

## **1 REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE – 12 MARCH 2008**

### **1.1 MEMBERSHIP OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

- 1.2 This item was referred by the Standards Committee on 12 March 2008 to Council with a recommendation that Membership of the Committee be increased.
- 1.3 In considering the procedures associated with the local determination of complaints it was recognised that the Committee would need to be in a position to be able to appoint a minimum of three separate sub-committees and that, in this regard, it would be appropriate for Committee Membership to be increased by one Independent and one Parish Council Member.
- 1.4 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES** that Membership of the Standards Committee be increased by one Independent and one Parish Council Member from the beginning of the 2008/09 Municipal Year. (HICS)

## **2 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD – 26 MARCH 2008**

### **2.1 COMMUNITY SHELTER ON THE CLEMENTS HALL RECREATION FIELDS – URGENT DECISION**

- 2.2 In accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 15(f) the Executive Board reports to Council that it took a decision as a matter of urgency at its meeting on 26 March 2008.
- 2.3 In considering a reference from the Central Area Committee for final approval to be given to the introduction of a Community Shelter located adjacent to the skate park on the Clements Hall Recreation Fields, the Board noted that the success of a Hawkwell Parish Council bid for grant funding was reliant upon the immediate confirmation of any decision. In view of this the Board gave final approval to the shelter on the basis that the decision was urgent and not subject to call-in.
- 2.4 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES** to note this report.

### **2.5 REVIEW OF IMPLICATIONS OF THE GLOBAL WARMING AGENDA ON ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL AND THE ROLE THE DISTRICT COUNCIL AND ITS COMMUNITIES MIGHT PLAY**

- 2.6 This item of business was referred by the Executive Board on 26 March 2008 to Council with a recommendation on the inclusion of specific targets relating to carbon emissions in the Corporate Plan.
- 2.7 The recommendation had been included in the final report from the Review Committee on the implications of the global warming agenda on Rochford District Council and the role the District Council and its communities might

play. The Review Committee's report relating to the recommendation indicated that:-

'The planning system helps define local authorities' place shaping role and is centred on sustainable development. As such, it offers one of the largest opportunities for local authorities to influence energy use and hence carbon dioxide emissions arising from new developments. National planning policy in England and Wales has an increasing focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation and this has a direct influence on expectations for local planning policy and practice.

Officers took the opportunity to include specific sustainability targets, developed as a result of this review, in the 'Vision to Reality' report that was considered by Council on 19 February 2008. The Council will be formally reviewing its Corporate Plan in June and needs to address issues such as:-

- The new legislation shortly to be introduced that will impose carbon reduction targets on local authorities;
- The emerging LAA 2 identifies climate change as a regional priority;
- The new statutory targets for recycling from 2010 onwards.'

2.8 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES**

That the following specific targets are established in the Corporate Plan:-

'Over the next five years, we will .....

Work on reducing the Council's own carbon dioxide emissions by 30% (based upon 2005 baseline).

Achieve a recycling target of 50% within the 5-year period.

Through the Council's Local Development Framework, ensure that the future development of the District up to 2021 is planned and carried out in a sustainable fashion.

By 2017 .....

Implement an Adapting to Climate Change Action Plan for action, monitoring and review.

Work on reducing the Council's own carbon dioxide emissions by 60%

Secure a recycling rate of 60% per year' (HES)