

## **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** **Thursday, 31st August, 2006**

**Place:** Civic Offices, High Street, Epping

**Room:** Council Chamber

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Democratic Services Officer:** Simon Hill, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
email: [shill@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:shill@eppingforestdc.gov.uk) Tel: 01992 564249

**Members:**

Councillors R Morgan (Chairman), Mrs J H Whitehouse (Vice-Chairman), D Bateman, M Cohen, M Colling, R D'Souza, Mrs H Harding, P House, G Mohindra, Mrs P Richardson and M Woollard

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS TO ATTEND**

**A PRE – MEETING BRIEFING WILL BE HELD AT 7.00 PM IN COMMITTEE ROOM 1 FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

(Head of Research and Democratic Services). To report the appointment of any substitute members for the meeting.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

(Head of Research and Democratic Services). To declare interests in any items on the agenda.

In considering whether to declare a personal or a prejudicial interest under the Code of Conduct, Overview & Scrutiny members are asked pay particular attention to paragraph 11 of the Code in addition to the more familiar requirements.

This requires the declaration of a personal and prejudicial interest in any matter before

an OS Committee which relates to a decision of or action by another Committee or Sub Committee of the Council, a Joint Committee or Joint Sub Committee in which the Council is involved and of which the Councillor is also a member.

Paragraph 11 does not refer to Cabinet decisions or attendance at an OS meeting purely for the purpose of answering questions or providing information on such a matter.

**4. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 18)**

**Decisions required:**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6 July 2006.

**5. LIAISON WITH CABINET**

**Recommendation:**

**To consider a presentation from the Leader of the Cabinet on its plans for 2006/07.**

(Head of Research and Democratic Services). The Leader of the Cabinet, Councillor Mrs D Collins, is to attend this meeting to present the Cabinet's plans for this year.

This will enable the Committee to put questions to the Leader about the work of the Executive and determine whether any items should be selected for pre decision scrutiny.

A work programme for each Portfolio has been produced and will follow.

**6. DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITHIN THE EPPING FOREST DISTRICT - PRESENTATION (Pages 19 - 30)**

**Recommendation:**

**To receive a presentation from Lonica VanClay, the Local Commissioner for Children and Young Peoples Services for the District.**

(Joint Chief Executive (Community). Lonica VanClay, the Local Commissioner for Children's and Young Peoples Services for the Epping Forest District will give a presentation on her role in the identification of and the commissioning of services for children and young people in the 0-19 age range.

The Government's vision for children's services was set out in a green paper "Every Child Matters" published in September 2003. It proposed reshaping children's services to help achieve the outcomes children and young people themselves had identified as a key to well being in childhood and later life. These being:

- be healthy
- stay safe
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution

- achieve economic well-being

The Department for Education and Skills produced non-statutory guidance on the role of District Councils in Improving outcomes for children. A copy of that guidance is attached.

The role of the Local Commissioner is to provide capacity to local Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnerships (CYPSP's) to ensure partners are able to work collectively and collaboratively and to ensure the CYPSP is effective.

The Epping Forest CYPSP was formed about three years ago and comprises a large number of partnership agencies. Its current chair is a representative from the Epping Forest Primary Care Trust. The District Council is represented by officers from Housing and Leisure Services.

However, the structure of the CYPSP is likely to change as Lonica will cover in her presentation. District Council Members may be asked to join in the partnership.

## **7. WORK PROGRAMME MONITORING (Pages 31 - 46)**

### **(a) Updated Schedule/Progress Reports**

The Committee is asked to note the updated schedule. To facilitate this Panel Chairmen are asked to attend the meeting to report any significant issues arising from their work not reported elsewhere.

### **(b) Task and Finish Panels – Terms of Reference**

At the last meeting, the Committee verbally received and considered the Terms of References for the new Task and Finish Panels. Having discussed the issues in some depth, the Committee is now requested to formally endorse the proposals which are attached.

## **8. CABINET REVIEW**

### **Recommendation:**

**To consider any items to be raised by the Chairman at the Cabinet meeting on 4 September 2006.**

(Head of Research and Democratic Services). The Committee is asked to consider the 4 September 2006 Cabinet agenda (previously circulated) to identify any items to be raised by the Chairman of the Committee at the Cabinet meeting.

## 9. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

**Exclusion:** To consider whether, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for the items of business set out below on grounds that they will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the following paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended) or are confidential under Section 100(A)(2):

| Agenda Item No | Subject | Exempt Information Paragraph Number |
|----------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Nil            | Nil     | Nil                                 |

The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, which came into effect on 1 March 2006, requires the Council to consider whether maintaining the exemption listed above outweighs the potential public interest in disclosing the information. Any member who considers that this test should be applied to any currently exempted matter on this agenda should contact the proper officer at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

**Confidential Items Commencement:** Paragraph 9 of the Council Procedure Rules contained in the Constitution require:

- (1) All business of the Council requiring to be transacted in the presence of the press and public to be completed by 10.00 p.m. at the latest.
- (2) At the time appointed under (1) above, the Chairman shall permit the completion of debate on any item still under consideration, and at his or her discretion, any other remaining business whereupon the Council shall proceed to exclude the public and press.
- (3) Any public business remaining to be dealt with shall be deferred until after the completion of the private part of the meeting, including items submitted for report rather than decision.

**Background Papers:** Paragraph 8 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules of the Constitution define background papers as being documents relating to the subject matter of the report which in the Proper Officer's opinion:

- (a) disclose any facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the report is based; and
- (b) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing the report and does not include published works or those which disclose exempt or confidential information (as defined in Rule 10) and in respect of executive reports, the advice of any political advisor.

Inspection of background papers may be arranged by contacting the officer responsible for the item.