

**Minutes of:** **PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Date of Meeting:** 13 February 2008

**PRESENT:** Councillor Sandiford (Chair)  
Councillors L. Barnes, Crawforth, Lamb, Morris

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Lesley Noble, Head of Policy and Performance  
Carole Todd, Head of Street Scene and Neighbourhood  
Services  
Carolyn Law, Committee Services Officer

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Essex, Portfolio Holder for a Well Managed  
Council  
Councillor Driver, Portfolio Holder for a Clean and Green  
Rossendale  
Councillor Farrington  
1 Member of the public

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ruddick and Bernard Divine (Co-opted Member).

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2008 and the special meeting held on 6 December 2007 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**3. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items for discussion.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No questions were raised under this item.

**6. CHAIRS UPDATE**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Crawforth to his first Performance Scrutiny meeting as part of the Committee. At the last meeting a

request had been made to contact the Planning Department asking that consideration be given to the possibility of using grey waste systems on all new builds. The Chair briefed Members on the response from the Acting Development Control Team Manager, and requested that the response be forwarded to Councillor Neal.

Also raised at the last meeting was the issue of black bins and whether the Council had a supply of these in stock which could be used as water butts. Confirmation had been received from the Head of Street Scene and Neighbourhood Services that the use of black bins was discontinued in 1997 and therefore there wasn't any available.

The Chair confirmed that the Portfolio Holder for a Well Managed Council had contacted the Communications Manager to include information requested at the last meeting to be included in the next Rossendale Alive bulletin.

Letters of congratulations had been sent to the Head of People of Organisational Development, the Head of Street Scene and Neighbourhood Services and Executive Director of Regulatory Services on BVPI achievements within their service areas.

The Chair reminded Members that the response group to consider the post office closures was due to meet on 18 February at Futures Park at 2pm. Six members had indicated they would like to consider the proposed closures.

## **7. PROGRESS REPORT**

The Portfolio Holder for a Clean and Green Rossendale and the Head of Street Scene and Neighbourhood Services provided an update on the improvements to BV 199a which showed an under achieving target at the last meeting. The Committee was informed that BVPI 199 results were recently inspected by the Audit Commission and were judged to be fairly collected. Landfill waste was down to 10.7% of what it was last year, whilst recycling was up by 15.9% on last years figures. The Committee praised the team for the good work being done and also to the people of Rossendale for the improvements in recycling.

The Head of Street Scene and Neighbourhood Services informed the meeting that the recycling contractors are looking at expanding the types of plastics which could be recycled. The Committee requested that updated information on what can be recycled should be included in the next Rossendale Alive publication.

### **Resolved:**

1. That the Head of Streetscene and Neighbourhood Services prepare updated recycling information and that it be forwarded

to the Communications Manager for inclusion in the next Rossendale Alive newsletter.

2. That the Committee agrees that a half day or 1 day public event would be worthwhile to publicise the benefits of recycling and the Head of Streetscene and Neighbourhood Services be requested to consider this.

## **8. INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE REPORT – QUARTER 3**

Councillor Essex, Portfolio Holder for a Well Managed Council and the Head of Policy and Performance presented the Performance Report for Quarter 3 which was an integrated report that brought together a comprehensive range of performance issues within a single report as agreed at the Performance Scrutiny Committee on 21 November 2007.

The Portfolio Holder for a Well Managed Council informed the meeting that training on the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI's) was available through the Performance Management Officer.

The Head of Policy and Performance provided an overview of the report and an explanation of the indicators before analysing each section of the report.

The Committee noted that the name of the owner entered into each section of the "Notes of Latest Status Updates" would be useful for future reports for clarity. The Committee also noted that it would be better to have the report delivered at a dedicated meeting owing to the amount of information now included.

Members asked for an update on the outcome of the Polling Station Task and Finish Group.

The Committee requested that the Head of Regeneration and the Housing Market Renewal Manager attend the next meeting to look into underperforming targets, in addition to having an update from the Head of Streetscene and Neighbourhood Services.

### **Resolved:**

1. That the Performance Scrutiny Committee notes the levels of performance detailed in the report.
2. That the Portfolio Holder for Regenerating and Promoting Rossendale and the Head of Regeneration be requested to attend the next meeting to provide an explanation on how targets are processed and met, and what the role is between the Council, County and other organisations in relation to LAAH19 – the number of homes being adapted for life changes.

3. That the Housing Market Renewal Manager attend the next meeting to provide an explanation on how improvements could be made in relation to: ERS2.14 - Implement the Empty Homes Strategy; ERS2 – Establish regeneration delivery team with LCC; ERS3 – New location for bus depot; ERS4 – LCC funding for development of new interchange, and ERS5 – Securing external funding.
4. That the Head of Streetscene and Neighbourhood Services provide a verbal or written update at the next meeting regarding SSLR1 – Developing a Resource recovery Centre.
5. That the minutes of the Performance Scrutiny Committee be appended to the Integrated Performance Report and be submitted to Cabinet as an “information only” item, however the views of the Cabinet are welcomed regarding how the Committees recommendations are viewed in the future.
6. That the Committee agree to the inclusion of information of the Council’s principal partners: Rossendale Local Strategic Partnership, Rossendale Leisure Trust, Capita and Green Vale Homes to be incorporated within future reports, on an incremental basis.
7. That the Committee requests that the Policy and Performance Team reviews the Council's Performance Management and Data Quality Strategy, in particular the roles associated with challenging and supporting performance management.
8. That the Integrated Performance Report be a single item on the Performance Scrutiny agenda four times a year.
9. That the notes in the report be written clearly with no acronyms, and the name of the owner clearly written in each section.
10. That a letter be included when the Integrated Performance Report is circulated to Members to request the document is read prior to the meeting and that if a substitute has been arranged the documents are forwarded in time for the meeting.

**9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINTS UPDATE  
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2007**

The Portfolio Holder for a Well Managed Council presented an update report of the Executive Director of Regulatory Services on the current number of Ombudsman complaints for the period October – December 2007.

He informed the meeting that there were no withheld complaints against the Council during the reporting period, however there were 5 outstanding complaints.

**Resolved:**

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a further report be presented to the Committee in six months

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 9.30pm

Signed.....  
(Chair)

Dated .....