At a meeting of the COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on TUESDAY, 20TH APRIL, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Heron in the Chair

Councillors O'Connor, Scaplehorn and Timmins

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Ball, Copeland, Paul Maddison, Morrisey, D. Smith and J. Walton.

Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 9th March, 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 9th March, 2010 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

There were no declarations of interest.

Developing Confidence in the Criminal Justice System – Magistrates' Court

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to receive an update from Lisa Shotton, Legal Advisor, and John Scott, Chairman of the Houghton Bench with Sunderland Magistrates' Court, on the work of the Courts and measures being taken to develop confidence in the criminal justice system.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Shotton informed the Committee of a number of events the Magistrates attended, including the Policing Pledge road show, Witness Charter road show, Community Crime Fighters, Safer Sunderland Partnership Annual Forum and a number of resident meetings which had enabled Magistrates to move onto a higher level of community engagement.

Councillor Scaplehorn commented on the great improvements in the support he had received as a witness for the prosecution compared to previous experiences.

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Ms. Shotton advised that a witness support system was now in place and had been well thought out to address people's concerns in relation to fears over repercussions etc, so now it was just about getting the message across to people.

The Chairman commented that in the past Police Officer community engagement had been poor, but now Officers were much more proactive and he was pleased to see the Magistrates following suit. The Chairman also hoped the good practice would continue.

Ms. Shotton advised that it was a long term initiative.

2. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

XL Youth Village – Update

The Chief Executive submitted a report and Powerpoint presentation (copy circulated) for the Committee to receive an update from Andy Neal, Youth Development Group Manager, on the progress and achievements of the XL Youth Villages.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman commented that after a recent visit to the youth villages he had been most impressed with the interaction between the Youth Workers and young people.

Councillor Timmins commented that he was delighted to see the Youth Development Group looking at the information and intelligence gathered from the events and that it would be interesting to establish why participation from youths seemed to decrease at age 17 and if the right age groups were being targeted.

Mr. Neal commented that it was a valid point that participation trailed off at around age 17 and that the younger children tended to be more involved. The Group were looking at targeting the 13-19 age range.

The Chairman encouraged Members to visit the villages.

Councillor Scaplehorn commented that he had visited three different youth villages and felt that they offered an excellent service.

In response to Councillor O'Connor's query, Mr. Neal advised that there was a good mix of cultures, especially at the Hendon location and whilst the participation numbers were low, the outcomes were the best.

The Chairman requested that Mr. Neal inform all Members of the Council of the locations of the youth villages to enable them to attend.

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Performance Report Quarter 3 (April-December 2009)

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with a performance update relating to the period April to December 2009. This quarter included:-

- Progress in the relation to the LAA targets and other national indicators;
- Progress in relation to the Fear of Crime Policy Review Recommendations;
- Results of the annual budget consultation which took place during October/ November 2009.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman commented that some of the issues had been discussed under the Total Place programme, such as alcohol misuse and the effects this had on families and that he was pleased to see the Council had progressed a great deal in just one year.

4. RESOLVED that the Committee considered the continued good progress made by the Council and the Sunderland Partnership and those areas requiring further development to ensure that performance is actively managed.

Study into Anti Social Behaviour – Draft Final Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) for the Committee to consider the draft final review into the action being taken by the Safer Sunderland Partnership (SSP) to tackle anti social behaviour and perceptions of anti social behaviour in the City.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Bill Blackett, ASB Strategy Manager, presented the report and advised that he would bring the results from the consultation carried out with young people on their views of anti social behaviour to a future meeting of the Committee.

The Chairman commented on the improvements made by the Sunderland Echo on highlighting the positive stories in the Echo, such as the XL Youth Villages.

- 5. RESOLVED that the key recommendations to the Cabinet include:-
- i) that the comments and recommendations of the report be incorporated into the forthcoming SSP Anti Social Behaviour Strategy;
- ii) the partnership consider the options for a more unified system of data capture, particularly across the housing sector, in order to improve the response of partners to ASB;

- iii) the partnership investigate how they might better identify potential victims of anti social behaviour;
- iv) the partnership review the enforcement measures available to partners and provide staff with guidance on the powers currently available for tackling ASB;
- v) the Council and its partners investigate options for improving the enforcement of environmental ASB and combat issues such as graffiti, litter and fly-tipping;
- vi) that partners investigate ways of expanding the operation of the Phoenix Project in order to help tackle areas experiencing higher levels of ASB fires;
- vii) that partners investigate the potential of expanding the operation of the XL Village concept throughout the City;
- viii) that partners investigate the potential of introducing improved security on houses and the potential of the youth work pilot operating working with young people;
- ix) that the Council and its partners consider the extension of the CCTV monitoring system subject to the availability of resources.

End of Year Report 2009/10

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) seeking the views of Members on the operation and achievements of the Committee over the last year. The report, together with the comments of Members, would be submitted to the Management Scrutiny Committee on 29th April, 2010. The report would then be incorporated into an Annual Scrutiny Report which was being prepared for the service as a whole.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Timmins commented on the difficulties partners faced in information sharing due to different systems of recording and that a central database for all may be of benefit.

Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, advised that he believed Mr. Blackett was investigating the matter further with partners.

The Chairman referred to the ongoing Polycarbonate Glass Scheme and commented that whilst we may never know how successful it had been, it was an important piece of work.

- 6. RESOLVED that:-
- i) Members considered the operation, achievements and impact of the Committee during 2009/10; and

ii) the report, together with the comments of Members, be submitted to the Management Scrutiny Committee on 29th April, 2010 and incorporated into the Annual Scrutiny Report.

Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the period 1st April, 2010 – 31st July, 2010

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to update Members on the position with regard to the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1st April, 2010 to 31st July, 2010.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

7. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Work Programme 2009-10

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing for Members' information the current Work Programme for the Committee's work during the 2009/10 Council year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

8. RESOLVED that the information contained in the Work Programme be noted.

The Chairman wished to thank Officers for their hard work over the year and closed the meeting.

(Signed) R. HERON, Chairman.

COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME AND POLICY REVIEW 2010-11

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

8 JUNE 2010

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 community safety and promoting a cohesive, integrated and inclusive community.

Remit: Safer Sunderland Strategy, Social Inclusion, Community Safety, Anti-Social Behaviour, Domestic Violence, Community Cohesion, Equalities, Licensing Policy, Community Associations, Registrars.

- 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:
 - Safe City: To make Sunderland a place where everyone feels welcome and can be part of a safe and inclusive community, where people will feel secure and can enjoy life without worrying about becoming a victim of crime.
- 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: Fear of Crime, Sunderland arc, Vibrant City Centre, Sunderland Housing Strategy, Communication with Sunderland Housing Group and Best Practice in Neighbourhood Renewal, Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and Community Cohesion. All previous reviews are available at http://cityweb/directorates/chief-executive/scrutiny/scrutinyhome.shtm
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 The shortlist of topics for 2010-11 is listed below. The Committee is recommended to select <u>one</u> 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.

Sugges	ested Topics for Policy Review/Task and Finish Group						
	Brief Description	Objective					
1.	Violent Crime Reduction	Key performance measures on violent crime show a percentage rise in most serious violence against the person in the City. In addition the City has a high level of domestic violence which is highlighted in the Comprehensive Area Assessment.					
		The Safer Sunderland Partnership Violent Crime Delivery Group covers violent crime, domestic violence, sexual exploitation and sexual violence.					
		The Review would scrutinise the actions of the Safer Sunderland Partnership's interventions and actions to tackle most serious violence. This work would also impact on feelings of safety, fear of crime, women's public safety and public confidence in the criminal justice system.					
		In addition; the City Council is required to have a local Tackling Violence against Women and Girls Strategy in place by April 2010 and as such input from the Scrutiny Committee would be invaluable.					

2.	Alcohol related Crime in the City Centre	To understand the powers of the council and other partner agencies in tackling alcohol-related crime across the city and consider the licensing policy and how licensed premises can contribute to reducing alcohol related crime.
3.	Community Safety: Diversionary activities for young people.	To identify how the Council can more effectively contribute to raising peoples' feelings of safety in their own communities by considering activities that are available for young people.

4. Work Programme

- 4.1 A draft work programme for 2010-11 with items already scheduled is <u>attached</u> 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; and
 - (b) Consider the list of suggestions for policy review and determine <u>one</u> 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

6.1 No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Contact Officer: Claire Harrison, Acting Scrutiny Officer

0191 561 1232

Claire.Harrison1@sunderland.gov.uk

	JUNE 8.5.2010	JULY 6.7.10	SEPTEMBER 14.9.10	OCTOBER 12.10.10	NOVEMBER 9.11.10	DECEMBER 7.12.10	JANUARY 12.1.11	FEBRUARY 9.2.11	MARCH 9.3.11	APRIL 20.4.11
Policy Review	Proposals for policy review (Claire Harrison)	Scope of review – (CH)	Approach to review (CH)	Evidence Gathering	Evidence Gathering	Evidence Gathering	Evidence Gathering	Evidence Gathering	Evidence Gathering	Final Report
Scrutiny										
Scrutiny (Performance)			Performance Q1				Performance Q2			Performance Q3
Ref Cabinet										
Committee Business	Request to attend conference (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (CH) Forward Plan
CCFA/Members items/Petitions										
Information										

COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

8 JUNE 2010

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 For the Committee to consider nominating delegates 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 it's 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 (**Appendix A refers**) will be future accountability and transparency in public services. A full convention brochure will follow as an appendix to this report.
- 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 Council is eligible for an early bird rate of £359 + VAT per delegate which includes attendance on both days, dinner and refreshment, if booked by 31 March 2010. After this date, the rate per delegate will increase to £399 + VAT.
- 3.5 It is suggested that the Committee nominate 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 funded from the budget of this Scrutiny Committee, who will be accompanied by one representative from each of the Scrutiny Committees along with the Head of Overview and Scrutiny.

5. **Background Papers**

5.1 No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Contact Officer: Claire Harrison, Acting Scrutiny Officer

0191 561 1232

claire.harrison1@sunderland.gov.uk





CfPS 8th annual conference & exhibition

Sustaining outcomes in changing times

30th June - 1st July 2010, The Brewery, London









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.





Visit <u>www.tcp-events.co.uk/cfps2010</u> to book online now

CfPS 2010 is the only scrutiny event that you will need to attend in 2010



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.

Cfps Works

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

Early-bird registration fees apply to registrations received on or before 31 March 2010.

UP TO 31ST MARCH 2010	Full Rate £	Reduced Rate £	Supported Rate £		
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 £	Supported 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

COMMUNITY AND SAFER CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

8 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 which relate to the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Forward Plan contains matters which are likely to be the subject of a key decision to be taken by the Executive. The Plan covers a four month period and is prepared and updated on a monthly basis.
- 2.2 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 a decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.3 Members requested that only those items which are under the remit of the Committee be reported to this Committee. The remit of the Committee covers the following themes:-
 - Safer Sunderland Strategy; Social Inclusion; Community Safety; Anti Social Behaviour; Domestic Violence; Community Cohesion; Equalities; Licensing Policy and Regulation; Community Associations; Registrars
- 2.4 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.

3. Recommendation

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee considers the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 June – 30 September 2010.

4. Background Papers

4.1 There were no background papers used in preparation of this report.

Contact Officer: Sarah Abernethy, Acting Assistant Scrutiny Officer

0191 561 1230

sarah.abernethy@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

r	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	•	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
C	To consider the recommendations of the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee following a review of the action being taken by the Safer Sunderland Partnership to tackle Anti Social Behaviour.	Cabinet	02/Jun/2010	Council Officers and LSP Partners	Evidence at Scrutiny Meetings	Via the Contact Officer by 21 May 2010 - Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee	Scrutiny Committee minutes	Jim Diamond	5611396