

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT SELECT COMMITTEES - Progress Report: 2009-2010**

**SELECT COMMITTEE : Policy & Resources**

**DETAIL OF SELECT COMMITTEE WORK**

<b>SELECT COMMITTEE role</b>	<b>Action/s</b>	<b>Outcome/s</b>	<b>Estimated impact / influence</b>
<p><b>Scrutinising the work of the Executive and the County Council as an organisation</b></p>	<p>Monitoring of completed in-depth scrutiny reviews:</p> <p>a) Review of scrutiny arrangements</p> <p>Light Touch scrutiny review:</p> <p>b) Recruitment and Retention of Staff</p> <p>Indepth Scrutiny Review:</p> <p>c) Severe Winter Weather</p>	<p>a) The committee considered an update in July 2009 on the progress made with implementing the recommendations from this review.</p> <p>b) The committee held a session in April 2009 to consider HR issues. Recommendations and areas to monitor were highlighted.</p> <p>c) Following the severe winter weather experienced in Hampshire in December 2009 and January 2010, the committee initiated an indepth review of how the County Council and partners ensured access to key services during this time.</p>	<p>a) This review has helped embed the scrutiny function within the County Council.</p> <p>b) Issues raised in this review will be monitored in 2010.</p> <p>c) This review is due to be completed later in 2010.</p>

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<p><b>Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern</b></p>	<p>Various topics considered at quarterly meetings of the committee including:</p> <p>a) Business Continuity Planning</p> <p>b) Referral of Motion from full Council regarding support provided to Deafblind Children and Adults</p> <p>c) Recession Measures</p>	<p>a) committee satisfied that I.T. business continuity plans are robust.</p> <p>b) Committee satisfied support provided to Deafblind Children and Adults is good, and made recommendations back to full Council regarding how this approach could be further embedded.</p> <p>c) Committee considered the measures taken by the Economic Development Office to support Hampshire businesses and individuals during the recession.</p>	<p>a) Committee ensuring appropriate policies are in place, and monitoring their effectiveness.</p> <p>b) Demonstrated members support for services taking account of the needs of Deafblind Children and Adults.</p> <p>c) demonstrated members support for the action being taken to support Hampshire during the recession.</p>
<p><b>Monitoring the strategic management of performance</b></p>	<p>Annual cycle of budget and performance monitoring</p>	<p>Performance and budgetary information scrutinised twice during the year, at mid-year and year-end. In year monitoring reports considered where appropriate.</p>	<p>Increased opportunities for information gathering, pre-scrutiny and challenge of budget decisions throughout the year.</p>

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<p><b>Monitoring impact of external agencies on the people of Hampshire</b></p>	<p>Regular monitoring of the impact of Government legislation on overview and scrutiny, including:</p> <p>a) Councillor Call for Action</p>	<p>a) the Committee considered the proposed protocol in July 2009 in relation to the 'cllr call for action', which came in to force following new legislation.</p>	<p>Members are fully aware of the impact of new legislation and regulations on overview and scrutiny and have a good knowledge of the mechanisms available for engaging partners in future work.</p>
<p><b>Scrutiny of Organisations that receive grant funding from the Executive Member for Policy &amp; Resources</b></p>	<p>This year the committee initiated receiving a presentation at each meeting from organisations that receive grant funding from the County Council, relevant to the remit of this committee:</p> <p>a) in March 2010 a presentation was received from Hampshire Association of Local Councils</p>	<p>a) A presentation on the work of this organisation was received, demonstrating the value of the County Council providing support to this organisation through a grant.</p>	<p>a) This provided public accountability for the grant funding provided.</p>