## Scrutiny Standing Panel Agenda



# Planning Services Scrutiny Standing Panel Tuesday, 8th September, 2009

Place: Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping

**Time**: 7.30 pm

**Democratic Services** Mark Jenkins - Office of the Chief Executive

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Members:

Councillors Mrs L Wagland (Chairman), K Chana (Vice-Chairman), A Boyce, M Colling, Mrs A Cooper, R Frankel, Mrs A Haigh, J Hart, Mrs C Pond, W Pryor, Mrs P Richardson and H Ulkun

## A BRIEFING FOR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PANEL WILL BE HELD AT 7.00 PM PRIOR TO THE MEETING

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

## 2. SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(Assistant to the Chief Executive). To report the appointment of any substitute members for the meeting.

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Assistant to the Chief Executive). To declare interests in any items of the agenda.

In considering whether to declare a personal or a prejudicial interest under the Code of Conduct, Overview and Scrutiny members are asked to 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 Overview and Scrutiny 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 Overview and Scrutiny meeting purely for the purpose of answering questions or providing information on such a matter.

## 4. NOTES FROM THE LAST MEETING (Pages 5 - 22)

To agree the notes of the last meeting held on 8 June 2009 (attached).

## 5. TERMS OF REFERENCE (Pages 23 - 24)

The Terms of Reference are attached.

## 6. WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 25 - 28)

The Work Programme is attached.

## 7. BUILDING CONTROL (Pages 29 - 36)

(Director of Planning and Economic Development). To consider the attached report.

The Building Control report was deferred from the last meeting of the Panel.

## 8. BIRCHWOOD ESTATE FIRE (Pages 37 - 48)

(Deputy Chief Executive). The Safer, Cleaner, Greener Panel discussed the issues surrounding the fires at the Birchwood Estate, Hoe Lane, Nazeing, at their meeting on 23 July 2009. They have referred their views to this Panel. Attached is a copy of the notes from that meeting, a proposed letter to residents living locally to the estate, regarding the fires and a suggested Questions and Answers response to the residents.

## 9. IMPROVEMENT PLAN (Pages 49 - 56)

(Director of Planning and Economic Development). To note the attached Improvement Plan. The Plan was deferred from the last meeting of the Panel.

## 10. BEST VALUE REVIEW

(Director of Planning and Economic Development). To receive an update report on the Best Value Review. (Report to follow).

#### 11. STAFFING UPDATE

To receive a verbal report from the Director of Planning and Economic Development on the current staffing situation within the directorate.

## 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

## 13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next programmed meeting of the panel is on 10 November 2009 and thereafter on:

5 January 2010; 11 February; and 27 March