

NOTICE OF POLICY DECISIONS

The Policy & Finance Committee made the following decisions at its meeting on 7 December 2005:-

Item

**Issues Arising from
Overview & Scrutiny –
Review of Overview and
Scrutiny in Rochford**
(Minute 495/05)

Decision

That the following performance indicators be used to evaluate the Council's Overview and Scrutiny process from the Municipal Year 2006/07:-

- (1) Completion of Overview and Scrutiny work programme on time.
- (2) Number of occasions when Overview and Scrutiny comments/recommendations on organisational performance are acted upon.
- (3) Whether sufficient information is provided to witnesses about the Overview and Scrutiny process.
- (4) View of policy committee members as to whether Overview and Scrutiny adds value; and what improvements could be made to the relationship.
- (5) Views of public on aspects of meetings: accessibility of venue; ability to see, hear and follow the proceedings; interest and relevance of topics; clarity of reports.
- (6) Witnesses' views of value added by Overview and Scrutiny meetings.
- (7) Percentage of Overview and Scrutiny recommendations accepted.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Decision</u>
	(8) Percentage of Overview and Scrutiny recommendations implemented.
Implementing Electronic Government (Minute 501/05)	That the Implementing Electronic Government 2005 Return be approved for submission to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. (HAMS)
The New Housing Benefit Performance Standards (Minute 502/05)	<p>(1) That the self-assessment score of 4 (Excellent) be noted and the Compliance Timetable set out at Appendix 4 of the report agreed (with monitoring on a six-monthly basis).</p> <p>(2) That officers seek to publicise both the service improvements and that the Council's Revenue & Benefits Team is recognised as delivering an excellent service judged against National guidelines. (HRHM)</p>
National Non-Domestic Rates – Write Offs (Minute 504/05)	That, subject to case 1883 being replaced with case 1960 (amount £18,329), the debts shown at Appendix 1 of the report be written off against the National Non-Domestic Rate Pool. (CD(F&ES))
Report of the Tourism Study Sub-Committee (Minute 505/05)	<p>(1) That the sum of £7,000 currently within the 2005/06 budget for Tourism provision be applied to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A destination print project. • A visitors website project (allying to the destination print project). <p>(2) That work commence on the development of a mechanism for engaging the business community/commencing networking with other bodies.</p> <p>(3) That, subject to the final outcome of overall budget considerations, the following projects be first priority for any tourism monies that are available during 2006/07:-</p>

Item

Decision

- Walks Leaflet
- Activities Leaflet
- Rights of Way Leaflet
- Heritage Trail/Churches Leaflet.

- (4) That the Sub-Committee be tasked in the first instance with undertaking a review exercise to ascertain whether there is tourism potential within the District in the areas of bird watching and caravanning/camping. (CE)

The above decisions will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days after the publication of this Notice, unless referred to Full Council by a minimum of 3 Members or called in by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Note: The items on the Community Transport Partnership Agreement, the Taxi Voucher Scheme and the Wyvern Community Transport Trust – Acceptance of Taxi Vouchers have been referred for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee. The item on Members' Allowances is referred to Full Council.

Signed
Head of Administrative and Member Services

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