

**REPORT TO: CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 24 January 2007**  
**BY: ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**CABINET SCRUTINY AND POLICY OVERVIEW**  
**Standing Report to January 2007**

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**Summary**

1. The report summarises in Table 1 outcomes of the most recent Cabinet Scrutiny Committee (CSC) meeting held on 13 December 2006. Cabinet Members and Chief Officers were provided with a copy of the action sheet and asked to respond as appropriate. The report includes any subsequent responses and actions by Cabinet Members and Senior Officers up to and including the meeting of Cabinet held on 15 January 2007.
2. Additionally, in Table 2 the report provides an updated report on the current programme for Select Committee Topic Reviews as agreed at Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee on 10 August.

**Recommendations**

3. Members are asked to note:
    - (i) progress on actions and outcomes from the meeting of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee held on 13 December 2006 as set out in Table 1;
    - (ii) the current position on Select Committee Topic Reviews.
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Contact Officer: **John Wale 01622 694006**

**ACTIONS FOR CABINET/DIRECTORATES FROM CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 13 December 2006 (following Cabinet 15 January 2007)**

Item/Issue	Actions and Outcomes from Cabinet Scrutiny Committee
<b>A2 Minutes of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee 25 October 2006</b>	These were agreed.
<b>A3 Informal Member Group on Public Health Unit Business Plan</b>	These were noted and the recommendations endorsed.
<b>A4 IMG on Budgetary Issues 30 November 2006</b>	Noted.
<b>A5 Cabinet Scrutiny Committee: Actions and Outcomes</b>	Noted.
<b>A6 Local Government White Paper: Implications for Scrutiny</b>	<p>Items A6 and A7 were considered together. Mr M. Ayre attended and spoke. There were also contributions from Mr Wale and Mr Ballard. Members considered the implications for local scrutiny under the proposed Community Call for Action, following which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) <b>The Committee requested a report to the next meeting on scrutiny implications of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill.</b></li> <li>(ii) <b>Mr Ballard's Advice Note on Public Involvement was agreed.</b></li> </ul>
<b>A7 Encouraging the Public to participate in the Scrutiny Process</b>	
<b>D1 Reduction in Capacity in Primary Schools: St Joseph's (Voluntary Aided) Catholic Primary School: Proposed Closure-Outcome of Public Consultation-(Decision 06/00816)</b>	<p>Mr J Simmonds, Cabinet Member for Education and School Improvement; Dr I Craig, Director of Operations, CFE ; and Mr M Doole, Area Education Officer, Dover and Thanet, attended for this item and answered Members' questions.</p> <p>Mr G Prosser MP; Cllr L Knight (DDC) also spoke on behalf of St Joseph's School and Local Residents. Mr M Cullinane spoke on behalf of the R.C. Archdiocese of Southwark.</p> <p><b>Following extended discussion, Members resolved:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) <b>to thank Mr Simmonds, Dr Craig, Mr Doole and other speakers for attending and asking/answering questions.</b></li> <li>(ii) <b>to make no further comment.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Decision 06/00816 can be implemented.</b></p>

Table 2

**Select Committee Topic Reviews:  
Agreed Programme following Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee 10  
August 2006, updated to 15 January 2007**

<i>Policy Overview Committee/ Topic Review/Chair</i>	<b>Current Topic Review status and other topics (in no particular order*) agreed for the period September 2006 to July 2008</b>
<p><b>Children Families and Education :</b></p> <p>PSHE-Children's Health: <b>Chair Ms CJ CRIBBON</b></p> <p>Developing the Creative Curriculum</p> <p>Primary School Attainment</p> <p>Young People's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development</p>	<p>Inaugural meeting of the Select Committee was held on 5 October. Hearings and visits were held during November. It is anticipated that the Select Committee report will be submitted to Cabinet in April 2007. (Research Officer: Gaetano Romagnuolo)</p> <p>Dates to be agreed*</p> <p>At the meeting of the C, F &amp; E POC on 16 November 2006 the POC recommended that the POCC consider removing this topic from the work programme as Members were satisfied that this was being adequately reviewed through the Member's Monitoring Group. The POCC will consider this request at its meeting on 5 February 2007</p> <p>Dates to be agreed.*</p>
<p><b>Communities</b></p> <p>Accessing Democracy</p> <p>Student Voice –Consultation and Participation with Young People</p> <p>Provision of Activities for Young People</p>	<p>Dates to be agreed*</p> <p>Dates to be agreed.*</p> <p>Dates to be agreed.*</p>

<p><b>Adult Services</b></p> <p>Carers in Kent</p> <p>Transition from Childhood to Adulthood: <b>MR A BOWLES</b></p>	<p>Dates to be agreed*.</p> <p>Inaugural meeting of the Select Committee was held on 9 October 2006; hearing sessions commenced on 26 October and are due to end on 20 December 2006. It is anticipated that the Select Committee report will be submitted to Cabinet in May 2007. (Research Officer: Susan Frampton).</p>
<p><b>Environment and Regeneration</b></p> <p>Climate Change <b>MR C WELLS</b></p> <p>Impact of Supermarkets, Out of Town Shopping Malls and Retail Parks on Businesses in Kent</p>	<p>Report was submitted to Cabinet on 16 October 2006 and was accepted by County Council on 14 December 2006.</p> <p>Dates to be agreed.*</p>
<p><b>NHS Overview and Scrutiny OSC</b></p> <p>Preventing Disease through Physical Activity (Tackling Obesity) (Joint with Canterbury City, Gravesham, and Tonbridge &amp; Malling) <b>MR M R FITTOCK</b></p>	<p>Commenced August 2005; Joint Select Committee's report to be published and launched to coincide with the establishment of the new Primary Care Trust. (Research Officer: David Turner)</p> <p>Final report was submitted to Cabinet on 4 December 2006 and was accepted by County Council on 14 December 2006</p>

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\* Order to be agreed in consultation with POCC Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Liberal Democrat Spokesperson.