



Minutes

Name of meeting	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date and time	2 AUGUST 2007, 6.00 PM
Venue	COMMITTEE ROOM 1, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Vanessa Churchman (Vice Chairman in the Chair), Anne Bishop, Ivan Bulwer, William Burt, Heather Humby, Lady Pigot, Diana Tuson, Margaret Webster
Co-opted Members (voting)	Mrs Sue Poston, Mr Charles Rogers
Parent Governor Members (voting)	Mr Adrian Smith
Officers Present	Mr Paul Bakewell, Mr Mark Howell, Miss Andrea Lisseter, Mrs Claire Robertson, Mr Paul Thistlewood
Other Members Present	Cllrs Dawn Cousins, Brian Mosdell, David Pugh, Andy Sutton, David Williams
Apologies	Mr Bob Blezzard, Cllr Barbara Foster, Cllr Geoff Lumley, Mrs Sara Sheath

26. **Minutes**

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [12 June 2007](#) be confirmed.

27. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Webster declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in Minute 29 as she was the Champion for Older People and Minutes 31 as she had daughters in the education system.

Cllr Bulwer declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in Minute 29 as he was the Chair of Abbeyfield Homes.

28. **Public Question Time**

There were no public questions.

29. **Supporting People Programme**

The Committee received an update report and presentation from the Head of Housing and Community Support on the Supporting People Programme. The Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Supporting People also attended for this item.

The Committee were provided with information on the purpose and operation of the Supporting People Programme, how the programme assisted Island residents, and how clients could access the services.

Members were informed that Supporting People was a programme driven by central government to enable vulnerable people to remain living in their homes independently. The programme was run in partnership between the Isle of Wight Council, Isle of Wight NHS PCT, and the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Probation Service.

The Committee was informed that the role of the supporting people team was to manage contracts with service providers to deliver services helping clients to claim benefits, budget effectively, learn domestic or social skills, obtain advice on home improvements, be informed about services, and avoid and resolve neighbour disputes.

Members were updated on work that had been achieved over the past year and work that was still to be completed. Some of the work currently being undertaken included raising the awareness of the programme, reviewing the referral process, ensuring service users and front line workers were more involved in the design of services, ensuring the most appropriate services for the local community were being funded, developing a handyperson service, developing web based information exchange, and working closely with other agencies to find ways of tackling antisocial behaviour issues.

Members were informed that the Supporting People Service was now providing more services despite the grant reduction from £7.1 million in 2003 to £6.41 million in 2007.

A number of issues that had been raised by a member looking at the service provided were also responded to by the Head of Housing.

The Supporting People Service would be inspected by the Audit Commission in October 2007.

RESOLVED:

THAT the update be noted.

30. **Corporate Identity**

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Leisure and Communications and the Acting Deputy Head of Communications outlined the background to the new corporate identity which had recently been introduced.

Members were informed that research had revealed that the most successful Councils had strong brands and clearly identified services. A consistent brand was therefore needed to ensure that the public were aware of the services provided by the Council.

The Committee was informed that there was now a new coding system for printing of public documents which needed to be agreed by the Communications Team before it could be released.

Members questioned the cost of implementing the new brand and were informed that it would be cost neutral. The new style guide was electronic and had been developed by the in-house team. Signs would only be replaced when necessary and paper headings would be replaced when existing stocks had run out. Members were informed that the costs involved in printing the new logo had been reduced as there were now fewer colours in the logo and was based on the previous design.

Members informed the Cabinet Member and Acting Deputy Head of Communications that not all Members were aware of the new guide. The Committee was informed that the brand was still being rolled out.

Members asked questions relating to the Inspire logo. They were informed that the logo had not been formally adopted by the Council. This would be reviewed once the Council had been assessed by the Audit Commission as an excellent authority.

RESOLVED:

THAT the background to the new Corporate identity be noted.

31. **Improving School Attainment Enquiry SC12/06**

In the absence of the lead member for the enquiry, Cllr Mosdell, a previous Member of the task group, presented the final report on the School Attainment Enquiry to the Committee.

It was noted that the Cabinet Member for Schools Leadership and Governance and the Director of Children's Services would be invited to comment on the report and associated recommendations at a future meeting. This would enable the Committee to identify what further action if necessary should be taken on the recommendations.

RESOLVED:

That the report on the Improving School Attainment Enquiry be approved.

32. **Progress Report on Other Current Enquiries**

Mrs Poston, as the Lead Member updated the Committee on progress with the Waste Management/ Recycling enquiry. The task group hoped to be in a position to report back to the Committee in the autumn. The Task Group on the Revenue Budget was shortly to meet with the new Interim Director of Finance. Cllr Humby indicated that a scoping document was being drafted for the Anti-Social Behaviour enquiry which she was the Lead Member for.

33. **Forward Plan**

Members noted the Forward Plan for the period August – December 2007.

The Committee agreed to ask the relevant Cabinet Member for an update on the Strategic Transformational Partnership Gateway Review and Next Steps.

It was noted that the decision on the Pre-Planning Application Process was nearly ready to be made.

Members questioned why the proposed decision on the Tennyson Trail had not appeared on the Forward Plan and were informed that a decision would be made shortly.

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm

CHAIRMAN