

---

## REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 14 DECEMBER 2004

### 1 HIGHWAYS LOCAL SERVICE AGREEMENT

- 1.1 This item of business was referred by the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 14 December to Council with a recommendation that the Council sign up to the Highways Local Service Agreement for a period of 12 months. A copy of the officer's report to the Committee is attached at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The Committee noted that:-
- The Highways Local Service Agreement was not a legal contract, but rather an agreement between County Highways and the District Council on the best working partnership for the 2 Authorities.
  - The practical and legal responsibility for highway matters rested firmly with County Highways.
  - It was vital that under the proposed new arrangements Rochford Members provide their local knowledge of highways matters, particularly with respect to local roads.
  - Under the proposed new arrangements, staff from Castle Point and Basildon Councils would transfer to County Highways and work as part of the Area Manager's team. Alternative accommodation was therefore being sought for the County Highways team in Basildon.
- 1.3 During debate, it was observed that there would be merit in the Council signing up to the local service agreement for an initial period of 12 months and for the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be provided with reports on the Agreement at three-monthly intervals.
- 1.4 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES**
- (1) That, Rochford District Council should sign up to the Highways Local Service Agreement for a period of 12 months.
  - (2) That the Area Manager, County Highways should provide the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee with reports on the Highways Local Service Agreement every three months. (HPS)

Sarah Fowler

Head of Administrative & Member Services

---

**Background Papers:-**

None

For further information please contact Sonia Worthington on:-

Tel:- 01702 318141

E-Mail:- [sonia.worthington@rochford.gov.uk](mailto:sonia.worthington@rochford.gov.uk)