

Scrutiny Standing Panel Agenda



Environmental and Planning Services Standing Scrutiny Panel Monday, 26th June, 2006

Place: Civic Offices, High Street, Epping

Time: 7.30 pm

Democratic Services Officer: Z Folley - Research and Democratic Services
Tel: 01992 564532 Email: zfolley@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Members:

Councillors Mrs P Smith (Chairman), D Kelly (Vice-Chairman), D Bateman, Mrs D Borton, Mrs A Cooper, D Jacobs, A Lee, G Mohindra, Mrs P Richardson, Mrs L Wagland and J Wyatt

<p>PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS TO ATTEND</p>

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (COUNCIL MINUTE 39 - 23.7.02)

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

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

(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. NOTES OF LAST MEETING - 13 APRIL 2006 (Pages 5 - 8)

Attached.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE / WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 9 - 12)

(Chairman/Lead Officer) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed the Terms of Reference of this Panel and associated Work Programme. This is attached. The Panel are asked at each meeting to review both documents.

The OSC has asked the Panel to review policy on wheeled bins and the recycling of aluminium foil. A form on this is attached. The Panel now needs to consider how this is to be undertaken.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS - DISCUSSION WITH POLICE AND EASTERN WARDEN RESOURCE CENTRE (Pages 13 - 52)

Recommendation:

To receive a presentation from Inspector Glenn Mayes of Essex Police and Ms Jane Brooker - Wood of the Eastern Warden Resource Centre on the Neighbourhood Warden initiative.

(Joint Chief Executive Community/Head of Environmental Services). Members will recall that the Panel has previously considered the implications of the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 and the linked issue of Fixed Penalty Notices. This discussion has particularly focused on whether a Neighbourhood Warden Service should be implemented in the District and the measures they may carry out.

As requested at the last meeting on 13 April 2006, Glenn Mayes of Essex Police has been invited to this meeting to discuss Police experience with Neighbourhood Wardens, the scheme generally and any views that they may have on the Council employing wardens. His presentation will also report on the issue of Fixed Penalty Notices, the work of Community Police Support Offices and whether they could be used to issue notices and how such arrangements might work.

To report a further perspective, Ms Jane Brooker – Wood will be in attendance to advise on the views of the Eastern Warden Resource Centre. She will report examples of schemes elsewhere specifically in Essex, successes and failures, lessons learnt and some suggestions regarding schemes which may be visited to speak to elected Members and Officers, the Wardens themselves and local residents.

This session is designed to provide an insight into the issues and an opportunity to ask questions.

To support the above, attached is a report and scrutiny request form submitted by Councillor Mrs J Whitehouse. Also enclosed is background information on the Neighbourhood Warden Scheme. This information was circulated with the April 2006

agenda however has been reproduced for the benefit of those Members who are new to this Panel.

A copy of the related consultation document for the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 which was considered by the Panel in December of last year is available in the Members Room to place the review in context.

7. WEST ESSEX AREA WASTE MANAGEMENT JOINT COMMITTEE - DECISION SUMMARIES (Pages 53 - 56)

To consider the attached decision summaries for the meetings of the Joint Committee held on 26 April and 31 May 2006.

8. RE - USE OF BUILDINGS IN GREEN BELT.

To consider the information to follow.

9. REPORTS TO BE MADE TO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

To consider which reports are ready to be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its next meeting.

10. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Panel will be held on 29 August 2006 at 7.30 pm in Committee Room 1 and then on 30 October, 19 December 2006, 26 February and 26 April 2007.