

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Grand Jury Room, Town Hall
9 February 2010 at 6.00pm

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel deals with reviewing corporate strategies within the Council's Strategic Plan, the Council's budgetary guidelines for the forthcoming year, scrutinising the Forward Plan, the performance of Portfolio Holders and scrutiny of Cabinet decisions or Cabinet Member decisions (with delegated power) which have been called in.

Information for Members of the Public

Access to information and meetings

You have the right to attend all meetings of the Council, its Committees and Cabinet. You also have the right to see the agenda, which is usually published 5 working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published. Dates of the meetings are available at www.colchester.gov.uk or from Democratic Services.

Have Your Say!

The Council values contributions from members of the public. Under the Council's Have Your Say! policy you can ask questions or express a view to meetings, with the exception of Standards Committee meetings. If you wish to speak at a meeting or wish to find out more, please pick up the leaflet called "Have Your Say" at Council offices and at www.colchester.gov.uk

Private Sessions

Occasionally meetings will need to discuss issues in private. This can only happen on a limited range of issues, which are set by law. When a committee does so, you will be asked to leave the meeting.

Mobile phones, pagers, cameras, audio recorders

Please ensure that all mobile phones and pagers are turned off before the meeting begins and note that photography or audio recording is not permitted.

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Terms of Reference

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

- To review corporate strategies.
- To ensure the actions of the Cabinet accord with the policies and budget of the Council.
- To monitor and scrutinise the financial performance of the Council, and make recommendations to the Cabinet particularly in relation to annual revenue and capital guidelines, bids and submissions.
- To link the Council's spending proposals to the policy priorities and review progress towards achieving those priorities against the Strategic / Action Plans.
- To scrutinise executive decisions made by Cabinet, the East Essex Area Waste Management Joint Committee, the Colchester and Ipswich Joint Museums Committee and Cabinet Member decisions (with delegated authority taking a corporate / strategic decision) which have been made but not implemented, and referred to the Panel through call-in.
- To monitor the Council's operational performance in relation to the Strategic Plan, Local Area Agreement targets and National Indicators.
- To scrutinise the Cabinet's performance in relation to the Forward Plan and to scrutinise the performance of Portfolio Holders.
- At the request of the Cabinet, make decisions about the priority of referrals made in the event of the volume of reports to the Cabinet or creating difficulty for the running of Cabinet business or jeopardising the efficient running of Council business.
- The panel will be the appropriate route for any member to refer a 'local government matter' in the context of Councillor Call for Action.

Process for Councillor Call for Action

- Councillors have the ability to call for debate and discussion a topic of neighbourhood concern, limited to issues affecting a single ward, in an attempt to bring about specific solutions for local problems. This enables members to get things done without going through the Council's executive decision making process.
- Members may bring an action on any issue they choose, with exceptions, for example, if the issue is vexatious or deals with an individual complaint. Local Government matters specifically excluded from the regime are namely matters relating to a planning decision, a licensing decision or where a right of recourse to a review or right of appeal is already provided for in law.
- Poor service performance or increased anti-social behaviour are examples of where a member will bring an action to the panel's attention.
- The scrutiny panel may reject a request as not within the guidance, or the usual channels have not been exhausted, or accept that an investigation is the appropriate action.
- The panel may conduct an investigation in the usual scrutiny manner, seeking information from the Council and/or partners and inviting them to attend meetings.
- A report with recommendations will be compiled and brought to the Council and/or partners attention, with the Council and/or partners having a duty to respond.
- The panel will consider and publish the responses to their recommendations and feed back this information to the Councillor calling for the action.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 9 February 2010 at 6:00pm

Members

Councillors

Councillor Christopher Arnold (Chairman)
Councillor Dennis Willetts (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Kim Naish (Labour Group Spokesperson)
Councillor Nick Barlow
Councillor Mark Cory
Councillor Mike Hogg
Councillor Jackie Maclean
Councillor Gaye Pyman
Councillor Laura Sykes
Councillor Nick Taylor
Councillor Julie Young

AGENDA - Part A

(open to the public including the media)

Members of the public may wish to note that agenda items 1 to 5 are normally brief and agenda items 6 to 9 are standard items for which there may be no business to consider.

Pages

1. Welcome and Announcements

- (a) The Chairman to welcome members of the public and Councillors and to remind all speakers of the requirement for microphones to be used at all times.
- (b) At the Chairman's discretion, to announce information on:
- action in the event of an emergency;
 - mobile phones switched to off or to silent;
 - location of toilets;
 - introduction of members of the meeting.

2. Substitutions

Members may arrange for a substitute councillor to attend a meeting on their behalf, subject to prior notice being given. The attendance of substitute councillors must be recorded.

3. Urgent Items

To announce any items not on the agenda which the Chairman has agreed to consider because they are urgent and to give reasons for the urgency.

4. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman to invite Councillors to declare individually any personal interests they may have in the items on the agenda.

If the personal interest arises because of a Councillor's membership of or position of control or management on:

- any body to which the Councillor has been appointed or nominated by the Council; or
- another public body

then the interest need only be declared if the Councillor intends to speak on that item.

If a Councillor declares a personal interest they must also consider whether they have a prejudicial interest. If they have a prejudicial interest they must leave the room for that item.

If a Councillor wishes to make representations on an item on which they have a prejudicial interest they may do so if members of the public are allowed to make representations. In such circumstances a Councillor must leave the room immediately once they have finished speaking.

An interest is considered to be prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest.

Councillors should consult paragraph 7 of the Meetings General Procedure Rules for further guidance.

5. Minutes

1 - 6

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2010.

6. Have Your Say!

(a) The Chairman to invite members of the public to indicate if they wish to speak or present a petition at this meeting – either on an item on the agenda or on a general matter not on this agenda. You should indicate your wish to speak at this point if your name has not been

noted by Council staff.

(b) The Chairman to invite contributions from members of the public who wish to Have Your Say! on a general matter not on this agenda.

7. Items requested by members of the Panel and other Members

(a) To evaluate requests by members of the Panel for an item relevant to the Panel's functions to be considered.

(b) To evaluate requests by other members of the Council for an item relevant to the Panel's functions to be considered.

8. Referred items under the Call in Procedure

To consider any Portfolio Holder decisions, taken under the Call in Procedure.

The panel may a) confirm the decision, which may then be implemented immediately, b) confirm the decision back to the decision taker for further consideration setting out in writing the nature of its concerns, or c) refer the matter to full Council in the event that the panel considers the decision to be contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council or contrary to, or not wholly in accordance with the Budget.

9. Decisions taken under special urgency provisions

To consider any Portfolio Holder decisions taken under the special urgency provisions.

10. Review of Colchester Community Stadium Company. 7 - 8

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

11. Review of the work of the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods. 9 - 11

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

12. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Sustainability and Environmental 12 - 14

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

13. Work Programme 15 - 16

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

14. Exclusion of the public

In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) to exclude the public, including the press, from the meeting so that any items containing exempt information (for example confidential personal, financial or legal advice), in Part B of this agenda (printed on yellow paper) can be decided. (Exempt information is defined in Section 100I and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

5 JANUARY 2010

Present: - Councillors Arnold, Barlow, Cory, Naish, Sykes, Taylor, Willetts and J Young
Substitutions: - Councillor Cope for Councillor Hogg
Councillor Kimberley for Councillor Pyman
Councillor Hazell for Councillor Maclean

42. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minute of the meeting held on 9 December 2009 was confirmed as a correct record.

43. Items requested by Members of the Panel and other Member

The Chairman took the opportunity to explain to the panel members that the Group Spokespersons had used the previous day's briefing to discuss the remaining work programme for 2009-10.

Councillor Arnold said it had been agreed to have an extra meeting, to be held on 2 March 2010, to undertake a review of the Council's partners in Culture and Arts, namely Firstsite, The Mercury Theatre and Colchester Arts Centre, though this would be dependent on acceptance of invitations.

Councillor Arnold also explained that the panel would take the opportunity to invite Councillor Hume, Essex County Council Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transportation to the meeting of the 30 March 2010, to discuss with the panel the issue of parking restrictions at Mile End, the issue raised by Councillor Goss, and the issue of Town Centre traffic congestion raised by Councillor Naish.

In response to Councillor Cope, Councillor Arnold said the meeting with Councillor Hume would also be the appropriate time to raise what he considered to be another highway issue, that of inadequate gritting during the recent bouts of snowy weather and sub-zero temperatures.

Councillor Cope (in respect of being the Chairman of the Local Development Framework Committee) and Councillor J Young (in respect of being a Member of Essex County Council) both declared a personal interest in the following item.

44. Growth and future development in Colchester

Mr. Ian Vipond, Executive Director, and Mr. James Firth, Planning Policy Officer attended the meeting for this item.

Mr. Vipond addressed the panel, explaining that this review provided the panel with the opportunity to consider what has been happening to Colchester, what it means to residents of Colchester and whether it would hold residents to good advantage. Colchester was

experiencing more housing development than almost any other district council in England in recent years, and the growth continues, relative to other district councils, despite the economic downturn. Mr. Vipond said a significant proportion of the local population growth was coming from within Colchester and was not due to migration, and the forecast showed further growth in the future, which raised the question of how do we provide the infrastructure and jobs to support this growing community.

Mr. James Firth presented the report on Growth and future development options in Colchester that provided an update on recent growth in Colchester and the progress with the Local Development Framework (LDF), where we are now, past trends and how we are moving forward.

Mr. Firth said Colchester was a Key Centre for Development and Change (KCDC) and a Haven Gateway Growth Point, with the current East of England Plan requiring 17,100 new homes between 2001 and 2021, representing 855 homes per annum, and 20,000 new jobs during the same period in the Essex Haven Gateway. Colchester's LDF sets out how Colchester will develop over the next 15 years and how growth will be delivered sustainably through an adopted Core Strategy.

Mr. Firth showed graphs illustrating the actual and forecasted new homes and new jobs growth in Colchester and moving forward, the type of work that is progressing, e.g. site allocations, development policies, supplementary planning documents and the delivery of the Core Strategy's Key facilities and Infrastructure.

Mr. Firth explained that the East of England Plan (RSS) is being reviewed to extend to 2031, and focuses on housing and jobs, using Government information on population growth, future house prices and the likely performance of the economy, using evidence from the National Housing and Planning Advice Unit and the Office of National Statistics. The RSS review considered four different approaches (scenarios), and comparative data was presented to show the impact of each scenario on housing and job growth. Colchester responded to the review through consultation as approved by the LDF and ratified by Full Council, stating that subject to important caveats the maximum level of growth that Colchester can support is scenario 1, a roll forward of the existing plan. Mr. Firth concluded the presentation by explaining that the review of the RSS to 2031 will necessitate a future review of the core Strategy, to give the best options for accommodating growth sustainably, and that the Council's consultation response emphasised the importance of funding for regional, sub regional and local infrastructure.

In response to Councillor Cope, who commented that the Council in effect had to sign up to something and chose the option (scenario one) that necessitated the smallest volume of housing growth, Mr. Vipond said that the substantial amount of the future national housing growth would be in the south east of England and it would be difficult to argue for a lesser amount of growth target than had already happened. In terms of the economic argument Mr. Vipond said building a substantial high level of housing would be the only way to have a significant impact on the level of affordable housing needed to sustain this growth.

Mr. Vipond said Councillor Cope's comment that a condition should be introduced within the Core Strategy that would enable large developments to go ahead but with the proviso that Essex County Council ensured that adequate infrastructure is in place, for example highways, health, education and rail links, was well made. Mr. Vipond said there are different levels of infrastructure development and it would be expected that the national and regional agencies would lead on the supply of the necessary infrastructure growth. It was said that the process to ensure the correct provision of infrastructure is continually developing and improving, reflected in the Garrison regeneration area, now one third complete. North Colchester regeneration area

had also benefitted from the new railway bridge and a northern approach road funded by the developers.

In response to Councillor Naish, Mr. Vipond said planning inspectors will impose the approval of planning applications on appeal unless they see a very good reason not to. Whilst it is recognised that Colchester will get significant growth to 2021, members must take an active role in the control of this development. It was better to plan for these eventualities than not to plan, that developers and inspectors will have greater support for applications given supplementary documents for additional facilities than if an application is given a blank refusal.

In response to Councillor Taylor, Mr. Firth said inevitably it was in the main larger towns that are designated key areas for development. Mr. Firth said statistics were showing that there is currently a correlation between housing and jobs growth, and the Business Enterprise report on the RSS jobs target 2001 – 2021 supported the view that Colchester is likely to attain the overall jobs target by 2021. Mr. Vipond said there will always be the problem of purveying credibility in this process to areas where growth is envisaged. The processes with the regional development agencies have improved immeasurably, though there remains a risk of the economic downturn holding back the development industry. Whatever happens, it was imperative that where development continues community facilities and infrastructure are delivered at the right stage of each development.

In response to Councillor Arnold's question on local job pay, Mr. Firth said recent information suggested the average wage in Colchester was still below the Essex average. There was a need to look to provide a variety and range of jobs that increased the opportunities for all ends of the job market and pay scales, for example, education systems enabled an improvement in skills structure and consequently the range of jobs provided. In regards to what sectors the recent Colchester jobs had been created in, Mr. Vipond said he would ask the Business Enterprise Team to provide members with some information although longer term trends suggested sectors such as leisure, retail and public sector. Most of these jobs were local to Colchester and although there continues to be some commuting to London and elsewhere, these jobs brought income back into the Colchester economy.

Mr. Vipond responded to Councillor Naish in respect of the Mile End consultation on public playing fields and open space, by saying that any alternative use of this open space would only be for the development of a school, and if this was the outcome, the provision of additional nearby open space would be granted with the overall effect of there being no net loss.

RESOLVED that the panel noted the update on the growth and future development options in Colchester and progress with Council's Local Development Framework.

Councillors J Young, Kimberley and Sykes (in respect of being Board Members of Colchester Borough Homes) all declared a personal interest in the following item.

44. Half yearly Performance Report including progress on Strategic Plan Action Plan

Councillor Dopson, Portfolio Holder for Performance and Partnerships, Ms. Lucie Breadman, Head of Corporate Management, and Mr. Greg Falvey, Chief Executive of Colchester Borough Homes attended the meeting for this item.

Ms. Breadman, attending her first scrutiny meeting, was introduced to the panel by Ms. Pam Donnelly, Executive Director.

Councillor Dopson and Ms. Breadman introduced the Half Yearly Performance Report and responded to questions from the panel.

In response to Councillor Arnold enquiring about the progress with the Performance and Reward Scheme, Ms. Breadman said that since writing the report the Trade Union have now balloted their members on whether to accept the scheme or not and the result is that members decided to reject the reward scheme as proposed. On the basis that there is no collective agreement with the trade union the Senior Management Team has decided not to pursue further the reward element.

It was also noted that forming this conclusion took into account the fact that the economy has changed significantly since the start of the negotiations and introducing a reward scheme now when the Council is facing financial pressures could send the wrong message. There is however a strong commitment to the performance management element of the scheme which will continue and SMT will be investigating any other, non-financial opportunities to reward those staff who perform exceptionally well.

Later in the discussions, Ms. Breadman gave some detail to Councillor Taylor about 'Learning Pool' which is a new addition to our learning and development approach. Ms. Breadman said that the council offers a range of different learning and development styles and Learning Pool adds to these by providing access to a range of 'e-learning' opportunities which can be more accessible and flexible for some. More traditional methods will continue to be provided, where required and while initial feedback has been positive, more evaluation will take place once the programme has been in place for a longer period.

Mr. Falvey joined the discussions to explain to members the reasons for the national indicator for the average time to relet Council houses showing red, with the current average time being 36 days against a target of 28 days.

Mr. Falvey explained that the indicator is made up of three elements, General Needs stock voids, Sheltered Accommodation voids and Temporary Accommodation voids, and it was the last two of these void types that create the major problems. The vast majority of voids, those of General Needs Accommodation had an average time to relet of 30 days, a respectable figure, though it was intended to reduce this to 20 days, whilst the Sheltered and Temporary Accommodation voids average relet time of 40 days or more was attributable in the main to shared facilities for which a planned investment and remodelling programme was needed. Mr. Falvey said the Temporary Accommodation Stock was transferred in December to a Housing Association on a long lease agreement, and this would have a significant long term impact on the relet times. Mr. Falvey confirmed that the target for this year would not be reached, but was confident a respectable 32 day figure would be achieved.

Panel members and officers agreed with Councillor Arnold, that it would be helpful and informative to include in future reporting, the aggregate relet time figure with a breakdown by the three void types to explain what was happening.

In response to Councillor Young who supported investment by the Council to bring all Sheltered Accommodation up to the required standard, Mr. Falvey explained that the Council, as part of the Asset Management Strategy are reviewing the worst properties that fall into the Sheltered Accommodation category, that will inform which of these are the key properties we should be investing in for improvement.

The panel agreed with Councillor Arnold that the final strategy report and Mr. Falvey's report on recommendations to improve voids performance should be reported to the panel at the earliest convenient meeting in 2010-11.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) The panel considered and noted the Half Yearly Performance Report including progress on the Strategic Plan Action Plan.*
- ii) The panel proposed that Cabinet consider showing the three separate elements of the ex-212 Average time to relet council houses indicator in future performance reports, which will assist with future analysis of performance.*
- iii) The panel proposed that they continue their scrutiny of the Average Relet Time performance in May or June by reviewing the outcomes of the Sheltered Housing Accommodation review currently being undertaken by the Council as part of the Asset Management Strategy, when it is finalised, along with the VOIDS performance report and recommendations drawn up by CBH.*

Councillor J Young (in respect of being a Member of Essex County Council) declared a personal interest in the following item.

45. Comprehensive Area Assessment (One Place)

Mr. Adrian Pritchard, Chief Executive Officer and Councillor Dopson, Portfolio Holder for Performance and partnerships attended the meeting for this item and Mr. Pritchard presented the report on Comprehensive Area Assessment (One Place), known as CAA.

Mr. Pritchard explained that this reporting format was a replacement for the original Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) format, in which Colchester had been assessed as a borough council as 'excellent'. Under CAA the assessment was made in all public sector working across the whole of Essex. Mr. Pritchard said whilst the report mentions Colchester in a number of places, the report or findings are not directed specifically at Colchester.

The report gave a green flag for the response by Essex to the recession, though it was acknowledged that Colchester had been very proactive in its work and Mr. Pritchard felt Colchester should take some credit for the work and effort made by members and officers to local businesses and communities.

The report gave a red flag for Safeguarding Essex Children. Mr. Pritchard acknowledged that as part of public sector working the Council had a responsibility and role to play in safeguarding local vulnerable children and a part time person is employed for this work in the Council, though a budget bid will be made to increase this staffing resource. Mr. Pritchard said the Council do take this concern seriously, are confident we have identified the work needed and are fully committed to this work.

In response to Councillor Barlow, Councillor Dopson said she personally felt the 'red flag' was concerning and had to be addressed, with a need to be proactive, more than just a duty to cooperate. The Council was to ensure, supported by a financial commitment, that CBC employees and partner organisations, have a 'heightened awareness' of the responsibility of safeguarding children. Colchester is sadly, though necessarily, one of the first areas in the county to receive the support of a multi-agency allocation group, which would enable more

detailed tracking of children's services throughout the borough - and the Council had a part to play in this work, though partnership working is essential to be successful in our aims.

Mr. Pritchard said that just as the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership was a partnership issue and not just a police issue, so was the case with Safeguarding Essex Children, with all public sector organisations and individuals having a role to play.

In response to Councillor Naish who took umbrage at the 'our world' being one of the Priorities for Essex, saying a more appropriate priority would be 'our County', given that local communities could not change what is done nationally or across the world, Councillor Dopson said these priorities had been made and agreed by Essex County Councillors. Whilst Councillor Dopson accepted 'Our World' appeared grandiose it was underpinned as 'global citizens' who all had a responsibility and a duty to the world.

Mr. Pritchard concluded the discussions by saying the Council should take some significant pride in the report, that Colchester has proven to be a district council that takes a lead on many initiatives, and encouragingly, partners look to Colchester for guidance, help and support.

RESOLVED that the panel commented and noted the Area Assessment report from the One Place judgement.

46. Review of the Portfolio for Performance and Partnerships

Councillor Dopson, Portfolio Holder for Performance and Partnerships attended the meeting for this item. This was a short item, given Councillor Dopson had already discussed issues and responsibilities with the panel during the previous two items.

Councillor Dopson, in response to Councillor Naish, said that the sale of tobacco and alcohol to those under the legal age was a licensing issue, dealt with by Trading Standards and license enforcement. That said punitive measures are not enough, and there was also a duty on the Council as a partner to the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership to play an active role in working with schools and health services in addressing these issues.

In terms of partnership working, and in response to Councillor Naish, Councillor Dopson said she had been proactive in integrating the 'Older Persons Forum', that provided to residents a similar voice given to the 'Young People Forum'. The forums are well attended, with twenty five local agencies attending meetings in 2009. The forums consider the issues for older people, which are recognised as transportation in rural areas, isolation, inactivity and a lack of stimulation.

Councillor Dopson was proud of her involvement with Colchester's Children and Young People Strategic Partnership (CYPSP), now the North East Essex Children's Trust Board, and was passionate about the delivery of the respective Service Level Agreements (SLAs). Councillor Dopson said she also has regular one to one meetings with the Chairman of the Primary Care Trust. Councillor Dopson concluded by also confirming her involvement in regular report monitoring and meetings with partner organisations funded through SLAs and Public Sector organisations through the Public Sector Partnership (PSP), part of Colchester2020.

RESOLVED that the panel thanked Councillor Dopson for attending the meeting and responding to member's questions.



Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item
10

9 February 2010

Report of	Scrutiny Officer	Author	Robert Judd Tel. 282274
Title	Colchester Community Stadium Limited		
Wards affected	Not applicable		

This report sets out the governance arrangements and current work of Colchester Community Stadium Limited.

1. Action required

- 1.1 The Panel is asked to consider and comment on the work of the Colchester Community Stadium Limited.

2. Reason for scrutiny

- 2.1 The Council's Code of Corporate Governance states the aim for robust scrutiny, and a principle to engage with stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.
- 2.2 The Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel agreed to the review of the Colchester Community Stadium company on the 24 August 2009.

3. The evening's arrangements

- 3.1 Mr. David Murthwaite, Chairman of the Colchester Community Stadium Board (CCSB) and Mr. Clive Gilham, Chief Executive of the CCSB will be attending the meeting for this item.
- 3.2 A short presentation will be given highlighting the Company's activities over the last twelve months, including governance arrangements, operating costs, activities undertaken by various lessees (the football club operating company and the Community Sports Trust) and highlights and achievements of the community stadium.

4. Governance and work of the Colchester Community Stadium Limited (CCSL)

- 4.1 CCSL was created by Colchester Borough Council as an arms length company to manage the Community Stadium. It is a limited company which is wholly owned by the Council. Colchester Borough Council retains the freehold interest in the new community stadium and has leased it, for 125 years, to the newly created management company, CCSL. This 'limited by guarantee' company is the Partnership vehicle. It remains wholly owned by the Council, but it's Memorandum and Articles require it to have a carefully balanced board of nine members.
- 4.2 The CCSB comprises of nine members, three independent directors, three Colchester Borough Council representatives, currently the Leader, Deputy Leader and Chief Executive, one Colchester United Football Club director, one Colchester United Community Sports Trust director and the Chief Executive of the Company.

- 4.3 The CCSB has developed into a progressive partnership that is committed to ensure the Community Stadium is used for the benefit of all and offers a wide range of opportunities from social and recreational activities to health and education programmes.
- 4.4 CCSL sub-lets exclusive use areas such as the offices and the club shop to the Club and the Trust, and also gives the Club a licence for that period to use the remainder of the complex on league match days. However, it retains legal control of these areas on all non-match days. CCSL's remit is to ensure a balance of community and commercial activity takes place within a financially viable business plan.
- 4.5 However, unlike other community stadium companies, CCSL has outsourced day to day operational delivery of its services to the Football Club under a 5-year management agreement. This avoids CCSL taking on staff that might duplicate staff already employed by the Club. It also makes best possible use of Club expertise, and incentivises the Club to play a direct part in the development of non-matchday business activity.

5. Standard References

This report provides members with a general summary of 'Colchester Community Stadium Limited'. Therefore;

- 5.1 There are no policy plan references or financial implications in this matter. There are no equality, diversity or human rights issues in this matter and therefore no Equality Impact Assessment has been completed. There is no health and safety, community safety or risk management implications in this matter.
- 5.2 The work of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel is a key function to ensure items within the programme are subject to full appraisal and in line with the aims of the strategic plan, and helps to check that risks are identified and challenged.



Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item
11

9 February 2010

Report of

Scrutiny Officer

Author **Robert Judd**
Tel. 282274

Title

Review of the work of the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods

Wards affected

Not applicable

This report sets out the Scheme of Delegation and Portfolio Holder responsibilities for the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods.

1. Action Required

- 1.1 The Panel is asked to review the work of the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods.

2. Responsibilities

- 2.1 Details of the Council's Scheme of Delegation and Portfolio Responsibilities within the Constitution and in respect of the Neighbourhoods portfolio are attached to this report.
- 2.2 The Scheme of Delegation details the portfolio responsibilities, the major projects within the portfolio and those services that are procured in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of the service areas within the portfolio.

3. Standard References

- 3.1 There are no policy plan references or financial implications in this matter. There are no equality, diversity or human rights issues in this matter and therefore no Equality Impact Assessment has been completed. There is no health and safety, community safety or risk management implications in this matter.
- 3.2 The work of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel is a key function to ensure items within the programme, including the work of all the Portfolio Holders is subject to full appraisal and in line with the aims of the strategic plan.

Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members

Delegation to the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods

PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING

To procure the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:-

1. Public sector dwellings, management of Council owned dwellings and other properties and their environs including the setting of rents in accordance with the Management Agreement dated 11 August 2003 between the Council and Colchester Borough Homes Limited and any subsequent agreement or arrangement entered into between the parties.
2. Tenant selection/nomination criteria and conditions of tenancy.
3. The Council's statutory responsibilities to homeless persons.
4. The Council's relationship with Registered Social Landlords.
5. The Right to Buy Scheme.

PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING

To procure the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:-

1. Non-statutory housing functions such as housing advice, etc.
2. The Council's statutory responsibilities in respect of housing standards.
3. Support schemes to Building Societies and Banks and the making of mortgage advances by the Council for house purchase and improvement.
4. Housing standards and the protection of persons from unlawful eviction or harassment.
5. Private sector housing grants.

GENERAL HOUSING MATTERS

To procure the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:-

1. The promotion of the Council on regional and sub-regional bodies in relation to housing completions, housing developments.
2. To procure the specified service for the dissemination of information regarding all housing matters.
3. Home loss, disturbance and similar payments.

Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members

Delegation to the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods (continued)

Portfolio Responsibilities

To promote the Council's Housing Strategy and to monitor its implementation.

To examine and review the operation of Colchester Borough Homes.

Major Project(s) in Portfolio: Housing Review



Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item
12

9 February 2010

Report of

Scrutiny Officer

Author **Robert Judd**
Tel. 282274

Title

Review of the work of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Sustainability and Environmental

Wards affected

Not applicable

This report sets out the Scheme of Delegation and Portfolio Holder responsibilities for the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Sustainability and Environmental.

1. Action Required

- 1.1 The Panel is asked to review the work of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Sustainability and Environmental.

2. Responsibilities

- 2.1 Details of the Council's Scheme of Delegation and Portfolio Responsibilities within the Constitution and in respect of the Planning, Sustainability and Environmental portfolio are attached to this report.
- 2.2 The Scheme of Delegation details the portfolio responsibilities, the major projects within the portfolio and those services that are procured in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of the service areas within the portfolio.

3. Standard References

- 3.1 There are no policy plan references or financial implications in this matter. There are no equality, diversity or human rights issues in this matter and therefore no Equality Impact Assessment has been completed. There is no health and safety, community safety or risk management implications in this matter.
- 3.2 The work of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel is a key function to ensure items within the programme, including the work of all the Portfolio Holders is subject to full appraisal and in line with the aims of the strategic plan.

Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members

Delegation to the Portfolio Holder for

Planning, Sustainability and Environmental

PLANNING

To procure the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:

1. Functions as Local Planning Authority.
2. Building Regulations and allied legislation relating to dangerous buildings and safety at sports grounds.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

To procure the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:-

1. The preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents and the issue of draft Supplementary Planning Documents for consultation.
2. To agree the Statement of Community Involvement and the Annual Monitoring Report.

SUSTAINABILITY

1. To develop policies in relation to sustainability and to oversee and promote the implementation of the Nottingham Declaration objectives.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

To procure the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:-

1. Environmental initiatives and apportionment of the Environmental Initiatives budget.
2. The delivery of the Council's renewal agenda including sustainable housing, infrastructure, employment and leisure facilities.

Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members

Delegation to the Portfolio Holder for

Planning, Sustainability and Environmental (continued)

ENVIRONMENT

To procure the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:-

1. Sea defence and coast protection matters.

Portfolio Responsibilities

1. To oversee the implementation and monitoring of the Council's policies and services relating to all planning activities including conservation and building control.
2. To monitor the implementation of the Local Plan.
3. To promote and procure the implementation of the Borough Council's Transport Strategy in partnership with Essex County Council, the responsible Transport Authority and other partners to improve infrastructure.
4. To promote partnership working with Essex County Council, the responsible Transport Authority.
5. To oversee major regeneration projects which impact upon the Council's landholdings.
6. To support local and regional partnerships which can lever in new investment into the Borough's four regeneration areas.
7. To oversee the implementation and monitoring of the Borough Council's services and policies relating to environmental initiatives.

Major Project(s) in Portfolio: Cultural Quarter, Vineyard Gate; North Colchester and East Colchester.



Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item
13

9 February 2010

Report of	Scrutiny Officer	Author	Robert Judd Tel. 282274
Title	Work Programme		
Wards affected	Not applicable		

This report sets out the current work programme for 2009/10

1. Action Required

- 1.1 The Panel is asked to consider and confirm the rolling 2009/10 work programme.

2. Reason for Scrutiny

- 2.1 This function forms part of the Panel's Terms of Reference in the Constitution therefore there are no alternative options.

3. Update to the work programme

- 3.1 An additional meeting has been booked for the 2 March 2010. The meeting has been arranged to enable the pre-Cabinet scrutiny of the Fundamental Review of the Revenues and Benefits Service.
- 3.2 As agreed at the January meeting, an invitation was sent to representatives from Colchester's arts and culture partners, plus Ms. Andrea Stark from Arts Council England, East and Councillor Jeremy Lucas, Essex County Council Portfolio Holder for Heritage, Culture and the Arts. Invitations have been accepted, and therefore the meeting on the 2 March will provide the opportunity to consider the strategic overview of the Council's Arts and Culture funding partners Firstsite, The Mercury and Colchester Arts Centre.

4. Standard References

- 4.1 There are no policy plan references or financial implications in this matter. There are no equality, diversity or human rights issues in this matter and therefore no Equality Impact Assessment has been completed. There is no health and safety, community safety or risk management implications in this matter.
- 4.2 The work of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel is a key function to ensure items within the programme are subject to full appraisal and in line with the aims of the strategic plan, and helps to check that risks are identified and challenged.

Outstanding reviews

1. Strategic review of CYPSP (Head of Life Opportunities) – tba for 2010-11
2. Greenways Care Home progress (ref. SOSP 10-Feb-09)

16 June 2009

1. Pre Cabinet scrutiny of the Strategic Plan Action Plan + Nis and LAA targets
2. Urgency – Comment form for Nominated New Nuclear Power Station Sites (13-May-09)

14 July 2009 (Ian Vipond Lead Director)

1. Review of the Budget Strategy and Timetable (Head of Resource Management)
2. Clarification report on Affordable Housing – Head of Strategic Policy (SOSP minute6, 16 June)
3. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Communications, Customers and Leisure (last review 10-feb-09)

24 August 2009

1. Review of the Colchester2020 Partnership – item deferred until September.
2. Strategic review of CDRP (Head of Life Opportunities) (Crime and Disorder Committee)
3. Life Opportunities (Executive Director) (SOSP min.6 16June)
4. New build nuclear power station at Bradwell

29 September 2009

1. Review of the Colchester2020 Partnership – Chairman of Colchester2020 / CEO CBC to attend.
2. Public Service Partnership (Executive Director A. Wain)(Chair PSP unable to attend)

13 October 2009 additional meeting

1. Responding to the economic Downturn - presentation from Executive Director P. Donnelly.
2. Overview of Environmental and Protective Services Review - Head of Env. & Protective Services

3 November 2009

1. Overview of Housing Services Review – Head of Strategic Policy and Regeneration / Head of Life Opportunities (SOSP minute6, 16June)
2. Street Care Strategy / Graffiti protocol (Head of Street Services)
3. Climate Change and Carbon Management (update from review of 16-dec-08)
4. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Street and Waste Services (last review 10-feb-09)

9 December 2009

1. Review of the Budget – Strategic update (Head of Resource Management)
4. Review of the work of the Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holder for Strategy (last review 7-04-09)

5 January 2010

1. Growth in Colchester and Colchester's Local Development Framework (Executive Director, Ian Vipond / Spatial Policy Manager)
2. Half yearly performance report incl. progress on Strategic Plan Action Plan (Head of CM)
3. Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) (Executive Director)
4. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Performance and Partnerships (last review 17-mar-09)

9 February 2010

1. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods (last review 7-apr-09)
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Sustainability and Environmental
3. Review of Colchester Community Stadium Company - Chief Executive, Chair David Murthwaite & Dir. Clive Gilham to attend (Part of Annual Governance Statement Action Plan)

2 March 2010 additional meeting

1. Fundamental Review of the Revenues and Benefits Service (pre Cabinet Scrutiny)
2. Review of the Council's Arts and Culture funding partners Firstsite, The Mercury and Colchester Arts Centre.

30 March 2010

1. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Diversity, Culture and the Arts (first year, revised in January10)
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Business and Tourism (first year, revised in January10)

Call ins

- 9 December 2009 – Land Transfer at Norman Way (Cabinet decision 2 December 2009)

