

## Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee



Date	Thursday 11 January 2007
Venue	Town Hall, Lytham St Annes
Committee members	Kiran Mulholland (Chairman) John Prestwich (Vice-Chairman) William Thompson, Thomas Threlfall, Colin Walton, Fabian Wilson
Other Councillors	John Coombes, Barbara Pagett, Roger Small,
Officers	Christopher Kitchin, Mike Walker, Paul Walker, Peter Welsh, Carolyn Whewell
Others	

### 1. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that any personal/prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000.

### 2. Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 9 November 2006 as a correct record for signature by the chairman.

### 3. Substitute members

The following substitution was reported under council procedure rule 22.3:

Councillor Fabian Wilson replaced Councillor John Dolan

### 4. Springfield's Site Stakeholder Group Consultation On Site End State/Use

Paul Walker (Strategic Planning and Development Executive Manager) and Mike Walker (Environmental Protection Manager) presented a joint report on the Springfield's Site, which was due to be fully decommissioned some time after 2023.

Members were asked to consider the options for the future of Springfields site to assist the Portfolio Holder in the formulation of the official response from Fylde Borough Council.

Mr Walker informed the Committee that the Springfields Site Stakeholder Group was undertaking a consultation exercise on behalf of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, which was seeking the views and opinions of local residents, businesses and Local

Authorities on their preferred options for the most sustainable use for the site once commercial operations had ended.

Mr Walker informed members that the current site sustained 1600 'high quality' jobs in this area, and supported approximately 2,400 secondary jobs and that the view of officers at Fylde was that the site should be used to sustain a similar number and quality of jobs as are currently maintained at the site.

The Committee felt that it was important to express dissatisfaction towards the idea of housing on this site as it would be very difficult for the Council to service it. The committee supported the idea of mix use.

The Committee commented over the proposal for using part of the site for landfill. The committee recommended that if part of the site were to be used for waste it should only be for waste from the demolition of buildings and other structures on the site. The Committee were not in favour of waste from other sites being transferred and deposited at the Springfield site or for the site being used to dispose of waste from on site processing. Members of the committee expressed disappointment that following decommission the training facilities for apprentices would be lost and would like the new use of the site to be able to offer training facilities of a similar quality to those currently available.

Mike Walker stated that one of the main objectives was to keep the site running and operating for as long as possible and that it could remain as a processing site for many years to come.

The Committee agreed that the consultation response should state that Fylde Borough Council supported the use of the site that sustained the most jobs after the site was decommissioned.

The Committee RESOLVED to support the idea of a 'mixed' use at the Springfields site and to sustain the 'quality jobs' that are currently there.

#### 5. Final Report of the Local Strategic Partnership Task and Finish Group

Carolyn Whewell (Scrutiny and Improvement Officer) presented a detailed final report of the work that had been undertaken by the Local Strategic Partnership Task and Finish Group. The report highlighted the findings from the research undertaken accompanied with recommendations. Ms Whewell informed the Committee that the changes to the Local Strategic Partnership were already underway, the constitution and new Performance Management Framework should be completed within the next couple of months. The Task and Finish Group had also noted recommendations to encourage the Local Strategic Partnership to publish a timetable of meetings to ensure that members were aware of meeting dates in the future.

Members were pleased to see that there would be exception reports on actions that had not been implemented within the Thematic Groups.

The Committee RESOLVED:

- 1) That the recommendations contained within the main body of the reported be noted.

- 2) That the Performance Management Framework for the Local Strategic Partnership sets out specific performance indicators measuring targets against the Thematic Group Actions Plans.
- 3) That Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee receives updates on these performance indicators on a 6 monthly basis.
- 4) To approve that the Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee provide exception reports to the Cabinet/Portfolio holder if there is cause for concern regarding performance of a specific area.

6. Neighbourhood by Neighbourhood: Local Action to Reduce Reoffending

Carolyn Whewell (Scrutiny and Improvement Officer) presented the report which detailed a request from the Lancashire Probation Board for the Council to support the proposed draft motions following the publication of the 'Neighbourhood By Neighbourhood: Local Action to Reoffending', namely-

- Strongly supports the way forward for achieving sustainable reductions in reoffending outlined in the recent report "*Neighbourhood by Neighbourhood: local action to reduce reoffending*" published on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2006 by the Coalition on Social and Criminal Justice led by the Local Government Association.
- Urges the Home Secretary to ensure (in the words of the report) 'any new arrangements for probation services must be locally accountable and part of a new landscape of local partnerships working'.
- In the interest of fostering and improving local partnership working, urges the Home Secretary to annul that statutory instrument laid before parliament on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2006 which removes the requirement for local probation boards to include four magistrates and two local councillors."

Councillor Kiran Mulholland (Community Outlook Scrutiny Committee Chairman) supported the draft motions and recommended that they be considered by Full Council.

The Committee RESOLVED to support the draft motions and recommend that Full Council approve the motion as detailed in the report. .

7. The Role of City Development Companies in English Cities and City Regions

Carolyn Whewell (Scrutiny and Improvement Officer) presented a report that detailed the request from Phil Woolas, MP., on a consultation process on the 'The role of city development companies in English cities and regions' published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

Ms Whewell informed the Committee that Central Government had published its consultation on city development companies for English cities and city-regions. The consultation paper set out the background and policy rationale for city development companies as well as suggested good practice.

Members raised a number of concerns and stated that they would like to see some form of representation in the smaller areas of regions through the Local Strategic Partnership, etc.

Members were also concerned with the amount of implications within the consultation document and proposed that a Task and Finish Group be set-up to formulate a response to the consultation document.

Following discussion the Committee RESOLVED:

- 1) To note the proposals in the consultation document.
- 2) To form a Task and Finish Group to analyse and formulate a response to the Consultation document.

Members nominated for the Task and Finish Group:

Councillor John Coombes

Councillor Kiran Mulholland

Councillor Bill Thompson

Councillor Fabian Wilson

Councillor Roger Small

Councillor Kevin Eastham

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