



LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMISSION –

WEDNESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2001

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MEMBERSHIP OF BEST VALUE REVIEW PANELS

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Commission of the appointments made to Best Value Review Panels.

Background

2. The summary of the Constitution states that 'at any one time, there is also a number of small, five member, ad hoc review panel which carry out specifically targeted reviews connected with Best Value, the roll forward of the Policy Framework and other issues identified as requiring special attention .'(Paragraph 19). Responsibility for leading the County Council's response to Best Value reviews lies with the Executive.
3. In January 2001 the County Council considered and agreed a report on the future shape of Scrutiny. That report also set out the proposed arrangements relating to Best Value Reviews. The relevant extracts from that report are set out below:-
 - '14. BVPP reviews will cover, over a five year period, all of the significant activities of the County Council, in compliance with the relevant statutory regulations. The annual BVPP review programme should be compiled jointly between Scrutiny and the Executive. The finally agreed programme would be submitted to the County Council for endorsement – thus emphasising two things: the fact that both the Executive and Scrutiny are arms of the County Council; and the "superior", if not "sovereign" nature, of the full County Council.

15. To emphasise their importance, the Best Value Review Panels would be appointed at the same time as the County Council endorsed the review programme. The panels would consist of five members, four of whom would be nominated by Scrutiny and one nominated by and from the Executive. The Chairman of each Panel would be appointed following consultation with the Executive. The detailed terms of reference for each Panel, defined after the production of a Position Audit and consistent with the full County Council decision in endorsing the review programme, would be settled following full consultation with all members of the County Council. This is broadly similar to the September 1999 Constitution, but with the preparatory work being undertaken as a joint exercise and appointments being made at an early stage by the County Council to underline the importance of ensuring that the BVPP reviews are completed on time. Alternatively, if appointments by the County Council was not possible appointments could be made through the usual Leaders/Whips/Group processes.'

Membership of the Panels

4. Set out below is the membership of the Member Reference Group and the Panels as agreed through the political Groups process.

BEST VALUE – MEMBER REFERENCE GROUP

Mr Barber (Chairman)

Prof. Preston
Mr Miller

Mr Brown

Mr Galton

HIGHWAY NETWORK MANAGEMENT

Prof. Preston (Chairman)

Mr. Jennings
Mr Sprason

Mr. Perkins

Mr. Galton

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Mr E. F. White (Chairman)

Mr. Osborne
Mr Royce

Mr Sheahan

Mr Galton

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SUPPORT

Mr. Parsons (Chairman)

Mr. Rhodes
Mr Kershaw

Mr. Brown

Mr Lucas

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS TRANSPORT

Mr. Winkless (Chairman)

Mrs. Brock
Mr Boulton

Mr. Bown

Mr Callis

LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES

Mr. Miller (Chairman)

Mrs. Pullen
Mrs Sherwin

Mr Hyde

Mr Wilson

5. The other reviews included in the 2001/02 review programme it is proposed will be undertaken as Best Value Assessments i.e. investigatory work being undertaken by an officer project team reporting to the Best Value Reference Group.

Equal Opportunities Implications

- 6 Nil

Recommendation

7. The Commission is asked to note the arrangements made for undertaking the 2001/02 Review Programme and the appointments made to Panels through the political Group processes

Background Papers

Constitution of the County Council

Report to the County Council – 10th January 2001 – ‘The future shape of Scrutiny.

Best Value Performance Plan 2001/02

Officer to contact

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Mo/overview and scrutiny/commission/reports/BVRPmem