

	AGENDA ITEM 3 (c)
	ES/14/13
Committee:	Executive Scrutiny Committee
Date:	23 April 2013
<u>MATTER ARISING: CORONER'S SERVICE</u>	

Reproduced below is the text of an email (together with Appendix) sent to Members of the Committee on Friday 12 April 2013:

At the end of the discussion on the Coroner's Service at the last Executive Scrutiny Committee it was agreed that a copy of the County Council's response to the current Government consultation on amalgamating some jurisdictions would be circulated to the Members of the Committee ahead of submission.

A copy of the County Council's response is attached to this email and an accompanying note with further information on the consultation from Alex Hallam in Legal Services is reproduced below. This information and attachment will also be included in a Matters Arising item for the next meeting of the Executive Scrutiny Committee on 23 April.

"Following on from the meeting on 26th March I am attaching the consultation response on behalf of the authority for your information. The Ministry of Justice had requested local authorities to express an interest in amalgamating jurisdictions in their area and a Cabinet Member Action was taken by Councillor Finch in December that this would be an appropriate step to take. The decision was published on 5th December 2012. Southend Borough Council were approached in relation to the decision and were aware of the interest expressed by the Authority. The consultation therefore includes the proposed amalgamation of the Essex and Thurrock and Southend and South East Essex jurisdictions. This is a wide ranging consultation on a variety of matters connected with the implementation of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and there are a number of technical aspects to the consultation that do not require a response on behalf of the local authority.

The consultation was to close on 12th April but responses are being accepted until 19th April. The response will be returned early next week to ensure that it is considered."