

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 2 JULY 2008 AT 4.00PM
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Mawle, D.L. (Chairman)
Yates, Ms. W. (Vice-Chairman)

Ansell, Mrs. P.A. Jillings, J.
Bernard, J. Thomas, D.

Staffordshire County Council Co-opted Member – Dixon, D.I.

(An apology for absence was received from Councillor C.W.J. Morgan)

The Chairman welcomed the County Council Member, Councillor D.I. Dixon, to the meeting.

1. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Performance and Partnerships Select Committee held on 14 April 2008 be received for information.

Clarification was sought as to when the information detailed in Minute 27 (C) would be reported to the Sub Committee on the basis that it was understood that there were new arrangements for collecting recyclables and that cardboard would no longer be collected in the brown bin. The Chairman advised that the report on brown bin collections would be submitted to the meeting on 27 August 2008.

2. Role and Remit of the Performance and Partnerships Scrutiny Sub Committee

Members noted Enclosure 4.1- 4.2 which outlined the role and remit of the Scrutiny and Policy Development Committees.

3. Work Programme 2008-09

Consideration was given to the Work Programme of the Sub Committee for 2008-09.

Natasha Swan, Executive Assistant, advised Members that meetings of the Sub Committee had been scheduled as follows:

- Wednesday 27 August 2008
- Wednesday 8 October 2008
- Wednesday 19 November 2008
- Wednesday 14 January 2009
- Wednesday 11 February 2009
- Wednesday 18 March 2009

She explained that quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports containing information on the new Performance Indicators would be submitted to the meetings on 27 August 2008, 19 November 2008 and 11 February 2009. Any issues identified at these meetings would be considered at the next scheduled meeting.

The Sub Committee noted that the report on brown bin collections would be submitted to the meeting on 27 August, 2008.

Members were asked to consider whether they wished to receive performance progress reports against action plans of inspections that had been undertaken. It was explained that relevant officers would be invited to attend the meetings when the action plans were being considered.

Members requested that a list of action plans of inspections undertaken be submitted to the next meeting so that consideration could be given to which topics to discuss at future meetings.

RESOLVED:

That the Work Programme of the Performance and Partnerships Scrutiny Sub Committee for 2008-09 include the following items:

27 August 2008

- Quarter 1 Performance Monitoring Report
- Report on brown bin collections
- Consideration of the list of action plans of inspections undertaken

19 November 2008

- Quarter 2 Performance Monitoring Report

11 February 2009

- Quarter 3 Performance Monitoring Report

4. Best Value Performance Indicator Outturn 2007/08

The Chairman advised that at the Scrutiny Committee on 26 June 2008 Members had resolved to refer the Best Value Performance Indicator Outturn 2007/08 report to a future meeting of the Performance and Partnerships Scrutiny Sub Committee. He had agreed to this matter being considered as an urgent item in order to avoid confusion at the next meeting when Members would be receiving the first quarter report outlining the new Performance Indicators and these would be different to the current Best Value Performance Indicators.

Information outlining the Best Value Performance Outturn 2007/08 was then circulated to Members and the Executive Assistant gave an overview of the figures.

Concern was raised with regard to Performance Indicator 170(b) relating to the number of visits to and use of Museums and Galleries (in person) per 1,000 population. It was explained that this figure included school visits and visits from people both within the District and outside of the District and this equated to 45,000 visitors. Members considered that this figure was particularly high and asked whether any local indicators were available. The Executive Assistant advised that she would investigate whether the Museum of Cannock Chase recorded any local indicators and enquire as to the background of the calculation regarding Performance Indicator 170 (b) and advise Members accordingly.

Members were also advised that there was an error in the information that had been circulated and were asked to note that Performance Indicator 109(b) had actually achieved its target.

Members then discussed Performance Indicator 84(a) relating to the kilograms of household waste collected per head. Les Trigg, Deputy Chief Executive explained that recycling figures for the District were good and this indicator gave a confusing picture as the figure included both recycling and waste collected by households. The Executive Assistant advised that this issue would shortly be resolved as the new Performance Indicator from 1 April 2008 would relate only to household waste collected and not recycled waste.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the information outlining the Best Value Performance Indicator Outturn for 2007/08 be noted.
- (B) That Members of the Sub Committee be informed of the background of the calculation regarding Performance Indicator 170(b) and be advised whether the Museum of Cannock Chase recorded any local indicators.

5. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 2 and 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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6. Leisure Service Reviews

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Director of Governance (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.3 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Chairman advised that the report authors, Judith Aupers, Head of Governance and VFM and Philip Lloyd-Williams, Director of Governance, were unable to attend the meeting.

Member considered that the report did not address the concerns raised at the previous meeting regarding the significant overspend at the leisure facilities.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that following the concerns raised by Members at the previous meeting, it had been agreed that the report on the Value for Money Review of Leisure Services be submitted to this meeting in order for Members to determine whether any further action was necessary. He suggested that the Head of Governance and VFM, the Director of Governance and Head of Financial Management should be invited to attend the next meeting to explain the report in more detail. Members could then determine whether any further work to address the concerns regarding the significant overspend at the leisure facilities would be required.

Members requested that they be provided with information outlining how the significant overspend had been agreed, how the monitoring of the overspend had slipped and what mechanisms were in place to address overspending.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Head of Governance and VFM, the Director of Governance and Head of Financial Management be invited to attend the next meeting to explain the Value for Money Review of Leisure Services Report in more detail.
- (B) That the Sub Committee be provided with information at the next meeting outlining how the significant overspend at the leisure facilities had been agreed, how the monitoring of the overspend had slipped and what mechanisms were in place to address overspending.

CHAIRMAN