



AGENDA

For a meeting of the
HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL
to be held on
TUESDAY, 16 JANUARY 2007
at
2.30 PM
in
**THE MEETING ROOM, MERES LEISURE CENTRE, TRENT ROAD,
GRANTHAM**

Duncan Kerr, Chief Executive

Panel Members:	Councillor David Brailsford, Councillor Elizabeth Channell, Councillor Nick Craft (Vice-Chairman), Councillor Donald Fisher, Councillor Bryan Helyar, Councillor Fereshteh Hurst, Councillor Stan Pease, Councillor Mrs Margery Radley and Councillor Jeff Thompson (Chairman)
Scrutiny Officer:	Paul Morrison 01476 406512 p.Morrison@southkesteven.gov.uk
Scrutiny Support Officer:	Jo Toomey 01476 406152 j.toomey@southkesteven.gov.uk

Members of the Panel are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed below.

1. COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

To receive comments or views from members of the public at the Panel's discretion.

2. MEMBERSHIP

The Panel to be notified of any substitute members.

3. APOLOGIES

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare interests in items for consideration at the meeting.

5. ACTION NOTES

The notes of the meeting held on 7th November 2006 are attached for information.
(Enclosure)

6. FEEDBACK FROM THE EXECUTIVE

(Enclosure)

7. UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

8. GORSE LANE UPDATE

9. SHAPING ACUTE SERVICES IN LINCOLNSHIRE - CREATING THE FUTURE

The DSP will consider the provision of acute services in Lincolnshire. Dr. Martin McShane from the Lincolnshire NHS Primary Care Trust will attend the meeting.

10. STAMFORD HOSPITAL

Mandy Renton from the Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust will attend the meeting to provide an update report.

11. CULTURAL SERVICES

The District Council's Service Manager, Cultural Services will discuss developments with the Panel.

12. MERES LEISURE CENTRE MANAGER – UPDATE

The Manager of the Meres Leisure Centre will attend the meeting to update the Panel on the operation of the leisure centre.

13. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

14. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

(Enclosure)

15. WORK PROGRAMME

(Enclosure)

16. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Representatives on outside bodies to give update reports.

17. FINANCIAL UPDATE

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS, WHICH THE CHAIRMAN, BY REASONS OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, DECIDES IS URGENT.

WORKING STYLE OF SCRUTINY

The Role Of Scrutiny

- To provide a “critical friend” challenge to the Executive as well as external authorities and agencies
- To reflect the voice and concerns of the public and its communities
- Scrutiny Members should take the lead and own the Scrutiny Process on behalf of the public
- Scrutiny should make an impact on the delivery of public services

Remember...

- Scrutiny should be member led
- Any conclusions must be backed up by evidence
- Meetings should adopt an inquisitorial rather than adversarial style of traditional local government committees



MEETING OF THE HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL

TUESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2006 2.30 PM

PANEL MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Elizabeth Channell
Councillor Nick Craft (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Mike Exton
Councillor Bryan Helyar

Councillor Stan Pease
Councillor Mrs Margery Radley
Councillor Jeff Thompson (Chairman)

OFFICERS

Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Support Officer
Energy Officer

1 Member of the Public

42. MEMBERSHIP

The Panel were notified that Councillor Exton would be substituting for Councillor Brailsford for this meeting only.

43. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brailsford, Fisher and F. Hurst.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

45. ACTION NOTES

Noted. The notes from the special meeting of the Panel held on Thursday 19th October 2006 were circulated at the meeting. These were also noted.

The Chairman agreed to take the next item as urgent business because of obligations that were placed on the council on signing the Nottingham Declaration on climate change.

46. ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Copies of report number CEX359 were circulated at the meeting. The Energy Officer explained that the Leader and Chief Executive had signed the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change on behalf of the Council on 24th October 2006. To meet the

obligations of the declaration and potential government directives on climate change, a Climate Change Strategy would be needed. The strategy would power consumption in all council buildings, the use of fuel in council vehicles, the saving in greenhouse emissions resulting in the improved recycling rate in the district and the impact of encouraging sustainable transport within the community.

Officers from relevant corporate areas had been appointed to a working group to produce the strategy. Three members were needed to sit on the working group. The Panel agreed that Councillors Craft, Exton and Helyar should be appointed.

The Energy Manager added that all fuel used in the Grantham offices was green energy, produced from renewable sources. Members of the Panel asked the Energy Manager to investigate why renewable energy had not been incorporated into the Welham Street multi-storey car park development. He was also asked to find out the cost of oil used at the Deepings Leisure Centre.

Members briefly considered whether it would be possible to promote sustainable transport within the community when the district council did not operate a cross-border travel scheme.

CONCLUSIONS:

- 1) ***To appoint Councillors Craft, Exton and Helyar to the Climate Change Strategy Working Group.***
- 2) ***To task the Energy Manager with finding out:***
 - i. The reason renewable energy sources were not incorporated in the Welham Street car park development in Grantham;*
 - ii. The cost of oil used at the Deepings Leisure Centre.*

47. UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Note 25

The Scrutiny Officer had contacted Mandy Renton regarding Stamford Hospital. She had agreed to attend the meeting of the Panel on 16th January 2007 to provide an update report.

Note 26

The recommendation made to the Portfolio Holder was addressed at the Cabinet meeting on Monday 6th November 2006. At that meeting the Cabinet approved additional policies to be included in the Local Development Framework Core Strategy. These were flood risk, energy efficiency in new buildings and renewable energy schemes.

48. GORSE LANE - UPDATE

County Councillor Chapman and Bryan Gault from Lincolnshire County Council's Highways Department had provided updates on recommendations made at the meeting on 5th September 2006.

Recommendation 1 – the costing of a capital scheme to widen Gorse Lane, Grantham

The costs of this kind of scheme would be prohibitive and as such could not be

considered. Costs would include the installation of a new kerb line, road construction, drainage works, soiling and seeding of verges and relevant traffic management.

Recommendation 2 – the application of a 7.5 tonne weight restriction to Gorse Lane, Grantham

An order had been issued to carry out a week long classified vehicle count at two locations on Gorse Lane, one either side of Wyville Road, which would show the number of vehicles that used the Spittlegate Level to Wyville Road aspect of the road only. The automated radar classifiers would record the vehicle type, volume and speed making it possible to assess the extent of the HGV problem on the road, which would determine whether there would be further action regarding a weight limit. The results of the counts were expected in December 2006.

A resident of Gorse Lane, Grantham, was present at the meeting and given permission to speak. He was disappointed at the expected duration of the process although acknowledged the need for a vehicle count. He argued that outlay for widening the road would be a one-off expense. He also felt that expenditure per head would be reasonable given the number of people affected. He stated that local residents had tried to find out the amount of money spent filling in potholes on Gorse Lane.

Members discussed the issue. They were concerned that residents had not been able to access information on the amount spent filling in pot holes. The Scrutiny Officer was tasked with requesting this information from Lincolnshire County Council under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

As the results of the count were expected in December 2006, the Panel requested another update on 16th January 2007 to which Councillor Chapman and Bryan Gault would be invited.

The member of the public stated that residents were grateful for the support of the Panel.

CONCLUSIONS:

1. ***The Scrutiny Officer should request costing information on repair work to potholes on Gorse Lane under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.***
2. ***An update on the Gorse Lane issue following the vehicle count should be provided for the next meeting on 16th January 2006.***

49. SHAPING ACUTE SERVICES IN LINCOLNSHIRE - 'CREATING THE FUTURE'

The consultation paper from Lincolnshire NHS Primary Care Trust on Shaping Acute Services in Lincolnshire – 'Creating the Future', was referred to the Panel by full Council on 26th October 2006. The deadline for responses was 8th November 2006.

Panel members felt the template provided was unclear and assumed the reader had medical knowledge. It was suggested that the paper would be more useful if it was written in plain English. The consultation exercise was considered to be a waste of time and money because it was not possible to submit a constructive and informed response. The Panel agreed that they would be able to respond if the paper was re-issued in a more accessible format.

The District Council representative on Lincolnshire County Council's Health Scrutiny

Committee stated that they had looked at the document and had responded similarly.

Panel members decided to ask the Council's Corporate Management Team what they had made of the paper. The Scrutiny Officer informed the panel that Dr. Martin McShane to whom completed templates had to be returned, would be attending the Parish Council Conference on 7th December 2006. Members thought that could provide an opportunity for them to talk to him about the consultation exercise.

CONCLUSIONS:

- 1. *To return the incomplete template with a letter stating that members were unable to respond because the document was inaccessible and assumed a medical background.***
- 2. *To ask the views of the District Council's Corporate Management Team on the consultation paper.***

50. CEDAR SYSTEM

Copies of a financial update report were circulated at the meeting. The Vice-Chairman briefly explained the new accounts software, Cedar, to members of the Panel. The software allowed budgets to be monitored on a monthly basis. All DSPs would receive regular financial reports. An additional column including "Budget – Year to date" was needed so that figures could be compared against projected figures. This would allow anomalies to be identified and corrected earlier than if they had been reviewed at the end of the financial year. Service Managers were being encouraged to project budgets in increments to provide comparator data. This was supported by the Resources and Assets Portfolio Holder.

The Vice-Chairman of the Panel stated that he had been pushing for access to the Cedar system to enable him to scrutinise financial records for all departments. Panel members agreed that there should be a member champion with access to financial records on Cedar. Access to the system would alleviate officer capacity. The Scrutiny Officer advised that the request was reasonable under Part 4 of the Council's constitution: Executive Procedure Rules, 10(c): "*Development and Scrutiny Panels...may go on site visits, conduct public surveys, hold public meetings, commission research and do all other things that they reasonably consider necessary to inform their deliberations*" and 13(a): "*In addition to their rights as Councillors, members of Development and Scrutiny Panels have the additional right to documents, and to notice of meetings as set out in the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4 of [the] constitution.*" The Scrutiny Officer suggested that the request for access to the system could be included in the annual Scrutiny Report to Council.

CONCLUSION

To recommend to the Resources and Assets Portfolio Holder that access to the Cedar system should be available for at least two scrutiny Councillors including the Chairman of the Resources DSP.

51. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

A brief update on the progress of the Deepings Leisure Centre Working Group was given by the Vice-Chairman. A copy of the recommendations made to the Healthy Environment Portfolio Holder was circulated to all members of the Panel. Misinformation had been received about the operation of the boilers. The Working Group had been told that the boilers were faulty causing downtime, however it had

been discovered that poor usage had caused the filters to become blocked. A recommendation had been made that new boilers should be installed. This was still supported because it would improve their operating efficiency from 62% to 92%. The Portfolio Holder was positive about the recommendations and it was hoped that they would be taken into account during the budget process.

One member suggested looking at the original contract to see whether poor usage of the boilers constituted a compliance failure. Other members felt that this would not be productive because the contract would not be that specific.

52. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Noted. The Scrutiny Officer advised that updated figures for September had been received and reported them to the Panel. All indicators were still green. No updated information was available for BVPI 199, "Cleanliness of relevant land and highways".

53. WORK PROGRAMME

Noted.

One Panel member requested an update on the adoption of designated areas for the restriction of the consumption of alcohol. The project was on target for zones to "go live" in March 2007.

54. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Chairman stated that there had been a meeting of the Arts Forum. He had been could not attend the meeting and had not received the minutes so was unable to provide a report. Lots of work had been planned. It was suggested that the Service Manager, Cultural Services should be invited to the meeting of the Panel on January 16th 2007 to discuss initiatives within the service.

CONCLUSION:

To invite the Service Manager, Cultural Services to the meeting on the 16th January 2007 to discuss proposed initiatives within Cultural Services.

55. MEETING: 16TH JANUARY 2007

It was agreed that the meeting of the Panel to be held on 16th January 2007 should be held at the Meres Leisure Centre.

CONCLUSION:

Invite the new Leisure Centre Manager to the meeting on 16th January 2007 for a progress update.

56. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting was closed at 15:56.

Agenda Item 6

From: REBECCA CHADWICK
Sent: 09 November 2006 16:53
To: PAUL MORRISON; JO TOOMEY
Subject: FW: DSP recommendation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged
For info.

-----Original Message-----

From: CLLR LINDA NEAL
Sent: 03 November 2006 09:56
To: REBECCA CHADWICK
Cc: CLLR - Cabinet Members
Subject: RE: DSP recommendation

Hi Rebecca

I am responding on behalf of the Cabinet following consideration of the recommendation.

Cabinet fully supports the content of the 'Reasons' paragraph and has always held the view that is expressed there.

However it would not be considered appropriate to recategorise Cultural Services at this time unless there is significant evidence of support for the removal of an existing category A priority and its inclusion as such. The continued 'promotion' of areas of work to category A begins to undermine the whole priority setting exercise and all the hard work and effort that was necessary to support the exercise. It must be remembered that through the significant consultation exercise undertaken by council cultural services was not high on the public's agenda.

It is easy to look at single work areas and suggest they are promoted or indeed demoted within the priorities. The difficulty begins when that single work area is not considered as part of the whole. From the report the Cabinet do not consider that the bigger picture has been considered and therefore the suggestion begins to undermine the whole of the priority setting process.

Should the Panel choose to reconsider this matter as part of the whole picture and make suggestions for Cultural Services to replace an existing priority A and suggest areas for savings in order to release sufficient resources to achieve a step change in cultural service delivery the Cabinet would be happy to reconsider the matter and if the suggestions coming forward are considered by the Cabinet to be plausible, take the matter forward.

At the present time with the report being the only knowledge of the debate the Cabinet consider that the Panel has not provided sufficient evidence, information, reasons etc. for Cultural Services to be considered for promotion to a category A priority.

Linda

-----Original Message-----

From: REBECCA CHADWICK
Sent: 30 October 2006 10:06
To: CLLR - Cabinet Members
Subject: DSP recommendation

Dear Members,

Please find attached a recommendation from the Healthy Environment DSP.

Kind regards,

Rebecca

<< File: RECOMMENDATION NOTICE 62.doc >>

Healthy Environment DSP - Performance Monitoring 2006/07

Those indicators with a number in the PI column are from the Government's Best Value Performance Indicators suite used by many Councils. The remaining indicators are local to SKDC and may be relatively simple measures/indicators only. The reader is asked therefore to exercise an element of caution when interpreting any data attached to them.

IND Type = C - Cumulative/% - Percentage/ CA - Cumulative Average/N - Number/A - Average
 Reporting = blank - Monthly/Q - Quarterly/Y - Yearly/H - Half yearly (Sept)

PI	SKDC Priority Area and PI Description	Lead Officer	IND Type	Reporting	2005/06 SKDC Outturn	2004/05 Upper Quartile	2006/2007 SKDC Target	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Are We Improving Yr on Yr?	2007/2008 SKDC Targets	2008/2009 SKDC Targets
RECYCLING Priority A																		
BVPI 82a/b	Recycling - % of household waste recycled and composted (estimates until year end)	Garry Knighton	C		26.1%	26.1%	33%	28.6%*	29.2%*	30.5%	30%*	36.7%*	33.8%*	36.5%*	33%*	Y	39%	50%
STREET SCENE Priority B																		
BVPI 199	Cleanliness of relevant land and highways	Garry Knighton	%	Q	12%	11%	9%			10%			1%			N	8%	7%
SK10	Street Cleaning pass rate for town centres	Garry Knighton	%		95%	N/A	96%	95%	100%	100%	92%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Y	97%	98%
SK11	No.of fixed penalty fines issued	Garry Knighton	C		352	N/A	300	24	51	66	98	172	196	225	255	Y	300	300
SK12	Average time taken to remove flytips	Garry Knighton	C		1 day	N/A	1 day	1 day	1 day	1	3	1	1	1	1	Y	1 day	1 day
SK13	Satisfaction with street scene by Shoppers Survey	Garry Knighton	%	Q	66.00%	N/A	70%			78.95%			81.5%			N/A	75%	80%

DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANELS (DSPs) WORK PROGRAMME 2006/7

INTRODUCTION

This Work Programme is partly derived from the Cabinet's Forward Plan, but also contains items that have been brought forward by the DSPs themselves.

Where the item has appeared on the Forward Plan, the anticipated date of the key decision is listed in the second column. The third column shows the last available date that the full DSP can consider this item before the key decision is due to be taken (unless a special meeting is called). This does NOT necessarily mean that the item will appear on the DSP agenda, this will only happen if this is requested by the Chairman or members of the DSP. There will also be instances where there is no DSP meeting before a decision is due to be taken; in these cases the next meeting date after the decision date is shown.

As Cabinet meets monthly and the DSPs meet bi-monthly it is not possible within the current timetable of meetings for the DSPs to consider every single Cabinet or Cabinet Member decision. Scrutiny members are therefore encouraged to read this Work Programme and bring forward items for consideration where they think that an item should be considered by the DSP.

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT DSP			
<u>ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION</u>	<u>Date item appeared on Forward Plan</u>	<u>DATE OF KEY DECISION (IF APPROPRIATE)</u>	<u>DSP MEETING /ACTION</u>
Hospital Provision in Stamford		N/a	Issue to be revisited later in year
Deepings Leisure Centre - future		N/a	Update report on 07.11.06

DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANELS (DSPs)
WORK PROGRAMME 2006/7

Powers to restrict consumption of alcohol in public places – adoption of designated areas	16.08.06	Not before Feb 2007 March 2007	Considered by the DSP on 06.06.06
Approval of specification for the delivery of Leisure Services	16.10.06	Not before January 07	16.01.07
Gateway 3 reviews	N/a	Jan/Feb 07	16.01.07
Service Planning Gateway reviews	16.10.06	Jan/Feb 2007	Special meetings 19.10.06 and 05.12.06
Waste Management Strategy	Dec 06	Not before January 07	16.01.07 or 13.03.07
Energy efficiency	Dec 06	N/a	Climate Change Strategy working group appointed