

At a meeting of the PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY 28TH APRIL, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Arnott in the Chair

Councillors Bell, Rolph and A. Wright.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Cuthbert, Mordey, Old, J.B. Scott and Symonds.

Declarations of Interest

Item 5 – Future Jobs Fund

Councillor Rolph declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item as having been a Cabinet Member at the time it agreed to the Council's role in developing and managing the Future Jobs Fund.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Committee held on 17th March, 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 17th March, 2010 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Third Sector Recession Survey

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which introduced a presentation on the findings of a survey carried out by the Sunderland Centre for Voluntary Service (CVS) into the impact of the recession on voluntary and community groups in Sunderland.

(For copy report and presentation – see original minutes).

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Lisa Hanking of Sunderland CVS who together with Trish Cornish, presented the findings of the survey highlighting the following 5 main themes:-

- is the sector being affected and how?
- is the sector taking action?
- the future of VCS organisations;
- the VCS expectations of local government, funding bodies and partners;
- VCS expectations of Sunderland CVS.

In summary Members were advised that:-

- The recession is increasingly affecting the VCS in Sunderland and is expected to worsen.
- The VCS is generally taking measures to respond to the recession, but the combined result of an increased competition for funds, a reduction in funding amounts and a demand in resources is making it increasingly difficult for the sector to deliver services effectively.
- Organisations are increasingly reliant on the goodwill and commitment of dedicated volunteers.
- Comparatively, the sector in Sunderland seems to be at an advantage over the North East region as a whole.

With regard to this last point, Councillor Rolph believed that one of the main reasons Sunderland was bucking the trend was the way the Council worked in partnership. With regard to generating efficiencies, she asked if there was a willingness for charities working in the same line of business to share back office costs and accommodation.

Ms. Cornish replied that she was conscious of the need to take organisation down the collaborative route. Sharing costs would make huge differences but organisations were often very protective of their responsibilities.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor A. Wright, Ms. Cornish advised that the accountancy service was available at a reduced rate of around one third of high street accountancy services. Budget spreadsheets were provided free of charge, however, full accounts would require a fee.

Councillor Rolph suggested the concept of a V-Day (Volunteery Day) where people interested in volunteering could try a taster session. People were often scared to come forward in case they found they were unable to commit fully. They also tended to be older and retired.

Ms. Cornish replied that organisations often became very reliant on their volunteers and this sometimes led to burn out. It would be wrong to say that they became staid. SCVS were busy trying to encourage young volunteers predominantly from the business sector. It was also important that organisations marketed themselves in a manner that would attract younger volunteers.

The Chairman stated that the report was very encouraging and welcomed that the voluntary and community sector were weathering the storm as well as could be expected and in some cases better than similar organisations in the region and nationally. In conclusion he stated that he was pleased to note that SCVS had such a high reputation among its members and informed Ms. Cornish that the Council recognised that it got an awful lot of value for money from the voluntary sector.

The Chairman having thanked Ms. Hanking and Ms. Cornish for their presentation it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the presentation be received and noted.

Future Jobs Fund

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report which updated the Committee on the Council's management and co-ordination responsibilities for Phase 2 of the Future Jobs Fund programme on behalf of its partners in the City.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Gordon Bell, Strategic Programmes and Europe Team Manager, presented the report and addressed questions and comments from Members.

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman, Mr. Bell confirmed that the current position was different from that as detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the report. The figures in fact changed almost daily. It had recently been confirmed that City Hospitals were to employ 48 people under the Future Jobs Fund. Of the target of 550 jobs, 330 had been identified and 205 had been filled.

The Chair referred to the level of bureaucracy involved and believed there was a huge set of hurdles weighing down the ultimate delivery of the scheme.

Mr. Bell advised that Sunderland's bid was part of a wider City Region bid to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). He confirmed that the system was bureaucratic however the rules were set by the DWP and Local Authorities could be subject to a claw back if they were not followed. North Tyneside were not equipped to take on the direct administration of the scheme and the seven Local Authorities had signed an Agreement with them to cover risks. All regeneration grant projects were high risk and therefore a certain degree of bureaucracy was needed to carry out appropriate checks. There was an overriding need to ensure value for money.

Councillor Bell commented that ideally there was a need to get the private sector involved. Mr. Bell replied that opportunities in the care industry were being investigated in this regard. There was a concern, however, with the private sector that the Future Jobs Fund could be seen as a subsidy giving an organisation an unfair advantage.

In conclusion Mr. Bell advised that the Fund was a test of liaison between all the organisations involved. It was the first City Region project and it was the first time

North Tyneside had acted in the capacity of a Lead Authority. The nature of the project required that it was under continuous review and subject to constant planning for the future.

The Chairman having welcomed that the Council was now looking to increase its commitment to around 30 Future Jobs Fund places, thanked Mr. Bell for his report, and it was:-

3. RESOLVED the progress on the Council's role in co-ordinating and managing Phase 2 of the Future Jobs Fund Programme in Sunderland from April 2010 – December 2011 be received and noted.

Performance Report Quarter 3 (April – December 2009)

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with a performance update relating to the period April to December 2009 including:-

- progress in relation to the LAA targets and other national indicators;
- progress in relation to the place to play policy review recommendations;
- the results of the annual budget consultation undertaken during October/ November 2009 insofar as it related to the Committee's remit.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Gillian Robinson, Corporate Performance Monitoring Manager, presented the report and addressed questions and comments from Members thereon.

Councillor Rolph referred to the fact that the figures for indicators 152 and 153 were given in percentages and those for 161 and 162 were given as numbers. She stated that it was an issue she had raised before, however, for meaningful comparisons to be made, the presentation of information needed to be consistent. She noted that NI163 was the only indicator not on target and asked if any research had been undertaken as to why. With regard to the reduction in the number of NEETs, Councillor Rolph offered her congratulations to all concerned. She believed that tourism had a massive potential to provide employment opportunities for NEETs. She referred to the growing interest in artisan food together with the development of an Artisan Food College in the Midlands which she believed could provide an example for Sunderland.

Ms. Robinson replied that NI163 was not liked by people working in adult learning. It was based on a national survey with a sample size that was so small it was difficult to unpick.

The Chairman having thanked Ms. Robinson for her report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Annual Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which presented the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee Annual Report for approval as part of the overall Scrutiny Annual Report 2009/10 for submission to Council.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman having advised that the Committee's discussion of Lambton Cokework and today's presentation on the 3rd Sector Recession Survey would also be included, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that approval be given to the Report for inclusion in the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2009/10.

Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the period 1st May – 31st August, 2010

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1st May – 31st August which related to the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Rolph expressed concern that this was the first time certain items had appeared on the Forward Plan, yet they were being scheduled for consideration by Cabinet on 9th June, 2010 and thereby denying the Committee prior sight of the reports. This was not the first time items had appeared in this fashion and it was clear the reporting mechanism of the Forward Plan was not operating as it should with regard to the Scrutiny Committees.

6. RESOLVED that the Forward Plan be received and noted.

Work Programme 2009/10

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to consider the Committee's current Work Programme for the 2009/10 Council Year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Members were advised that the final Policy Review reports in respect of the Working Neighbourhood Strategy and Tourism would now be submitted to the extraordinary meeting re scheduled for 12th May. It was envisaged that the revised ARC Strategy document would be submitted to the ARC Board in May and therefore it was hoped it would be available for Committee consideration in June.

7. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked Members and Officers for their attendance.

(Signed) M. ARNOTT,
Chairman.

At a meeting of the PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY 12TH MAY, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Mordey in the Chair

Councillors Bell, I. Cuthbert, Rolph, J.B. Scott and A. Wright.

Also Present:-

Mr. M. Arnott
Councillor Snowdon
Councillor Tate

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Committee held on 17th March, 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 17th March, 2010 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Variation in the Order of Business

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed to vary the order of business to consider Item 4 at Item 3 on the agenda.

Tourism and Marketing Task and Finish Group – Final Report

The Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee submitted a report (copy circulated) to receive the draft final report from the Committee's Task and Finish Group with regard to Tourism and Marketing in Sunderland.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman invited Claire Harrison, Assistant Scrutiny Officer, to present the report.

Ms. Harrison took the Committee through the aim of the Task and Finish Group, the agreed Terms of Reference, Methods of Investigation and the Group's findings.

The Committee's key recommendations to the Cabinet were as follows:-

- (a) That all council-wide strategies relevant to building Sunderland's profile as a visitor destination be consistent with their key messages and complement the future development of the City's Destination Management Plan;
- (b) That the identification of an appropriate champion/lead officer and the creation of a partnership to market the City as a destination be further explored;
- (c) That the City Council develops stronger links with Durham Area Tourism Partnership to ensure that opportunities for joint working are fully explored, building upon the shared strengths of the two areas;
- (d) That a 'whole city' approach to the marketing of attractions and events be adopted to be delivered through the Sunderland Marketing Partnership;
- (e) That, in light of the difficulties in the current economic climate, innovative approaches to developing the accommodation offer within Sunderland together with maximising the existing use of accommodation be further explored;
- (f) That a review of the existing tourist information and signage across the City be undertaken to ensure a clear and consistent approach is adopted;
- (g) That building upon Sunderland's strengths, particularly the success of the City's events programme, further opportunities are identified to enhance the existing events programme and promote the quality and warmth of Sunderland's welcome to visitors, with the aim of increasing the number of visitors and length of time they stay; and
- (h) That in order to develop the Sunderland offer, a full review of assets is undertaken to assess the current demand and usage, with a view to identifying how they can be further developed.

Referring to paragraph 8.31 of the report, Councillor Rolph requested that the fourth paragraph is amended to read 'The group also suggested that events should be promoted in surrounding areas'.

Members agreed that it was a very coherent and competent report and the Chairman thanked Claire Harrison for her efforts.

Councillor Cuthbert queried whether the Task and Finish Group had considered the link into the retail offering in Sunderland.

The Chairman advised that due to time restraints it had not been possible to fully consider the retail aspect of tourism in the City.

Councillor Bell stated that the Group had touched on visitor spend for day visitors which would include the retail aspect.

Ms. Harrison referred the Committee to paragraph 8.2 of the report which presented a statistical table for Sunderland analysing expenditure by sector. Although not explained in detail, the table provided the 2007 and 2008 spend on shopping by visitors.

Councillor Rolph commented that it had quickly occurred to the Group that shopping was not one of the major attractions for visitors to the City and, as such, it was decided to look at other strengths in Sunderland such as the Empire and the Stadium of Light. If the Committee carried out any follow up work on the report then different aspects of attracting visitors to Sunderland could be considered.

Having thanked all the people who contributed to the evidence base during the course of the review, including Councillors Dixon and Morrissey, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the Committee's key recommendations be presented to Cabinet for consideration.

Policy Review of the Working Neighbourhood Strategy – Draft Final Report

The Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Scrutiny Committee with its draft final report following a review of the use of the Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) in Sunderland through the Working Neighbourhood Strategy (WNS).

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer, presented a summary of the report and advised that the aim of the review was to examine the implementation and operation of the Working Neighbourhood Fund in Sunderland, including the perspective of the customer and their experience with various agencies through first contact, engagement, job readiness into work and support in work.

The Chairman invited Mr. Michael Arnott, former Vice Chairman of the Committee to comment on the report.

Mr. Arnott advised that although senior members of staff had suggested significant amendments to the report, it was decided that it was inappropriate to amend the report and it should be presented to the Executive for them to respond to the findings and amend if deemed necessary. [note – the Cabinet has not yet seen the report]

Mr. Arnott stated that a huge amount of time was spent on gaining the evidence upon which the findings were based. The Group were conscious of the responsibility to function in an apolitical manner.

In the reports commissioned into Working Neighbourhood Fund activity, a number of clients were randomly sampled and, according to the author of the survey study, although the numbers were too small to be extrapolated in any significant confident way, it gave a broad insight into the Job Linkage Service.

Councillor Cuthbert reiterated the comments from Michael Arnott with the acknowledgement that there were problems with flexibility of approach. It was hoped that the recommendations from the review would rectify the co-operation between various bodies.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Michael Arnott for his work throughout the year as Vice Chairman to the Committee. He also thanked the other members of the Task and Finish Group. The Chairman concluded by sharing the latest available general statistics on worklessness for the City and proposed the report be put to Cabinet in its entirety.

Councillor Arnott also requested that his thanks and appreciation be placed on record for the commitment of Karen Brown and Claire Harrison to the review.

He reciprocated the remarks of the Chairman and advised that his working relationship with Councillor Mordey had been very fruitful and a good signpost for future co-operative working across the political parties.

The Chairman then closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

(Signed) M. MORDEY,
Chairman.

PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 JUNE 2010

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME AND POLICY REVIEW 2010-11

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For Members to determine the Annual Work Programme for the Scrutiny Committee during 2010-11, including the main theme for a detailed policy review.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Committee is responsible for setting its own work programme within the following scope:

General Scope: To consider issues relating to the economic prosperity of the city

Remit: Inward Investment and Business Support; Regeneration; Improving employability; Encouraging economic prosperity; Boosting the skills and knowledge level of the workforce; City Centre; and Marketing & Tourism.

- 2.2 The Council's Scrutiny Committees are aligned to the relevant priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy – the Sunderland Strategy. This allows each Scrutiny Committee to focus on the priority areas and targets in the Sunderland Strategy and Local Area Agreement (LAA) and for the work of all Scrutiny Committees to consistently address those areas of performance requiring detailed examination.

- 2.3 This approach allows a clear themed focus on the outcomes for the people of Sunderland, and allows for cross-cutting examination of issues, with potential for linking areas of knowledge and expertise that would not ordinarily be brought together, so increasing the likelihood of the committees identifying novel approaches and solutions to the issues they consider.

- 2.4 The most relevant Sunderland Strategy priority for this committee is:

Prosperous City: To create an enterprising and productive global city with a strong and diverse economy providing jobs and careers for generations to come. A city where everyone has the opportunity to contribute to and benefit from the regional economy, to fulfil their potential to be skilled, motivated and wealth creating without losing the special characteristic of Sunderland's balanced way of life.

2.5 All Scrutiny Committees will take a role in the scrutiny of partnership and area issues and have a role in engaging with partners, external scrutiny, community and public engagement, and engaging with media and area scrutiny.

3. Policy Review

3.1 Policy review is the process of maintaining an overview of council policies and will usually examine whether the Council and its partners intended policy outcomes have been achieved. The process will also explore issues such as the service user’s perspective.

3.2 Policy reviews are project planned with appropriate methodology applied to investigate the chosen topic. This may include meetings, site visits, surveys, public meetings or analysis of comparative practice in other local authorities.

3.3 Previous reviews carried out by this Scrutiny Committee have included. All previous reviews are available at <http://cityweb/directorates/chief-executive/scrutiny/scrutinyhome.shtm>

3.3 Following the selection of a topic for review, the Committee will receive a report setting out a possible approach to the review. This will include the terms of reference, definitions, links to corporate goals, partnerships, the national and local context, and proposals for gathering evidence.

3.4 The shortlist of topics for 2010-11 is listed below. The Committee is recommended to select one topic from this shortlist for an in depth review. The list includes all topics suggested by Members from the discussions held at the Scrutiny Conference on 20th May 2010.

Policy Review Proposals	
Low carbon economy	The low carbon economy is a central component of the Economic Masterplan. The review would explore the definition of a low carbon economy and investigate the land, skills and infrastructure requirements to become a low carbon city. To explore the level of low carbon industries in operation in the city and consider how best to market the city in order to attract new low carbon industries and to involve individuals in making low carbon choices.
Skills Review	To investigate the current and future skills requirements of the city’s working population. To consider the skills requirements of employers and the action being taken to meet these needs. To consider how we can go about ensuring we have the right skill set for the future so our people can participate in job market. To consider how best the people of Sunderland can participate in the jobs

	market and close the skills gap.
Science City	To consider what we mean by the concept of a “science city”. To consider the features of a science city and the potential to introduce concept in Sunderland in order to provide sustainable employment and growth through science and technology.
Tourism	To investigate the measures being taken to promote tourism in the city and to explore how to further develop the city’s tourism offer. To build on the work of last year’s Task and Finish Group on Tourism in the city.
Economic Masterplan	To undertake a review of the Economic Masterplan. How far will it contribute to the economic prosperity of the city.?
Business Support	To review the current infrastructure in place to support local businesses and explore ways to provide additional support. Is the right type and level of support being provided to local businesses and how far is it meeting their needs.
Regeneration of the City Centre	To explore the ways in which the necessary improvements can be made to the city centre, with particular emphasis on Fawcett Street.

4. Work Programme

- 4.1 A draft work programme for 2010-11 with items already scheduled is attached as Appendix A.
- 4.2 The work programme can be amended during the year and any Member of the Committee can add an item of business to an agenda (See Protocol 1 Overview & Scrutiny Handbook).

5. Conclusion & Recommendation

- 5.1 The Committee is asked to :
- (a) Consider the draft Annual Work Programme for 2010-11 and indicate any additions or amendments
 - (b) Consider the list of suggestions for policy review and determine one topic for review.
- 5.2 Subject to any amendment at this meeting, the work programme will be submitted to the Management Scrutiny Committee in its coordinating role.

6. Background Papers
None

Contact Officer : Jim Diamond 0191 561 1396
james.diamond@sunderland.gov.uk

PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2010-11

Appendix 1

	JUNE 15.06.10	JULY 13.07.10	SEPTEMBER 21.09.10	OCTOBER 19.10.10	NOVEMBER 16.11.10	DECEMBER 14.12.10	JANUARY 18.01.11	FEBRUARY 15.02.11	MARCH 15.03.11	APRIL 12.04.11
Policy Review	Proposals for policy review (Scrutiny Officer)	Scope of review (Scrutiny Officer)	Approach to review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Draft report (Scrutiny Officer)	Final Report
Scrutiny		Economic Masterplan (Vince Taylor) Port Business Plan	North East Chamber of Commerce							Annual Report (Review Coord)
Scrutiny (Performance)			Performance & VfM Assessment Progress on Policy Review				Performance Framework Q2 including Progress on policy reviews			Performance Framework Q3 including progress on policy reviews
Ref Cabinet		Cabinet Response to the Policy Review Access to Housing								

Committee business	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan
CCFA/ Members items/Petitions										
Information										

PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REQUEST TO ATTEND SEMINAR – CENTRE FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

16 JUNE 2010

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For the Committee to consider nominating a delegate to the Centre for Public Scrutiny's 8th Annual Conference and Exhibition to be held on 30 June – 1 July 2010.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Handbook contains a protocol for use of the Scrutiny Committees budget by members to attend training and conferences relevant to the remit of the Committee.

3. Conference Details

- 3.1 An invitation has been received from the Centre of Public Scrutiny with regard to its 8th Annual Conference and Exhibition to be held **30 June – 1 July 2010, at The Brewery, London.**
- 3.2 The theme for this two day conference will be future accountability and transparency in public services.
- 3.3 Day one will cover regaining public trust, tackling inequalities and addressing how to sustain outcomes from accountability in hard financial times. There will also be a debate on how accountability can create opportunities for the public to shape the delivery of local services, for example, through the Total Place initiative. On day two, a member development programme will offer councillors and other non-executive members an opportunity to network and discuss current issues. Themes will include questioning and chairing skills, skills needed to evaluate evidence and the role of politics in the scrutiny process.
- 3.4 The cost of the conference is £359 + VAT per delegate which includes attendance at both days, dinner and refreshment.
- 3.5 It is suggested that the Committee consider nominating one member to attend the Conference.

4. Recommendation

4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the attendance of a member to the above conference, to be accompanied by the Head of Overview and Scrutiny, to be funded from the budget of the Scrutiny Committee.

5. **Background Papers**

None

Contact Officer: Charlotte Burnham, Head of Overview and Scrutiny
(0191 561 1147)
charlotte.burnham@sunderland.gov.uk



CfPS 8th annual conference & exhibition

Sustaining outcomes in changing times

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Scrutiny Exchange Live!

'Total Place, Total Accountability' debate

Accountability Works! Charter



In partnership with:





CfPS 2010: Accountability works! sustaining outcomes in changing times

The theme for our 8th annual conference will be future accountability and transparency in public services. We will cover the important issues of the day: regaining public trust, tackling inequalities and addressing how to sustain outcomes from accountability in hard financial times. We will also debate how accountability can create opportunities for the public to shape the delivery of local services, for example, through the Total Place initiative.

CfPS 2010 is ideally timed to provide the perfect platform for the Government of the day to share their vision for accountability and transparency in public services with our delegates.

Interactive sessions will examine how public accountability and transparency can bring added value to the delivery of local services at a time when public expectations of services are high, but trust in organisations and institutions is at an all time low and budgets are likely to be cut.

On Day 2, our officer development programme will explore issues around community engagement, as well as discuss the role of scrutiny in challenging organisational culture and the potential risks that scrutiny might be under from budget cuts. Our member development day will offer councillors and other non-executive members an opportunity to network and discuss current issues. Themes will include questioning and chairing skills, skills needed to evaluate evidence and the role of politics in the scrutiny process.



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Scrutiny Exchange Live!

For the first time, CfPS is bringing the online scrutiny exchange network to life at our 2010 conference. We will be asking our delegates to bring their knowledge and expertise into this forum to share and learn from each other.

Scrutiny Exchange Live provides the perfect opportunity for you to set the agenda. The Exchange will have 6 zones reflecting issues facing local communities - democracy, health and wellbeing, crime and disorder, children and young people, economy and community. Running throughout the day, delegates will be able to suggest any pressing issues they may have in relation to these themes. The most popular topics will be identified and delegates will be able to join in discussions in the relevant zones.



Good Scrutiny Awards - We want to hear how you have successfully influenced excellent public services

If you, or your organisation, have done something in the last year that you are proud of CfPS encourages you to submit an entry for the Good Scrutiny Awards 2010. We want to help you celebrate your success and help others to learn from what you've done.

Now in their 3rd year, the Awards celebrate accountability and transparency in public services, the work of non-executives in the public sector and also public sector organisations that respect the work of non-executives.

The new categories for 2010 are:

- Community influence
- Added value
- Innovation
- Team of the year
- Raising the profile
- Joint working
- Practitioner of the year
- Accountable organisation of the year

The shortlisted entries will have an opportunity to showcase their work in the Successful Scrutiny Zone at CfPS 2010 and will be offered a free delegate pass for the 30 June 2010. The Awards will be presented during the gala dinner.

All entries must be received by 1 March 2010 and the short-listed candidates will be announced in May.



To find out more and to submit your example of Good Scrutiny, please go to:

www.tcp-events.co.uk/cfps2010

Why should you attend?

CfPS 2010 is the largest conference dedicated to explore the latest developments in public scrutiny, accountability and transparency. You will be able to:

- Hear directly from the government of the day about their vision for accountability in public service delivery
- Explore how public empowerment is becoming central to scrutiny and accountability across local government, police and the health service

- Explore how scrutiny can tackle today's issues - ensuring the public receive value for money in critical economic times
- Learn about innovative techniques and best practice from experts across the public sector.



- Meet and share ideas and experiences with colleagues facing the same challenges
- Discover what is on the horizon from the CfPS.



Gala dinner

In addition to Scrutiny Exchange Live! CfPS 2010 offers networking opportunities in less formal surroundings with our drinks reception and gala dinner on the evening of 30 June. The dinner offers plenty of time to catch up with colleagues and enjoy the evening, culminating with the Good Scrutiny Awards 2010 ceremony.

Who should attend?

National government

- Parliamentary Select Committees
- House of Commons Clerks
- Backbench MPs

Crime and justice

- Police Authority members
- Probation Board members

Education

- School governors
- School governing bodies

Local government

- Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSCs)
- Health OSCs and Joint OSCs
- OSC support officers
- Non-executive councillors

Health and social care

- NHS non-executive board members (primary care, acute care, mental health)
- Foundation Trust public governors and staff governors
- Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) and LINK Hosts



Conference exhibition

Be a part of Scrutiny Exchange Live! - CfPS' innovative and new approach to networking and exhibitions. Our exhibition area will be made up of carefully selected zones reflecting different issues facing local communities: democracy, health and wellbeing, crime and disorder, children and young people, economy and community.

Exhibitions can sometimes feel like a fringe event or a not well thought out add on to a conference. Be a part of the Scrutiny Exchange Live and you will be an exciting and fundamental part of CfPS 2010.

To discuss this new concept and find out details about the packages available, please contact the CfPS conference office. Tel: 01323 637707
email: cfps2010@confpeople.co.uk

The Brewery, Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SD

A Grade II listed building, set within its own private courtyard, the Brewery provides a unique setting for our conference. The Brewery is situated in the heart of the City within walking distance of several Underground and mainline train stations. There are several car parks within close proximity of the venue and the area has accommodation to suit all price-ranges. Please visit their website for accommodation listings: www.thebrewery.co.uk/contact/hotels



Fees	UP TO 31ST MARCH 2010	Full Rate £	Reduced Rate £	Supported Rate £
Early-bird registration fees apply to registrations received on or before 31 March 2010.	Day 1	269.00	179.00	143.00
	Day 2	252.00	162.00	126.00
	Day 1 & Day 2	476.00	314.00	269.00
	Day 1, 2 & Dinner	521.00	359.00	305.00
	Dinner only	60.00		
		FROM 1ST APRIL 2010	Full Rate £	Reduced Rate £
	Day 1	299.00	199.00	159.00
	Day 2	280.00	180.00	140.00
	Day 1 & Day 2	529.00	349.00	299.00
	Day 1, 2 & Dinner	579.00	399.00	349.00

Full rate Central Government departments & agencies, private sector

Reduced rate Local authorities, other public sector organisations

Supported rate Schools, voluntary organisations, trade unions, LINKs

Centre for Public Scrutiny Tel: 020 7296 6451 Email: info@cfps.org.uk

CfPS Conference Office Tel: 01323 637707 Email: cfps2010@confpeople.co.uk

PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JUNE – 30 SEPTEMBER 2010

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

16 JUNE 2010

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 June – 30 September 2010.

2. Background Information

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Forward Plan) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.2 To this end, it has been agreed that, on a pilot basis, the most recent version of the Executive's Forward Plan should be included on the agenda of each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees. The Forward Plan for the period 1 June – 30 September 2010 is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 Following member's comments on the suitability of the Forward Plan being presented in its entirety to each committee it should be noted that only issues relating to the specific remit of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee are presented for information and comment. Due to agenda and publication deadlines a revised copy of this information will be circulated at the meeting reflecting any amendments.
- 3.2 For members information the remit of the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee is as follows:-
- Inward Investment and Business Support; Regeneration; Improving employability; Encouraging economic prosperity; Boosting the skills and knowledge level of the workforce; City Centre; and Marketing & Tourism.
- 3.3 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 June – 30 September 2010.

5. Background Papers

None

Contact Officer : James Diamond 0191 561 1396
james.diamond@sunderland.gov.uk

**Forward Plan -
Key Decisions for
the period
01/Jun/2010 to
30/Sep/2010**



**R.C. Rayner,
Chief Solicitor,
Sunderland City
Council.**

14th May 2010

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jun/2010 to 30/Sep/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01379	To approve a capital equipment grant to Company B to support economic development and job creation	Cabinet	02/Jun/2010	Portfolio holder	correspondence	To contact officer by 21 May - Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Janet Snaith	5611166
01384	To consider the recommendations of the Prosperity & Economic Scrutiny Committee following a review of the Working Neighbourhood Strategy	Cabinet	24/Jun/2010	Council officers, specialist providers, JCP, Job Linkage, Enterprise Consortia	Evidence at Scrutiny Meetings	Via Contact Officer by 21 May 2010 - Prosperity & Economic Scrutiny Committee	Working Group minutes	Karen Brown	5611004
01385	To consider the recommendations of the Prosperity & Economic Scrutiny Committee following a review of Tourism & Marketing	Cabinet	24/Jun/2010	Tourism officers, ONE	Evidence at Scrutiny Meetings	Via Contact Officer by 21 May 2010 - Prosperity & Economic Scrutiny Committee	Working Group minutes	Karen Brown	5611001