

# **Report to Council**

**Date of meeting: 30 June 2009**

**Subject: OS report to Council – June 2009**

**Officer contact for further information: Cllr R Morgan**

**Committee Secretary: Adrian Hendry, ext.4246**

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## **Recommendation:**

**That the Overview and Scrutiny progress report from May 2009 to the present be noted.**

## **Report.**

### **The main Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009 Meeting:**

1. The meeting was due to receive a presentation from London Underground but unfortunately they had to cancel at the last minute. It is hoped to get them back later in the year.

2. The Committee received a report on the recent Forester consultation exercise. This was undertaken as part of the Customer Transformation Task and Finish Panel's work programme. Just over 300 residents had responded to the survey with three focus groups also being held. It was noted that the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) were interested in using part of the publication to publicise their work in the district. The Committee noted the outcome of the consultation and recommended to Cabinet that the proposals outlined in the report on the future of the Forester be agreed and that officers negotiate with the LSP so that the Forester could provide a platform for them within the district.

3. The Committee also received a report from the Leisure Task and Finish Panel on the provision of a sports hall at Waltham Abbey Swimming Pool. After debating the outcome of the Panel's deliberations on the merits of bringing to an end the current Joint Use Agreement with King Harold School and building a new sports hall at the Waltham Abbey Swimming Pool, the Committee agreed to recommend to the Cabinet that a feasibility study be undertaken and that Cabinet be requested to make the necessary capital provision.

4. The Committee then went on to agree to set up a new Task and Finish Panel on the Pitt Review on Flood defences; to disband the current leisure Task and Finish Panel and put their unfinished work into the Safer Cleaner Greener Standing Scrutiny Panel; and to disband the current Customer Transformation Task and Finish Panel and put the remainder of its work into the current Finance and Performance Management Standing Scrutiny Panel.

### **Standing Panels**

5. Five Standing Panels have been re-constituted this year, each have a rolling programme that consider ongoing cyclical issues and are comprised of:

- i) The Housing Standing Panel under the Chairmanship of Councillor S Murray;
- ii) The Constitution and Members Services Standing Panel chaired by Councillor Mrs McEwen;
- iii) The Finance and Performance Management Standing Panel chaired by Councillor D Jacobs;
- iv) The Safer Cleaner Greener Standing Panel chaired by Councillor B Rolfe; and
- v) The Planning Services Standing Panel chaired by Councillor Mrs Wagland.

6. The Housing Standing Panel has still to have their first meeting this year and so does the Constitution and Member Services Standing panel.

7. The Safer Cleaner Greener Standing Panel, the Planning Services Standing Panel and the Finance and Performance Management Stand Panel will be meeting just before this Council's meeting to sort out their work programmes for the coming year.

### **Task and Finish Panels**

8. The Customer Transformation and the Leisure Task and Finish Panels have now been wound up and their remaining work loads have been moved to the Finance and Performance Management Standing Panel and the Safer Cleaner Greener Standing Panel respectively.

9. A new Task and Finish Panel, under the chairmanship of Councillor Mrs Grigg, looking at the Pitt review on Flood Defences for the district has now been established,