

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD AT COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2010**

### **Membership**

*	J A Aldridge	*	G L Mitchinson
*	G Butland	*	M J Page
	W J C Dick		J W Pike
	N Edey		Mrs I Pummell
	C Griffiths		J Roberts
	A M Hedley	*	A Turrell
*	M C M Lager (Vice-Chairman)	*	T C Smith-Hughes (Chairman)
	M J Mackrory	*	R Walters
	Mrs V Metcalfe	*	J A Young (Vice-Chairman)

(\* present)

The following officers were present in support throughout the meeting:

Hannah Cleary, Governance Officer  
Colin Ismay, Governance Manager

### **70. Apologies for Absence**

The Committee noted that there had been heavy snow before the meeting that had hindered the ability of some Members to attend. Apologies were received from Councillors N Edey and W J C Dick with Councillors J A Aldridge and R Walters as their substitutes, and from Councillors C Griffiths, A M Hedley, M J Mackrory, Mrs V Metcalfe, J W Pike, Mrs I Pummell, and J Roberts.

### **71. Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman acknowledged that a number of Committee Members were Councillors on other District and Borough Councils in relation to item 9 – Transformation Programme Scrutiny Review - Property Strategy. Councillor M C M Lager declared a personal interest as a Member of Improvement East in relation to the same item.

### **72. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to a correction to the record of attendance.

### **73. Scrutiny Report: risk management and contracting arrangements for capital programmes**

The Committee considered report ES/33/10 that contained the findings and recommendations of the review undertaken into the risk management and contracting arrangements for capital programmes.

The Committee **agreed** report ES/33/10 subject to the following addition:

1. That the appointment of an independent cost manager to oversee budget management be added as a recommendation.

A copy of the updated report would be sent to the relevant Cabinet Members for a response.

#### **74. Forward Look**

The Committee **agreed** report ES/34/10 subject to the following additions:

1. That the 'overall corporate impact of absence on the Council' be added to the Absence Management topic on page 4.
2. That the 'overall corporate impact of Public Satisfaction Surveys on the Council' be added to the Customer Satisfaction, Complaints and Public Relations topic on page 5.
3. That appendix 2 – a scoping document setting out the suggested focus for a review of how procurement activity is contributing to the Transformation Programme be amended to include the priorities and activities of procurement once transformed.
4. That appendix 4 – a scoping document setting out the suggested focus for a review of shared services be amended to include Local Enterprise Partnerships.
5. That appendix 5 – a scoping document setting out the suggested focus for a review of customer interface development be amended to include additional statistical performance management data.

#### **75. Date and time of next meeting**

The next ordinary meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 25 January at 11am, or at the rise of Cabinet if later than 11am, in Committee Room 2.

#### **76. Exclusion of the Public**

To consider whether the public (including the press) should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

#### **Resolved:**

That the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part

I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972: (Paragraph 3 – relating to the financial and business affairs of another party).

**77. Transformation Programme Scrutiny Review – Property Strategy**

The Committee received a presentation from Mr Robert Overall, Executive Director, Environment, Sustainability and Highways. Councillor Louis, Cabinet Member for Major Projects and Commercial Services was unable to attend due to the bad weather.

The Committee **agreed** that a further update on the Property Strategy would be brought to a future meeting.

The Chairman thanked Mr Overall for attending.

**78. Corporate Plan and Revenue and Capital Budgets 2011/12 and Beyond**

The Committee considered report ES/35/10 and received a presentation from Councillor Finch, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and the Transformation Programme, and Mr Peter Lewis, Interim Assistant Director, Financial Strategy.

The Committee thanked Councillor Finch and Mr Lewis for attending.

**79. Capita Resourcing**

Due to adverse weather conditions a number of Members were not able to attend the meeting.

The Committee **agreed** that this item would be considered at the next meeting on 25 January 2011.

Chairman  
25 January 2011