

REPORT TO: CABINET
BY: PETER GILROY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

18 June 2007

CABINET SCRUTINY AND POLICY OVERVIEW
Standing Report to June 2007

Summary

1. The report provides a summary (in Table 1) of outcomes and progress on matters arising from the most recent Cabinet Scrutiny Committee (CSC) meeting held on 23 May 2007.
2. The work programme for Select Committee Topic Reviews was developed and agreed by Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee on 15 February 2007 and reviewed at the most recent meeting held on 7 June 2007. The agreed programme and current status of each topic review are shown in Table 2.

Recommendations

3. To note
 - (i) progress on actions and outcomes of the meeting of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee held on 23 May 2007 as set out in Table 1,
 - (ii) the present programme and status of Select Committee Topic Reviews.
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Background Documents: None

Contact Officer: John Wale 01622 694006

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Table 1

ACTIONS FOR CABINET/DIRECTORATES FROM CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 23 May 2007

| Item/Issue | Actions and Outcomes from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee |
|---|---|
| A2 Minutes of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee 25 April 2007. | The minutes were agreed. Mr Capon asked for his question on Kent TV to be minuted. |
| A3 Cabinet Scrutiny Committee: Standing Report to May 2007 | The report was noted. Mr Wale and Mr Wickenden have agreed a way forward to provide Mr Parker/other spokespersons with information on Select Committee meeting dates and appointments. |
| C1 DfES Consultation on Schools, Early Years and 14-16 Funding | <p>Mr N Chard (Cabinet Member for Finance), Dr T R Robinson (Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services, on behalf of Mr J Simmonds), Ms L McMullan (Managing Director, Finance), and Mr K Abbott (Finance Director, CFE) attended the meeting. Ms McMullan and Mr Abbott gave a comprehensive presentation on the recent DfES Consultation Paper and explained the complex issues which the Education Service would face over the coming 3-year period.</p> <p>Following questions and discussion the following actions were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Copies of presentations (amended to include percentage figures in order to show impact on budgets) to be circulated to all Members. Action: Lynda McMullan/Keith Abbott(b) The Briefing Paper on Mosaic to be circulated to all Members. Action: Keith Abbott(c) The Briefing Paper on Academies to be circulated to all Members. Action: Keith Abbott(d) Mr Bassam to be advised on the latest position on the new building promised for Axton Chase School. Action: Bruce MacQuarrie |

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Table 1

ACTIONS FOR CABINET/DIRECTORATES FROM CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 23 May 2007

| Item/Issue | Actions and Outcomes from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee |
|------------|---|
| | <p>Members also concluded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="655 633 1332 792">(i) Officers and Members be thanked for attending the meeting and providing the briefing, and that Lynda McMullan and Keith Abbott be congratulated on the clarity of their presentations.<li data-bbox="655 797 1332 956">(ii) The Cabinet Members for Finance and Education and School Improvement be requested to include the points set out in the note (from CSC) in KCC's response to the Consultation Paper. Action: Keith Abbott<li data-bbox="655 960 1332 1117">(iii) The Cabinet Member for Finance's agreement that KCC's response to the Consultation Paper should be circulated to all Members of the Committee be welcomed. Action: Keith Abbott |

Select Committee Topic Reviews:
Programme originally agreed following Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee
15 February 2007, reviewed at POCC 7 June 2007

| Policy Overview Committee/ Topic Review/Chair | Current Topic Review status and other topics agreed for the period June 2007 to July 2008 |
|--|--|
| <p>Children Families and Education :</p> <p>PSHE-Children's Health: Chair Ms CJ CRIBBON</p> <p>Developing the Creative Curriculum</p> <p>Primary School Attainment</p> <p>Young People's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development#</p> <p>Vulnerable Children</p> | <p>Inaugural meeting of the Select Committee was held on 5 October. Hearings and visits were held during November. The Select Committee report was accepted by Cabinet on 16 April 2007, and will be debated at full County Council on 24 July 2007. (Research Officer: Gaetano Romagnuolo)</p> <p>POCC agreed that this should remain in the work programme for 2008.*</p> <p>POCC agreed that this issue was being dealt with through a cross-party mechanism. It was therefore removed at the request of CFE POC.</p> <p># POCC suggested this topic could also be combined with aspects of Consultation and Participation with Children and Young People (Student Voice), and with Provision of Activities for Young People. In the work programme for 2008.</p> <p>POCC recommended this Topic Review should commence in Autumn 2007.</p> |
| <p>Corporate: Accessing Democracy</p> | <p>POCC recommended that this review should commence in Autumn 2007* Preliminary discussions have been held to assess how this work will compliment the work of the "Going Local" Informal Member Group.</p> |

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|--|---|
| <p>Communities</p> <p>Student Voice –Consultation and Participation with Young People#</p> <p>Provision of Activities for Young People#</p> | <p>See above; dates to be agreed.</p> <p>See above; dates to be agreed.</p> |
| <p>Communities</p> <p>Alcohol Misuse Chairman: MR J FULLARTON</p> | <p>Inaugural meeting held on 16 May 2007; Terms of Reference Agreed, Hearings will be held mid June to the end of July. The Select Committee will report to Cabinet on 3 December 2007.</p> |
| <p>Adult Services</p> <p>Carers in Kent: MR L CHRISTIE</p> <p>Transitional Arrangements for Young People: MR A BOWLES</p> | <p>Inaugural meeting of the Select Committee was held on 5 June 2007. Hearing sessions are due to be held in July/August 2007, with a report to Cabinet in December 2007.</p> <p>Select Committee hearings commenced in October 2006 and were completed in December 2006. The Select Committee report was accepted by Cabinet on 14 May 2007. Cabinet agreed that Mr K Lynes and Dr T Robinson establish an Informal Member Group (to include a representative of the Select Committee) to consider how the recommendations may be taken forward. (Research Officer: Susan Frampton).</p> |
| <p>Environment and Regeneration</p> <p>Impact of Supermarkets, Out of Town Shopping Malls and Retail Parks on Businesses in Kent</p> <p>Flood Risk</p> | <p>After debate, POCC considered that this topic should be removed from the current work programme.</p> <p>POCC agreed that this topic review should proceed as soon as possible with the objective of completing it by September 2007.</p> |

jhw/sc 7 June 2007

** Subject to formal agreement by Chairman and Spokespersons of POCC of Minutes of Meeting held 7 June 2007.*