



## **ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of the meeting of the ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE held on WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 2003 at 7.00 PM at the Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Barrie Hargrove (Chair)  
Councillors Alfred Banya and Alison Moise

**OFFICERS:** Maggie Sullivan – Corporate Strategy  
Peter Roberts – Scrutiny Team

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Gavin O'Brien and Lisa Rajan.

### **MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Sub-Committee noted the membership as indicated on the agenda summons and confirmed the Members listed as being present as the voting Members for the meeting. The Sub-Committee also noted the terms of reference agreed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 21 May 2003.

### **NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS AS URGENT**

There were no late and urgent items of business.

### **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

### **RECORDING OF MEMBERS' VOTES**

Council Procedure Rule 1.17(5) allows a Member to record her/his vote in respect of any motions and amendments. Such requests are detailed in the following Minutes. Should a Member's vote be recorded in respect of an amendment, a copy of the amendment may be found in the Minute file and is available for public inspection.

The Sub-Committee considered the items set out on the agenda, a copy of which has been incorporated in the Minute File. Each of the following paragraphs relates to the item bearing the same number on the agenda.

**1. PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAY 2003 (see pages )**

1.1 The Sub-Committee received a briefing note on arrangements for a public fireworks display for 5 November 2003, which it considered in conjunction with its work-programme for 2003/2004. The Sub-Committee noted that there was the opportunity to review arrangements for any fireworks display planned for 2003 as part of its 2003/2004 work programme but, in the light of other more pressing reviews, agreed to reaffirm its decision of 13 November 2002 as follows:

- RESOLVED:**
1. That as Peckham Rye had proved an unsuitable venue for the fireworks event it should not be used again; and
  2. That no future firework displays should take place at all unless the Council could be better satisfied as to the adequacy of policing arrangements and communication between the sections of the Council, the Police and others concerned.

**2. WORK PROGRAMME 2003/2004 (see pages)**

2.1 The Sub-Committee received a presentation outlining the background to overview and scrutiny, changes in the Sub-Committee's terms of reference and reviews outstanding from 2002/2003. The presentation highlighted criteria for selecting reviews and identified forward plan decisions and policy framework plans falling into the Sub-Committee's area of interest. A copy of the presentation is available on the Minute file.

2.2 The Sub-Committee also received for information a report to the Executive on Environmental Audits and the Way Forward.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the Sub-Committee receive an update as to the outcome of recommendations arising from previous scrutiny reviews and in future all recommendations be tracked and regularly reported back;
  2. That the Sub-Committee's Work Programme for 2003/2004 include:
    - Fast-track Review of the Voluntary Sector (July)
    - Waste Management Strategy (September)
    - Community Safety Best Value Review (October)
    - Anti-social Behaviour Strategy (November onwards)
    - Penalties and Prosecutions (December)

3. That appropriate Officers be invited to the Sub-Committee's meeting on 15 July to brief Members on funding options arising from the Fast-track Review of Commissioning for the Voluntary Sector and that a representative from Southwark Action for Voluntary Organisations be invited to comment on the process of the review;
4. That the Sub-Committee review the progress of the COMPACT with the voluntary sector as part of a longer-term review of the Council's relationship with the voluntary sector;
5. That consideration of the Waste Management Strategy include quarterly performance reporting on applicable targets and receipt of evidence from Executive Members;
6. That the Sub-Committee undertake a review of domestic violence with a focus on the Community Safety Best Value Review, Southwark's Hate Crime Action Plan, the GLA's domestic violence strategy and evidence from external witnesses in order to make recommendations to the Executive;
7. That the review of anti-social behaviour focus on such issues as crack-houses on housing estates, neighbour noise nuisance and their effect on residents with reference to the work of Southwark's Anti-Social Behaviour Unit and that the Executive Member for Housing be invited to give their views; a draft project brief to be drawn up by Councillor Alison Moise and circulated to all members of the Sub-Committee;
8. That the review of penalties and prosecutions focus on enforcement of policy in such areas as enviro-crime and the payment of monies to the Council by utility companies which e.g. overstay licenses when doing roadworks;
9. That clarification be provided to the next meeting in respect of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's recommendation that any scrutiny of the degree of community engagement by Community Councils be retained to this Sub-Committee whilst any review of further devolution of finances and other functions to Community Councils be undertaken by the Finance & Economic Development Scrutiny Sub-Committee;
10. That a review of the Civic Awards not be undertaken by the Sub-Committee as it would not meet the Sub-Committee's criteria for selecting reviews;
11. That action taken in respect of the environmental audits of Strategic Services and Housing and any new policy arising be considered when agreeing the Sub-Committee's work-programme for 2004/2005;

12. That Officers provide an update on the Council's Statement on Alcohol Licensing in order for the Sub-Committee to consider whether it wishes to interview Licensing Officers and the Police in respect of late night and alcohol licensing, particularly in the light of the Council's new responsibilities in this area;
13. That Officers write to the Chair of Education Scrutiny Sub-Committee, the Safer Southwark Partnership and SRB6 to determine whether homophobic bullying in schools has been considered as part of any work on behavioural management or hate crimes in schools;
14. That the Sub-Committee receive a briefing on the role of the Southwark Alliance in respect of the Community Strategy and the Sub-Committee's ability to contribute to and comment on the Strategy;
15. That Officers provide quarterly briefing notes on the Community Warden schemes in Bermondsey and Peckham; and
16. That Officers provide details of the next proposed mystery shopping exercise in respect of service provision and access issues for disabled people, as outlined in the current Corporate Equalities Action Plan, and the results of the exercise.

3. **FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS – JUNE/SEPTEMBER 2003** (see pages 1 - 26)

This was considered in conjunction with the Sub-Committee's Work Programme for 2003/2004.

The meeting finished at 9.50 pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATE:**