

## APPENDIX 'B'

### SCRUTINY REVIEW PANELS

#### REVIEWS COMPLETED JUNE 2005 – MAY 2006

1. **Community Safety** (Chairman - Mr. Jones CC)

The Panel was established following concerns expressed to members during the run up to the election about community safety and antisocial behaviour.

The Panel conducted a broad brush audit of activity undertaken by the County Council and partner agencies in tackling the issue of antisocial behaviour. The findings of the Panel centred on the need for a clearer and consistent approach from all agencies to what constitutes antisocial behaviour and the range of measures that the public could expect to be put in place to tackle the problem.

2. **Management and Delivery of the Capital Programme**

(Chairman – Mr. Snartt CC)

This Panel was established to consider the current process and practices in place for delivering the capital programme and in particular to ascertain the reason for the low level of capital spend against the agreed budget in certain departments.

The review identified a number of short and medium term measures which, if implemented, would improve performance. These measures included the need for pre-planning and design of schemes prior to their inclusion in the capital programme, an element of over-programming to allow for scheme substitution, if required, and better project management and monitoring.

3. **Day Services for Older People** (Chairman – Mr. Lewis CC)

The review was established to look at the current provision of day care services for older people and to consider how the service might be developed to deal with the expected increase in demand due to demographic changes.

The key proposals emerging from the review included the need to develop a range of services available seven days a week to meet the needs of users and carers, promoting the take up of direct payments and the development of a set of local minimum standards of provision. The Panel also considered it important to continue to develop links between health

and social services and for day care for older people to be taken forward in the context of the wider social care agenda.

**4. Libraries – Visitor Numbers**                      (Chairman – Mr. Sheahan CC)

The review was established to consider how to increase visitor numbers to libraries. The County Council's performance was below that of comparative authorities.

The Panel looked at practices elsewhere and made a number of recommendations. These focussed on developing libraries as community based facilities, improving the range and availability of stock and improving the fabric and ambience of libraries.

**5. Management of Transportation Capital Schemes**

(Chairman – Mr Shepherd CC)

The Panel was established to review the management of transportation capital schemes, to assess how effectively they were carried through and how well they met the objectives originally proposed.

The Panel noted that the Council had an excellent record for delivery of schemes as evidenced by the achievement of a maximum score of 30/30 for delivery of schemes on the integrated transport block of the LTP. The Panel identified a number of issues particularly in regard to the process of drawing up schemes to ensure that the excellent performance in this area would be maintained. One particular measure proposed was the introduction of a protocol to improve the effectiveness of the public consultation process. By explicitly defining the scope, procedures and timescales to be adhered to when developing a scheme it was hoped to ease some of the more protracted consultations. That said the Panel recognised the need for the protocol to strike a balance between allowing people to have their say whilst also ensuring schemes proceed without undue delay.