

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 4 OCTOBER 2011

**OBSERVATIONS FROM THE CORPORATE, COMMUNITY AND JOINT
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committees met as follows and their observations below should be read alongside the Executive agenda items identified:-

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 26 September 2011

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committees – 26 September 2011

Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 27 September 2011

10. **GRANTS REVIEW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP – FINAL REPORT**
(Appendix E)

The Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee commended the work of the Grants Review Special Interest Group (SIG) and their recognition of the crucial role of the voluntary sector in the borough. Members welcomed the proposed introduction of a three year SLA from April 2013 for those organisations receiving grants of c. £10,000 as this would give greater confidence to organisations for their future funding.

Members requested that once the allocation of grants had been proposed they were brought to Community O&S for confirmation before going to the Executive and the organisations.

The Committee agreed that the observations from the SIG were informative and helpful and were a useful framework to build on for future.

12. **CAR PARK REVIEW 2011** (Appendix G)

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a detailed report setting out the findings of a comprehensive review into the car parks in the Borough which had been looking at the usage, customer expectations, demand, charges and condition of the car parks. It was noted that it was an excellent piece of work although there were some concerns that consultation with stakeholders such as local businesses had not been as extensive as it could have been. It was clarified that once the proposals had been agreed by the Council, there would be a statutory consultation process undertaken as part of making the new official Off-Street Car Park Order.

The Committee agreed to make the following observations to the Executive:-

- a. there was concern at the level of increase proposed for the premium sites in the borough, despite the high demand for spaces in these areas;

- b. the Committee questioned the appropriateness of allowing disabled blue-badge holders to park for free in non-disabled bays if staying for more than three hours;
- c. it was suggested that some flexibility be offered to season ticket holders by offering a specified alternative car park in the event of their chosen car park being full; and
- d. concern was expressed about the proposed introduction of charges for the car park at Station Lane, Milford and it was suggested that consideration be given to introducing charging after two hours.

The Committee endorsed the findings of the review and the recommendations A-Q, with the exception of recommendation E which was not supported by Cllrs Peter and Tom Martin, Brian Adams, Gillian Beel and Donal O'Neill.

[NB. Following the meeting, discussions have been taking place with the Leader and Portfolio Holder for Parking about how some of the proposals could be amended to take into account some of the observations raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is likely to result in some amended papers and recommendations being tabled at the meeting.]

13. SCC PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF ON-STREET PARKING CHARGES IN WAVERLEY (Appendix H)

Since the last Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting, the full set of proposals had been received that went to the SCC Waverley Local Committee meeting on 16 September 2011, but were withdrawn. The Chairman notified the Committee that in light of recent developments at Surrey County Council they may be reviewing a number of the Council's current policies, among which was likely to be the issue of on-street parking charges.

In light of this development, the Committee agreed that it was not considered appropriate to look in-depth at the proposals set out in the papers, until such time as there was a clearer direction from the County Council of its policies on this issue. The Committee however, did review the headline proposals contained in the report and made a number of broad observations about the viability of the scheme and how it would be administered in practice.

The Committee agreed to comment to the Executive that

1. the Council should continue to monitor SCC's future plans for on-street parking and encourages local members to provide SCC with any recommendations as to the most appropriate approach to on-street parking for their local area in the future; and
2. the County Council be advised that there are flaws in the current proposals and that in future consultations, the Borough Council should be fully briefed and consulted on any plans at the earliest opportunity and no assumption be made that the Waverley Local Committee represents the Borough's views.

15. HOUSING MAINTENANCE CONTRACT PROCUREMENT – CONTRACT/S AWARD (Appendix J)

The Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report that outlined the progress being made on the procurement of the maintenance contracts for the Council's housing stock. The report outlined the opportunities that members might have in the mobilisation of plans to engage in contract delivery. The Committee acknowledged the work officers had undertaken in the contract process and welcomed the opportunity for future engagement.

19. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT, QUARTER 1 (APRIL – JUNE) 2011-12

This item has been deferred until the next meeting of the Executive on 1 November 2011.

SCOPING REPORT – IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF POLICING IN WAVERLEY

In addition, the Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee received and considered a scoping report setting out the remits of its in-depth review of Policing in the Borough. The Committee agreed to seek approval from the Executive to set up a Sub-Committee that will undertake this review work.

Recommendation

It is recommended that approval be given to the establishment of a Sub-Committee of seven members, consisting of Cllrs Brian Ellis, Michael Goodridge, Nicholas Holder, Peter Isherwood, Diane James, Julia Potts and Andrew Wilson, to undertake the in-depth review of Policing in Waverley.

Committees\executive\2011-12\041011\017 observations from o and s