

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Wednesday, 29th May, 2013 at 6.00 p.m.
in Committee Room 2, The Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillors A. Ahmed, Blood, Boleyn, Caunt, Hale, Islam, James, Kettle, Marrey, Ridney and Tyler

Officers:-

Assistant Director, Housing Strategy and Private Sector - Lead Officer to the Committee and Mr. J. Jablonski (Directorate of Corporate Resources)

Also in Attendance:-

Councillor Harley

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED

That Councillor Ridney be elected Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for the 2013/14 Municipal Year.

Councillor Ridney (Chair)

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED

That Councillor Tyler be appointed Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for the 2013/14 Municipal Year.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No member declared an interest in any matter to be considered at this meeting.

A joint report of the Lead Officer and the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on the Terms of Reference of the Board, following the review of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny arrangements, and on the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme 2013/14. The Terms of Reference of the Board, and of the five Scrutiny Committees appointed in 2013/14, were attached as Appendix 1 to the report submitted and the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2013/14 was attached as Appendix 2 to the report submitted.

Following opening remarks by the Chair on the background to the development of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny arrangements, as set out in the report submitted, Members asked a number of questions and made comments with particular reference to the call-in arrangements referred to in the Terms of Reference of the Board and to items considered by the former Scrutiny Committees which were considered to be outstanding and required further consideration.

Further detailed discussion also ensued on how the areas for scrutiny by the individual Scrutiny Committees, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report submitted, were to be undertaken and in this regard reference was made to the informal development sessions that would be held following the conclusion of formal business at the first meetings of the Scrutiny Committees.

It was emphasised that it was up to each Scrutiny Committee as to how it went about considering the areas for scrutiny allocated to it with the aim of producing a report at a future meeting of the Committee. It was also noted that each Scrutiny Committee could determine its own in-house training requirements.

In relation to the process to be undertaken, the Lead Officer undertook to set out in diagrammatic form the basic process that could be undertaken for carrying out scrutiny of the areas indicated.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Terms of Reference of the Board, and of the five Scrutiny Committees appointed in 2013/14, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted, be noted.
- (2) That the draft Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2013/14, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report submitted, be approved and adopted for consideration by the Council's Scrutiny Committees.

- (3) That Democratic Services circulate, by e-mail, to all Members of the Board, clarification of the call-in arrangements and who can call-in a matter.
 - (4) That a Special Meeting of the Board be held at a date and time to be determined in July, 2013 to give consideration as to how outstanding issues considered by the former Scrutiny Committees are to be dealt with.
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FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on the Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the four-month period commencing the 1st June, 2013, attached as Appendix 1 to the report submitted.

Following consideration of the content of Appendix 1 to the report submitted, it was

RESOLVED

That the report submitted on the Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the four-month period commencing 1st June, 2013, be referred to the Council's five Scrutiny Committees with a request that they inform the Board of any items that they would wish to scrutinise so that further consideration can be given to this matter by the Board at a future meeting.

The meeting ended at 7.13 p.m.

CHAIR