

SCRUTINY COMMISSION
22ND JUNE 2010

PRESENT: Councillor M. Hunt (Chair)
Councillor J. Hunt (Vice-chair)
Councillors Burr, Edwards, K. Jones, Jukes,
Miah, Seaton and Shepherd

APOLOGY: Councillor Walker

The Interim Chief Executive attended in the role of Lead Director for the Commission.

9. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

10. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No disclosures of personal interest were made.

11. DECLARATIONS – THE PARTY WHIP

No declarations of the existence of the Party Whip were made.

12. SCRUTINY REVIEW PROPOSALS

The report of the Interim Chief Executive on this matter to be considered by Council on 28th June 2010 was submitted (item 5 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

The Head of Democratic Services and the Standards and Monitoring Officer attended to assist the Commission.

RESOLVED that the following **be recommended to Council** in respect of the Scrutiny Review proposals:

- I. that subject to the additional suggestions bulleted below, the new scrutiny structure described in the report and in Appendix 2 be approved and be implemented from July 2010;
 - that the Policy Scrutiny Group have responsibility for initiating Panels to carry out the Scrutiny Work Programme, as agreed by the Scrutiny Management Board, and monitoring the progress of their works through to their conclusion;

- that Assistant Commissioners, in addition to Commissioners, be permitted to take on the role of Panel Chair;
 - that for the purpose of clarity the third sentence in the paragraph headed 'Performance Scrutiny Panel' be amended to read '*Rather than only examining historical data, the new Panel should concern itself with how improvements can be made.*';
2. that appointments be made to the Scrutiny Management Board and Overview Scrutiny Group;
 3. that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive to appoint to other scrutiny groups outlined in the report; and
 4. that a report proposing the detailed constitutional changes required to implement the new scrutiny structure and to confirm appointments to the new scrutiny bodies be submitted to Council on 13th September 2010.

Reasons

1, 2, 3 & 4. *Following the introduction of new legislation and comments made by external agencies on the Council's current scrutiny structure, to review existing arrangements and propose a new structure and working arrangements.*

13. SCRUTINY PROGRAMME

A report of the Deputy Director of Programmes and Resources was submitted setting out the Commission's Scrutiny Programme following its last meeting and the current Forward Plan of Key Decisions, in order to schedule the Commission's Scrutiny Programme for future meetings, or programme matters onto other scrutiny committee agendas, where appropriate (item 6 on the agenda filed with these minutes).

RESOLVED

1. that the report not be considered;
2. that, should Council agree the proposed new Scrutiny arrangements at their meeting on 28th June 2010, it be recommended that a senior officer write to partner agencies to inform them, to thank them for their contribution to the work of previous committees, to encourage their participation in the new structure, and where appropriate, to apologise for any inconvenience caused by the cancellation of meetings.

Reasons

1. *In light of the review of scrutiny arrangements to be considered by Council on 28th June 2010 consideration of the report was seen as superfluous;*
2. *To show courtesy to partner agencies and to successfully manage the transitional period.*

NOTES:

1. No reference may be made to these minutes at Council on 13th September 2010 unless notice to that effect is given to the Head of Democratic Services by five members of the Council no later than five working days following the publication of the minutes.
2. These minutes are subject to confirmation as a correct record of the Commission's decisions (at the next meeting of the Commission).