

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Children and Families Scrutiny Committee**
held on Friday, 12th February, 2010 at Delamere 1, Floor 2, Delamere House,
Delamere Street, Crewe, CW1 2JZ

PRESENT

Councillor R Westwood (Chairman)
Councillor D Neilson (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors D Beckford, D Flude, J Goddard, A Kolker, G Merry, M Parsons
and M Simon

Apologies

Councillor T Jackson, T Jackson and Claire Blanchard

74 ALSO PRESENT

Councillor W Livesley (Substitute Member)
Councillor AR Thwaite (Substitute Member and Chairman Corporate Scrutiny
Committee)
Councillor S Davies (Substitute Member)

75 OFFICERS PRESENT

John Weeks Strategic Director – People
Fintan Bradley – Service Manager Improvement and Achievement
Paul Mossman – Services Manager Integrated Delivery
Dominic Oakeshott – Peoples Finance Manager
Mark Nedderman – Senior Scrutiny Officer

76 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/PARTY WHIP

There were no declarations made.

77 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no Members of the Public present who wished to address the
Committee

78 BUDGET 2010/2011

The Committee considered a report of the Borough Treasurer relating to the
formal consultation by Cabinet of the Budget for 2010/2011.

The report set out in detail the spending plans and income targets for the Council
for the financial year starting on 1 April 2010.

The Chairman of Corporate Scrutiny Committee informed members that a Budget Consultation Group had been set up in December 2009 to oversee the consultation process for 2010/2011 budget. The group had met two times during January 2010, during which details of the officer/portfolio budget challenge sessions held in the run up to the consultation process had been discussed. In addition, dates for the budget cycle of Scrutiny meetings had been agreed. The group had been given an opportunity to question some key officers within the Council to seek clarity on critical aspects of the budget, and as a result, there were no outstanding matters that required action by the Committee.

The group had concluded that it needed to reconvene in April to make early preparations for the 2011/2012 budget consultation process to ensure that a clear timetable existed for all internal stakeholders to ensure that Overview and Scrutiny members played an active part in the budget formulation and consultation processes during 2010/2011.

In view of the limited time between the series of budget Scrutiny meetings to be held over the 11 and 12 February and the Cabinet meeting on 16 February, the Chairman sought authority to allow the Chairman of Corporate Scrutiny to formally respond to the consultation after conferring with the Scrutiny Chairs group at its meeting prior to Cabinet on the 16 February with a composite response encompassing the comments of all five Committees.

Members questioned the Strategic Director People to seek clarification on a number of detailed points contained within the Budget Consultation document.

RESOLVED – That the budget consultation 2010/2011 be noted

79 PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Policy and Performance containing an overview of the 2009-2010 quarter 3 performance, which summarised performance against all National Indicators and key corporate performance measures that fell within the remit of the Council.

- Of the 50 national Indicators reported in the Committee's area of responsibility, 19 (38%) were green, 23 (46%) amber and 8(16%) were red.

Fourth Quarter performance data would be produced after 31 March for consideration and review by Scrutiny committee

RESOLVED - That the report be received

Councillor R Westwood (Chairman)