

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday 9 July 2003

PRESENT:

Councillor WARNER (Chairman), and Councillors SKILTON (Deputy Chairman), LACEY O.B.E, LEGGETT, MARSH, Mrs MURRAY and Mrs POOLEY.

5. **MINUTES.** The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2003 were submitted and approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a correct record.

6. **PERFORMANCE MONITORING.** The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive providing further information on selected Best Value Performance indicators as requested at the meeting on 9 June 2003.

Heads of Service for each of the Performance indicators identified were in attendance to respond to Members queries regarding past and targeted performance and ways in which performance would be improved.

The Committee thanked the Officers for their attendance.

**NOTED.**

**\*7.ANNUAL SCRUTINY PROGRAMME AND CONDUCTING EFFECTIVE SCRUTINY.** The Committee considered proposed items for its 2003/04 annual programme. This consisted of core items, primarily reports on Best Value and Scrutiny Reviews and Performance Indicators, listed at A to J on the accompanying papers, together with additional items put forward by individual members of the committee for proposed consideration. The additional items submitted in advance were in respect of:-

- Community Finance
- New Waste Management Contract
- Review of Planning Performance Indicators
- Housing Associations

A further five proposed additional items were put forward at the meeting. These were:-

- Wartling Road Coach and Lorry Park
- Seafront Gardens
- Non-domestic Rates
- Internal Audit
- Administration of Housing Benefit

In respect of the above suggested items, members were advised that Wartling Road Coach and Lorry Park was currently the subject of discussion by a Project Board and the Seafront Gardens item would be covered by the

Tourism Best Value Review already scheduled as a core item for consideration by the Scrutiny Committee in the coming year.

The Committee also considered a joint report of the Chief Executive and Head of Democratic Services, which proposed a formula for effectively conducting scrutiny hearings. Members agreed that this new approach would be extremely useful in scrutinising large corporate issues with significant impact on the community. It also provided an opportunity for genuine detailed scrutiny of important issues.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council be recommended to approve:-

(a) That the core items listed at A to J in the report be included as part of the Annual Scrutiny Programme 2003/2004 and that the Scrutiny Secretary be authorised to time-table these into scheduled meetings of the Scrutiny Committee in the coming year as appropriate.

(b) That the new procedure proposed by the Chief Executive and Head of Democratic Services for conducting Scrutiny Hearings on major corporate issues be adopted.

(c) That final determination on how to deal with the additional items set out above be delegated to the Head of Democratic Services in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee. This to determine:-

- Which items are to be included and which (if any) are to be excluded. Any issues not unanimously agreed to be referred back to full Council
- Which of the selected items are to be treated as normal reports for consideration at committee and which are to be the subject of detailed Scrutiny Hearings in accordance with the new procedure approved above

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

**P WARNER**

**Chairman**