



Minutes of the meeting of the CORPORATE POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE held on WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 2008 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors Bint (substitute for Councillor Tunney), Carstens, Clark, Edwards, Galloway, Mallyon and Miles

Officers: G Snelson (Corporate Director [Strategy, Governance and Performance]), I Frost (Director of Finance), G Waghorn (Deputy Head of Finance), S Heap (Democratic Services Manager), J Tabbitt (Cohesion Officer) and S Parker (Senior Committee Manager)

Apologies: Councillors Burke and Tunney

Also Present: Councillor Crooks

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR LLOYD) IN THE CHAIR

CPDC01 ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Tunney be elected Chair of the Committee for the Council Year 2008/09.

CPDC02 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Edwards be appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee for the Council Year 2008/09.

COUNCILLOR EDWARDS IN THE CHAIR

CPDC03 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Councillor Crooks declared a personal interest in Item 7 (Working on the Budget), as he had a connection with one of the case studies mentioned in the report.

CPDC04 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Edwards welcomed officers and the public to the meeting.

G Snelson (Corporate Director [Strategy, Governance and Performance]) highlighted a number of areas of work which the Committee could most usefully look at over the coming year.

Members particularly referred to the possibility of the Committee considering the Council's role in promoting the economic development of the Borough, the implications of the Freedom of Information and Data Protection Acts for the Council, the corporate complaints procedure and the use of the Regulation of Investigating Powers Act.

The Cabinet Member for Finance also reminded the Committee of its role in considering the Corporate Plan, which he considered was an important element of the Committee's work.

It was noted that the suggestions for the Council's future work programme would be considered by the Committee's Planning Group.

CPDC05 MINUTES

The Committee considered the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Policy Development Committee held on 6 February 2008 and the special meeting held on 13 March 2008.

RESOLVED -

1. That the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Policy Development Committee held on 6 February 2008, be approved and signed by the Vice-Chair as a correct record, subject to his concerns relating to the detail in which the areas of workforce savings, highways and contingency payments were covered in the Minutes, being noted by the Committee.
2. That the Minutes of the special meeting of the Committee held on 13 March 2008, be approved and signed by the Vice-Chair as a correct record.

CPDC06 WORKING ON THE BUDGET

The Committee received a presentation from the Director of Finance on the suggested budget process and financial strategy for 2009/10, including the involvement in the process of the Policy Development Committees.

The Committee also received the Audit Commission's discussion paper entitled 'World Class Financial Management'.

RESOLVED -

1. That the Director of Finance be requested to brief the political groups on the suggested budget preparation process for 2009/10 and report back to the Committee's next meeting, to allow further consideration of the process.

2. That the re-appointment of the Capital Scoring Review Group for 2008/09 be deferred, pending the outcome of the Committee's further consideration of the budget process.

CPDC07 COMMUNITY COHESION STRATEGY

The Committee received a progress report on the Strategic Cohesion Programme.

Members made a number of detailed comments which Members were asked to raise with the Cohesion Officer outside the meeting, together with further comments on the Strategic Cohesion Programme which could then be taken into account in finalising the draft Strategy, which would be reported back to the Committee at its meeting in September 2008.

CPDC08 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLANS

The Committee considered the draft refreshed Sustainable Community Action Plans, which had been endorsed by the Local Strategic Partnership and were to be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 15 July 2008.

RESOLVED -

1. That the report and actions plans be noted.
2. That the 'indicator column' include a précis of the nature of each indicator being cited in the Action Plan.

CPDC09 REVIEW OF WORKING GROUPS

The Committee noted a report on the work of the Capital Scoring Group, the appointment of which it had deferred (Minute CPDC06 refers).

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 10.24 PM