

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY, 24TH APRIL, 2007**

Present: Councillor C. Patching (Chair)
Councillors R. Burnip, P.J Campbell,
B. Joyce, Mrs. S. Mason and D. Milsom

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors J. Haggan and T. Longstaff.

- 2. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on 3rd April, 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were confirmed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

**Item 6 - Scrutiny Review of East Durham Local Strategic Partnership
(Minute No. 6 refers)**

The Chair explained that it was agreed in resolution No. (ii) that the report be referred to the East Durham Local Strategic Partnership for consideration and response. It was important to note that 'response' had been omitted from the Executive Minutes.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

- 4. THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE** held on 10th April, 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were submitted.

Item 3 - Scrutiny Review of East Durham Local Strategic Partnership

The Chair explained that the Scrutiny Support Manager and himself had attended the Executive. The Chair of the Executive had thanked the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee for the work undertaken. He referred to Resolution (ii) which stated that the report be referred to East Durham Local Strategic Partnership for consideration and explained that it would be amended at the next meeting to include 'and response'.

RESOLVED that the information contained within the Minutes, be noted.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

6. DISTRICT OF EASINGTON SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2006/7

Consideration was given to the report of the Scrutiny Support Manager which sought approval of the Draft District of Easington Scrutiny Annual Report 2006/7, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

Partnerships Scrutiny Committee - 24th April, 2007

The Scrutiny Support Manager explained that under Article 6 of the Council's Constitution, Scrutiny Committees had to report annually to Council on their work and make recommendations for future work programmes.

The report had been produced jointly on behalf of the three Scrutiny Committees and aimed to demonstrate the principle that the Scrutiny Committee's worked together in assuring that they complemented the strategic work of the Executive and that the corporate priorities and performance targets agreed by the Council were met.

The report detailed the principles behind effective scrutiny within the Council, highlighted the co-ordinating role of the Scrutiny Management Board, reviewed the work undertaken by the Scrutiny Committees, set out proposed areas of work which formed the Scrutiny Committees future work programme for 2007/8 as far as they had been determined to date and proposed further ways through which the scrutiny process would be developed.

The Annual Report highlighted the relevant Service Unit Position Statements that would be considered by the new established Community Services, Regeneration Services and Resources Scrutiny Committees during 2007/8. Executive Portfolio Holders would also be required to report to the appropriate Scrutiny Committee to report on the formal partnerships and partnership working that was undertaken within the Portfolio.

The Annual Report also detailed briefly the challenges and areas of future development that would be faced by the Scrutiny Committees arising from both the Local Government White Paper "Strong and Prosperous Communities" and the Police and Justice Act 2006, particularly where they related to the proposals to establish "Community Calls for Action".

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the District of Easington Annual Scrutiny Report 2006/7 be agreed subject to any amendments and submitted to full Council for endorsement;
- (ii) the report be submitted to the first meeting of the new Scrutiny Committee for finalisation of the 2007/8 work programme.

7. **CHAIR'S COMMENTS**

The Chair explained that this was the final meeting of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee prior to the implementation of the new structures, and thanked the Vice-Chair of the Committee and all Members past and present, for their participation and commitment as well as Officers for their support.

Councillor Burnip commented that the Committee had had a strong Leader and Chair.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....

Partnerships Scrutiny Committee - 24th April, 2007

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24th April, 2007