

## **Scrutiny Standing Panel Agenda**



### **Constitution and Members Services Scrutiny Standing Panel Monday, 4th December, 2006**

**Place:** Committee Room 1

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Democratic Services Officer:** Zoe Folley, Research and Democratic Services  
Tel: 01992 564532 Email: zfolley@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

**Members:**

Councillors R Morgan (Chairman), M Cohen (Vice-Chairman), Mrs P Brooks, R Church, R D'Souza, J Demetriou, Mrs A Haigh, J Markham, Mrs P Richardson, Mrs P Smith and Mrs L Wagland

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**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 THE LAST MEETING (Pages 5 - 8)**

Attached.

**5. WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 9 - 10)**

Attached.

**6. AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (Pages 11 - 20)**

**Recommendation:**

**To express views on the attached report which was considered by the Finance and Performance Management Cabinet Committee on 20 November 2006.**

(Chief Internal Auditor). The Finance and Performance Management Cabinet Committee is recommending to the Cabinet that a report be submitted to the Council proposing the establishment of an Audit and Governance Committee based on the model described in the report and appendix, subject to members of the new Committee not also being members of the Cabinet, any Cabinet Committee or any panel appointed by the Overview and Scrutiny with responsibility for reviewing the Council's finances or financial procedures.

The Finance and Performance Cabinet Committee is of the view that by imposing any further restrictions on membership of the Audit and Governance Committee as originally proposed, ie. excluding all members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it might be difficult to appoint sufficient members to the new Committee with the necessary experience.

The recommendation in the report refers to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee reporting to the Council but it is now proposed that the Cabinet will report on this matter with the views of this Panel being included in the report of the Cabinet to the Council.

**7. REVIEW OF AREA PLANS SUB COMMITTEES - FURTHER REPORT**

(Head of Research & Democratic Services). To consider the report to follow on the five options for future Area plans Sub Committees as discussed at the last meeting.

**8. COMPLAINTS AGAINST COUNCILLORS (Pages 21 - 24)**

(Head of Research & Democratic Services) To consider the attached Cabinet report on the possibility of extending insurance cover under the Zurich Municipal Councillors' Group Legal Protection Policy.

**9. MEMBER TRAINING REVIEW**

To consider the results of member consultation to follow.

**10. 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.

**11. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next programmed meetings of the Panel will be held on

6 February 2007

2 April 2007