

Time commenced - 6.00 pm  
Time finished - 7.05 pm

**SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
6 MARCH 2007**

Present: Councillor Higginbottom (in the Chair)  
Councillors Berry, Care, Carr, Jackson, Jones, MacDonald, and  
Turner.

**92/06 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allen, Dhindsa and Samra.

**93/06 Late items introduced by the Chair**

In accordance with Section 100(B) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to admit the following late item on the grounds that they could not wait until the next meeting.

- Street Lighting PFI

**94/06 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**95/06 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**Items for Discussion**

**96/06 Derby Street Lighting PFI Approval of Final Business Case and Commercial and Financial Close**

The Commission considered a report which would be considered at Council Cabinet at its meeting on 20 March 2007. The report sought approval of the Final Business Case and Commercial and Financial Close for the Derby Street Lighting PFI.

The Report was presented to the Commission as a late report but no one attended the meeting to present the report or answer members' questions.

Members nevertheless discussed the report and asked that the following points be made to the Cabinet member and the appropriate officers:

1. SMC members were disappointed that no one attended the SMC meeting on 6 March to explain the proposals contained in the report and answer members'

questions.

2. Members were concerned that the proposals do not seem to include any provision to install lighting in unlit areas where there has been a request for lighting and an actual need has been confirmed.
3. Members queried the ongoing maintenance costs of street lighting installed by developers on new developments. They and asked how the maintenance of the street lighting installed by developers would be paid for and whether these maintenance costs will be included in the PFI.
4. Members also asked about the proposals to deal with increasing energy costs and wondered what action would be taken if at a point in the future the Council found itself unable to meet the cost of providing energy to operate the street lights.

It was agreed that the Co-ordination officer would present these queries to the appropriate officer and that the response would be circulated to members of the Commission electronically.

The street lighting PFI would also be considered by Environment Commission at its meeting on 26 March and Scrutiny Management Commission members who had further queries about the proposals would be able to attend that meeting and with the permission of the Chair ask questions then.

**Resolved to ask the Co-ordination Officer to present the queries to the appropriate officer and circulate the response to Members of the Commission electronically.**

## 97/06      Performance Eye

**No items were selected for consideration at a future meeting**

## 98/06      Retrospective Scrutiny

**Resolved not to select any items for retrospective scrutiny.**

## 99/06      Estates Rental Income

The Commission considered a report on Estates rental income 2006/07. It was noted that on current estimates a shortfall was indicated of approximately £43,000. This position was due to vacancies in properties and the time taken to relet those properties plus the non renewal of leases and licences.

**Resolved**

1. **To note the report.**
2. **To request a base budget review report as soon as it available.**

## 100/06 Accommodation Strategy Review

The Commission considered a report which updated the Commission on the latest position with the accommodation review.

### **Resolved**

- 1. To note the report.**
- 2. To request a further report at a future meeting.**

## 101/06 Your Derby

The Commission considered a report on the perceptions of the winter 2007 edition of 'Your Derby'. The following comment was made by an individual Commission members, the introduction should be by a neutral figure rather than a politician

**Resolved to request a report on feedback at the appropriate time.**

## 102/06 Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions 2006/07

The Commission considered the draft annual report to Council on the workings of Overview and Scrutiny Commissions. It was suggested that a sentence be added to say that whilst this year Commissions had focussed on topic reviews that next year there would be a particular focus on performance management.

**Resolved to note the report.**

## 103/06 Identification and Agreement of Scrutiny Procedures to Assist with Performance Management/Monitoring

The Commission considered a report which stated that the purpose of the Council's Performance Management Strategy was to achieve an effective and fully integrated performance management framework which was underpinned by an embedded performance management culture. Overview and Scrutiny Commissions had a clearly defined performance monitoring role and since 2004 performance eye has been included as a standing item on Commission agendas. However there was an imbalance between scrutiny and policy development (topic reviews).

To address the situation it was suggested that the Scrutiny Management Commission conduct a short focussed scrutiny review possibly in late March 2007 to identify methods that the Commissions could use to effectively monitor performance and the time/resources that would be needed to implement these methods and set out a performance monitoring programme for the Commissions for the coming year.

**Resolved to conduct a short focussed review with the aim of identifying methods that the Commissions could use to effectively monitor performance and the time/resources that would be needed to implement these methods and set out a performance monitoring programme for the Commissions for the coming**

**administrative year.**

## **104/06 Work Plan – Approval of Final Report and Recommendations**

The Commission considered a report which stated that the Review of Electoral Registration was completed in December 2006 and the draft report and recommendations were considered by Commission members on 5 February 2007. Amendments suggested by the Commission members had been incorporated into the final version of the report. Electoral Registration falls within the area of responsibility of full Council rather than Council Cabinet so it would be necessary to report the outcomes of the review and the Commission's recommendations to a future Council meeting.

### **Resolved**

- 1. To approve the final report and recommendations arising from the Commission's review of Electoral Registration.**
- 2. To report the outcomes and recommendations arising from the review to Council.**

## **105/06 Council Cabinet Forward Plan**

The Commission examined the items on the Forward Plan which were relevant to the Commission's remit. The Commission noted the item 38/06 Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership Inward Investment Strategy would now be considered at a future date.

**Resolved not to request any items.**

## **106/06 Responses from Council Cabinet to any Reports of the Commission**

The Commission considered a response from Council Cabinet to the Budget Scrutiny.

**Resolved to note the report.**

## **107/06 Matters referred to the Commission by Council Cabinet**

There were none.

Chair of the next ensuing meeting  
at which these minutes were signed