

Notice of a Meeting

Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee **Monday, 30 November 2009 at 10.00 am** **County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND**

Membership

Chairman - Councillor Lawrie Stratford
Deputy Chairman - Councillor Carol Viney

Councillors:

Alyas Ahmed	Stewart Lilly	Bill Service
Steve Hayward	Sajjad Hussain Malik	John Goddard
Peter Jones	Susanna Pressel	

Notes: *All members of this Committee are asked to note that there will be a pre-meeting at 9.15 am on the day of the meeting in Committee Room 2. Lunch will also be provided.*
Date of next meeting: 1 February 2010

What does this Committee review or scrutinise?

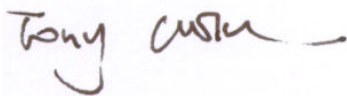
- Community safety; anti-social behaviour; crime and the fear of crime; fire and rescue; consumer protection; emergency planning; police issues; coroner's service; gypsies and travellers; drugs and alcohol awareness; road safety (police, trading standards, fire and rescue); adult learning (oversight of the adult learning service in provider mode); libraries; museums and heritage; the arts; archives; leisure and recreation; registration service; community cohesion; equalities and social inclusion; voluntary and community sector.
- The functions of the responsible authorities (local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, police authorities, the police, primary care trusts) which comprise a Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership/Community Safety Partnership.
- Those regulatory functions of the Planning & Regulation Committee not falling within the remit of the Growth & Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee.

How can I have my say?

We welcome the views of the community on any issues in relation to the responsibilities of this Committee. Members of the public may ask to speak on any item on the agenda or may suggest matters which they would like the Committee to look at. **Requests to speak must be submitted to the Committee Officer below no later than 9 am on the working day before the date of the meeting.**

For more information about this Committee please contact:

Chairman	- Councillor Lawrie Stratford E.Mail: lawrie.stratford@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Committee Officer	- Kath Coldwell, Tel: (01865) 815902 kath.coldwell@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Tony Cloke
Assistant Head of Legal & Democratic Services

November 2009

About the County Council

The Oxfordshire County Council is made up of 74 councillors who are democratically elected every four years. The Council provides a range of services to Oxfordshire's 630,000 residents. These include:

schools	social & health care	libraries and museums
the fire service	roads	trading standards
land use	transport planning	waste management

Each year the Council manages £0.9 billion of public money in providing these services. Most decisions are taken by a Cabinet of 9 Councillors, which makes decisions about service priorities and spending. Some decisions will now be delegated to individual members of the Cabinet.

About Scrutiny

Scrutiny is about:

- Providing a challenge to the Cabinet
- Examining how well the Cabinet and the Authority are performing
- Influencing the Cabinet on decisions that affect local people
- Helping the Cabinet to develop Council policies
- Representing the community in Council decision making
- Promoting joined up working across the authority's work and with partners

Scrutiny is NOT about:

- Making day to day service decisions
- Investigating individual complaints.

What does this Committee do?

The Committee meets up to 6 times a year or more. It develops a work programme, which lists the issues it plans to investigate. These investigations can include whole committee investigations undertaken during the meeting, or reviews by a panel of members doing research and talking to lots of people outside of the meeting. Once an investigation is completed the Committee provides its advice to the Cabinet, the full Council or other scrutiny committees. Meetings are open to the public and all reports are available to the public unless exempt or confidential, when the items would be considered in closed session

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting

A hearing loop is available at County Hall.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments**
2. **Declarations of Interest - see guidance note on the back page**
3. **Minutes** (Pages 1 - 10)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2009 (**SSC3**) and any matters arising on them.

4. **Speaking to or petitioning the Committee**

SCRUTINY MATTERS

To consider matters where the Committee can provide a challenge to the work of the Authority

5. **Service and Resource Planning 2010/11 - 2014/15** (Pages 11 - 78)

10:15

Contact Officer: Lorna Baxter, Assistant Head of Finance (Corporate Finance), 01865 323971

The attached report (**SSC5**) sets out the Business Improvement & Efficiency Strategies for the Directorates relevant to this scrutiny committee. The strategies contain the identified pressures and proposed savings over the medium term from 2010/11 to 2014/15. For reference, the current financial context and the report to the Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee are included. The scrutiny committee is invited to consider and comment on the strategies and the pressures and savings contained therein.

Comments from each scrutiny committee will be collated and fed back to the Cabinet by the Strategy and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee which meets on 14 January 2010.

Members of the Committee will have the opportunity to question the Cabinet Member for Safer & Stronger Communities, together with the Director for Community Safety & Shared Services and Chief Fire Officer, the Director for Social & Community Services, the Head of Community Services, and Heads of Service and other officers on the identified pressures and proposed savings. Officers from Financial Services will also be present at the meeting to answer any questions that the Committee may wish to ask.

Presentations will be given to the Committee on the identified pressures and proposed savings for 2010/11: 1. Cultural Services 2. The Fire & Rescue Service and Emergency Planning 3. Other areas that sit within Community Safety.

The Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider and comment on the Directorate Efficiency Strategies plus the identified pressures and proposals for savings contained therein.

6. Presentation on Draft Fire Authority Integrated Risk Management Action Plan Projects 2010/11

14:20

Contact Officer: Dave Etheridge, Deputy Chief Fire Officer and Head of Service Delivery, (01865) 855206

Mr Etheridge will give a presentation to the Committee on the detail behind the proposals in the Draft Fire Authority Integrated Risk Management Action Plan 2010/11, with particular reference to proposal (a) Day Crewing Review at Abingdon and Didcot Fire Stations, and will also address those questions which have already been submitted by members of this Committee.

Following the presentation the Committee will have the opportunity to ask any questions.

The Committee is invited to conduct a question and answer session.

7. Fire Service Command and Control Room - the FiReControl and FireLink Projects (Pages 79 - 80)

15:20

Contact officer – Colin Thomas, Assistant Chief Fire Officer and Head of Service Support, (01865) 855206

Mr Colin Thomas (Assistant Chief Fire Officer and Head of Service Support) will answer any questions which the Committee wishes to ask.

Subject Matter	Document
Written update on progress of the Fire Service Command and Control Room (FiReControl and FireLink Projects)	SSC7

A gantt chart giving an overview of all of the different work streams will be provided to the meeting.

BUSINESS PLANNING

To consider future work items for the Committee

8. Scrutiny Work Programme (Pages 81 - 82)

15:30

Contact Officer: Dr Imran Alvi, (01865 810822)

As agreed at the October meeting, this Committee's proposed work programme timeline is attached (**SSC8**) and will be updated at each meeting as scrutiny activities are arranged.

The Committee is asked to note any changes/additional information in relation to the attached timeline.

9. Forward Plan

15:35

The Committee is asked to note any items of interest on the current version of the Forward Plan which covers the time period December 2009 – March 2010.

10. Tracking Scrutiny Items

15:40

Report back on advice given by this Committee to the Cabinet, full Council, other scrutiny committees, relevant strategic partnership bodies and other organisations where appropriate.

- **Draft Fire Authority Integrated Risk Management Action Plan 2010/11**

On 26 October the Cabinet Member for Safer & Stronger Communities agreed to:

- a) approve the proposed projects to be included in the Draft IRMP Action Plan 2010-11 for 'risk analysis' and consultation as outlined in the report;
- b) ask the Director for Community Safety and Chief Fire Officer to report the outcome of consultation, with any recommendations for amendment, to the Cabinet Member for Safer & Stronger Communities in February 2010, with a view to formal adoption of the Action Plan for implementation from April 2010.

11. 15:40 Close of Meeting

Declarations of Interest

This note briefly summarises the position on interests which you must declare at the meeting. Please refer to the Members' Code of Conduct in Section DD of the Constitution for a fuller description.

The duty to declare ...

You must always declare any "personal interest" in a matter under consideration, ie where the matter affects (either positively or negatively):

- (i) any of the financial and other interests which you are required to notify for inclusion in the statutory Register of Members' Interests; or
- (ii) your own well-being or financial position or that of any member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association more than it would affect other people in the County.

Whose interests are included ...

"Member of your family" in (ii) above includes spouses and partners and other relatives' spouses and partners, and extends to the employment and investment interests of relatives and friends and their involvement in other bodies of various descriptions. For a full list of what "relative" covers, please see the Code of Conduct.

When and what to declare ...

The best time to make any declaration is under the agenda item "Declarations of Interest". Under the Code you must declare not later than at the start of the item concerned or (if different) as soon as the interest "becomes apparent".

In making a declaration you must state the nature of the interest.

Taking part if you have an interest ...

Having made a declaration you may still take part in the debate and vote on the matter unless your personal interest is also a "prejudicial" interest.

"Prejudicial" interests ...

A prejudicial interest is one which a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would think so significant as to be likely to affect your judgment of the public interest.

What to do if your interest is prejudicial ...

If you have a prejudicial interest in any matter under consideration, you may remain in the room but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter under consideration, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

Exceptions ...

There are a few circumstances where you may regard yourself as not having a prejudicial interest or may participate even though you may have one. These, together with other rules about participation in the case of a prejudicial interest, are set out in paragraphs 10 – 12 of the Code.

Seeking Advice ...

It is your responsibility to decide whether any of these provisions apply to you in particular circumstances, but you may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.