

REPORT OF CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

KEY ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES IN SCRUTINY

1. This report updates Members on the work of scrutiny and on the implementation of recommendations made in scrutiny reviews, including updates on the work of the three standing committees.

Overview

2. On 18th October Overview received substantial briefing from Chris Walker, Community Safety Manager and Superintendent Paul Anderson of Nottinghamshire Police. The County has seen a reduction in All Crime of 12% on the April to June period last year (2010/11). All Crime fell from 13,467 to 11,902.
3. The Overview sub-committee examining shared services will next meet in December.
4. On 22nd September Members of the Nottinghamshire Independent Group referred to Scrutiny issues associated with Sherwood Industries, a subsidised business of Nottinghamshire County Council at risk of closure following a 3 month period of consultation. Overview Committee will take an initial briefing on this subject on 22nd November and determine what further action may be required.

Standing Committees

Communities & the Environment

5. On 31st October the Communities and the Environment Standing Committee will receive briefing from Martin Done, Service Director Communications on the approach to marketing the county as part of the Tourism Review and will also receive briefing from Erin Huckle, the newly appointed PR Manager at Experience Nottinghamshire.
6. The Seasonal Canine Illness/Dog Deaths study group last met on 14th October for a work planning session. A special seminar on the Animal Health Trust's investigation into Seasonal Canine Illness will take place at Rufford Mill on Tuesday 2nd November. Members of the study group have been invited to participate.

Education

7. On 7th November the Education Standing Committee will receive briefing on GCSE results, the attainment of Looked After Children and the Cabinet response to the review of Inclusion issues.
8. A sub-committee examining the issue of the recruitment and retention of Governors last met on 18th October and received briefing from Helen Bent, Head Teacher, Jefferies Primary School.

Social Care and Health

9. On 17th October the Social Care and Health Standing Committee received an update from Steve Edwards, Service Director, Children's Social Care on the Safeguarding Improvement Programme. This included details from the newly published Ofsted report.
10. The Social Care and Health Standing Committee set up two new Review Groups. The first to examine issues associated with the operation of Rota Visits (initially in Adult Social Care) and the second to examine the proposed merger and relocation of five GP surgeries in West Bridgford.

Joint Health

11. On 13th October the Joint City and County Health Scrutiny Committee received a briefing from Nottingham University Hospitals on the proposals for the relocation of elective orthopaedic and stroke services and a briefing on the work of the Care Quality Commission (as part of the ongoing work developing relations with the CQC). In addition, the Joint Health Committee is operating a study group examining issues around health messages and eating disorders.

COUNCILLOR JOYCE BOSNJAK
CHAIR OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE