

SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 20 APRIL 2011**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE
MEETING OF THE SCRUTINY COMMISSIONERS****REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to outline for members issues discussed at the meeting of Scrutiny Commissioners and to seek the approval of the Commission to agree the terms of reference for 'Light Touch' reviews on:
 - (a) Transportation Schemes Public Expectation and Member Engagement; and
 - (b) The "Big Society" – Part 2.

Background

2. Rule 7 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules states that *'overview and scrutiny committees dealing with County Council functions shall obtain the prior approval of the Scrutiny Commission for their work programme and in formulating their work programme they shall take into account wishes of members on that committee who are not members of the current political administration of the County Council.'*

'Light Touch' Review Panels

3. The Commissioners have identified the following issues which they considered would merit scrutiny by a 'Light Touch' review panel:-
 - (a) Transportation Schemes Public Expectation and Member Engagement

Arising from the management restructure within the Environment and Transport Department, it was felt timely to conduct a light touch review of the arrangements whereby members could contact senior staff in the Department about transportation schemes in their electoral division, particularly when issues had been raised by constituents. Furthermore, given the resource constraints the Department was currently facing, and following concerns raised by the Commission in relation managing public expectation arising from the discussion on the LTP3, it was felt sensible to conduct the review within this context.

(b) The “Big Society” – Part 2

Following the reporting of the Panel’s interim findings to the Commission and Cabinet in January, a scoping template has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman of the Panel – Mr. Pain CC – which aims to take the Panel forward in the second part of its work. The membership of the Panel comprised: Mr. Pain, Mr. Bailey, Dr. Hill, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Radford, Mr. Roffey and Mr. Shepherd.

Equal Opportunities Implications

4. None.

Recommendations

5. The Scrutiny Commission is asked to:-

- (a) agree the establishment of a review panel on Transportation Schemes and member Engagement with the terms of reference outlined in Appendix A to this report and to nominate a member to serve as Chairman;
- (b) agree the Terms of Reference for the second part of the review of the Big Society, as outlines in Appendix B to this report and to agree its revised membership.

Officers to Contact:

Mo Seedat, Committee Officer
Email: mo.seedat@leics.gov.uk
Tel: 0116 305 6037

Sam Weston, Committee Officer
Email: sam.weston@leics.gov.uk
Tel 0116 305 6226

List of Appendices

Appendix A – Terms of Reference – Review of The “Big Society” – Part 2

Appendix B – Terms of Reference – ‘Light Touch’ Review of Transportation Schemes Public Expectation and Member Engagement