to East Sussex County Council as CC Councillors
Webb	2	Prejudicial - Any discussion (if raised) on Foreshore Trust as a trustee

2. CORPORATE PLAN PART III - YEAR END PERFORMANCE DATA AND TARGET SETTING TO 2010/11

Jane Hartnell, Head of Policy and Performance, presented the Year-end Performance report.

The report detailed year-end actual performance by the staff in Environmental Services, Regeneration and Planning and Community Well-being Directorates against the targets and milestones set out in Part II of the Corporate Plan for 2007/08.

Members raised issues on crime and fear of crime statistics, recycling trends, museums visits and website hits, food premises inspections, graffiti, penalty

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charge notices and crime reduction. The responsible Corporate Directors and Heads of Services agreed to provide more detailed answers to the committee in writing.

Other issues raised were the East and West Hill Cliff Railways, traveller sites, Marine Parade regeneration and new leisure services within the borough.

Members also asked for an update on the new scheme for reporting racial incidents. They were told that a County scheme was currently being introduced and it was hoped Hastings Borough Council could use this. In the event that the scheme did not meet our needs, a specific scheme for Hastings would be implemented.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. Members note the information that will form Part III of the Corporate Plan;**
- 2. the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the proposed performance indicator targets for 2008/09 to 2010/11 be referred to the Cabinet meeting on 9 June 2008; and**
- 3. the Overview and Scrutiny Committee thank staff for their hard work in achieving the targets in the Corporate Plan.**

3. 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.

Councillor Chowney asked that the report destined for Cabinet on Area Based Grants be brought to this committee prior to Cabinet. Graham Belchamber, Scrutiny and Democratic Services Manager, reminded the committee that when Full Council restructured Overview and Scrutiny in 2006 it shifted the function and its resources away from intercepting individual reports en-route to Cabinet, to completing reviews of services, policy development, monitoring of Council performance and monitoring the implementation of Cabinet decisions. Simon Hubbard, Corporate Director Regeneration and Planning, confirmed that it was expected that the allocation of Area Based Grants would take place over 2 or 3 Cabinet meetings and would be an evolving process rather than a single once off report and suggested that Members consider looking at worklessness as an area of policy development.

Members agreed that the Chairs and Vice Chairs should look at the issue of important reports being seen by Overview and Scrutiny (O&S), should they

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request them. It was also suggested that the committee put forward the idea of a policy development project on worklessness at their annual meeting on 17 June.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm)