

<b>Item No:</b> <b>4</b>	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2004	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Overview & Scrutiny Committee
<b>Report Title:</b>		Reference from Executive: Consultation Processes and Factors Surrounding Executive Reports	
<b>Ward(s) or Group affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Executive	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee investigate the consultation processes and factors surrounding Executive reports.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. At its meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2004, the Executive considered a report from the Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee. The report requested the Executive to respond to the Sub-Committee's concern at the lack of public consultation on the proposals in respect of the 'Southwark Parks – Organisation, Structure and Contracts' which the Executive had considered at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2003.
3. The Sub-Committee also requested that the Executive respond to its concern that it had not had an opportunity to comment on the proposals relating to the Southwark Parks issue before the Executive had made its decisions, despite a prior request.
4. The Executive noted the recommendations of the Sub-Committee, further noted the concerns about the adequacy of consultation with stakeholders with regard to decisions made by the Executive and recommended that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee investigate the consultation processes and factors surrounding Executive reports.
5. On 5<sup>th</sup> April 2004 Overview & Scrutiny Committee agreed to defer consideration of this report to its 6<sup>th</sup> May 2004 meeting, at which time the Committee would discuss the wider issues of the interrelationship between scrutiny and the Executive's forward planning processes.

## KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

6. The Education, Youth & Leisure Scrutiny Sub-Committee were specifically concerned that the public consultation which had been outlined in Appendix 1 of the Southwark Parks report would be taking place after the proposals had been agreed and that the proposed consultation did not include schools or Community Councils. Also that the Sub-Committee had not been given the opportunity to comment despite a previous request.

7. The Executive is recommending that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee investigate the consultation processes and factors surrounding Executive reports.
8. Any proposals made by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee in relation to the consultation processes will need to be agreed by the Executive.

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Executive Agenda and Minutes – 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2004	Town Hall, Peckham Road, London. SE5 8UB	Everton Roberts Constitutional Team 020 7525 7221

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer/</b>	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Team Manager	
<b>Report Author</b>	Everton Roberts, Constitutional Officer	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2004	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Borough Solicitor & Secretary	No	No
Chief Finance Officer	No	No
Scrutiny Team	-	Yes – this report updated with decision of 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2004 OSC meeting