

Scrutiny Standing Panel Agenda



Constitution and Members Services Scrutiny Standing Panel Thursday, 17th March, 2011

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

Time: 7.30 pm

Democratic Services Officer: I Willett - The Office of the Chief Executive
Tel: 01992 564243 Email: iwillett@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Members:

Councillors Mrs M McEwen (Chairman), K Chana (Vice-Chairman), R Cohen, Ms C Edwards, Ms J Hedges, J Markham, J Philip, Mrs M Sartin, D Stallan, Mrs J Sutcliffe and Mrs J H Whitehouse

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 3 - 8)

To agree the notes of the last Panel meeting held on 15 February 2011.

3. SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (COUNCIL MINUTE 39 - 23.7.02)

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

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

(Assistant to the Chief Executive). 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.

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 is about to formulate next years OS work plan incorporating a programme for this Panel. In view of this, the Panel may wish to bring forward suggestions/ideas on topics for inclusion in its work programme for next year.

6. MEMBER TRAINING REVIEW

(Assistant to the Chief Executive) Report to follow.

7. CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS (Pages 13 - 20)

(Assistant to the Chief Executive) To consider the attached report.

8. OFFICER DELEGATION (Pages 21 - 26)

(Assistant to the Chief Executive) To consider the attached report.

9. REFERENDUM FOR AN ELECTED MAYOR (Pages 27 - 76)

The Panel asked for an information report on the process for petitioning for and polling for an Elected Mayor.

A copy of the latest advice from the Government Department concerned is attached. It is understood that the localism Bill (currently before Parliament) may enhance the powers of communities to petition in other ways but this may not affect the current process for Elected Mayors.

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

This is the last meeting of the Panel for this current year. There are provisional dates for next Council year which await confirmation at the Council meeting on 2 June 2011. There dates are as follows:

30 August;
22 November; and
28 February