Corporate Services & Partnerships Policy Overview Committee

13 May 2009

Minutes



	Members Present: Councillors Richard Lewis (Chairman), Sid Garg, Phoday Jarjussey, Liz Kemp Brian Stead and Michael White.		
	Also Present: Councillor Scott Seaman-Digby.		
	Apologies: Councillor Robin Sansarpuri (Councillor Phoday Jarjussey subst	tituting).	
	Officers Present: Sue Crehan, Susie Kemp and Khalid Ahmed.		
	Declarations of Interest: None.		
	Minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2009 Agreed as an accurate record.		
	Exclusion of the press and public: It was agreed that part of Item 2 be considered in private.		
1.	Performance Monitoring Information and the new Comprehensive Area Assessment	Action By:	
	Members were informed that the final Comprehensive Performance Assessment score was published on 5 March 2009 and the authority was given a two star rating from the Audit Commission which was disappointing.		
	The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) came into effect from 1 April 2009 with the first results being published in late November 2009. The CAA would look at how well local public services were performing; how well they worked together and how likely they were to meet local priorities. The CAA was about local service delivery and priorities and would focus on people who used public services, cutting across organisational boundaries to ensure that the most vulnerable in the community were given a greater degree of protection.		
	The CAA would consist of two assessments; The Area		

Assessment and The Organisational Assessment and would be very much outcome focussed. The Area Assessment would initially look at the LAAs and the Sustainable Community Strategy focusing on the prospects for future improvement. This would be an evidence based process and the Council would have to demonstrate improvements.

Area assessment flags would be awarded as follows: a Green Flag for exceptional performance or outstanding improvement or a Red Flag where concerns about outcomes which were not being tackled adequately. Concerns were expressed about the assessment flags and this Council had made representations about the burdensome process.

Organisational Assessment would have two elements, which would be combined into one numerical score between 1 and 4. The two elements were Use of Resources Assessment and Managing Performance Assessment. The CAA made particular reference to Overview & Scrutiny and asks that the scrutiny function adds value in terms of the outcomes. Audit Commission inspectors use the review reports which the Policy Overview Committees produce.

Members were informed that the previous performance monitoring data which Members received was out of date and not focussed. The proposed timetable for this Municipal Year was for July for Policy Overview Committees to receive at the end of the fourth quarter the trend data so Members can make comparisons with previous data. In January it would be reported what the priorities were as detailed in the Group Plans and Members would consider the direction of travel for the performance Indicators.

For this forthcoming year the following would be monitored:

- LAA Number of residents carrying out volunteer work:
- LAA Residents aged 16+ in work and supported achieving a first full level 2 qualification;
- Money spent on Chrysalis;
- Teams achieving HIP Team Bonus;
- The percentage of returned electoral registration canvas forms
- Budget details for the Deputy Chief Executive's Office.

Reference was made to the Residents Survey Report and the Topline Results which indicated the Council was performing well compared to other Councils.

Resolved -

That the information presented to the Committee be noted and Susie Kemp and Sue Crehan be thanked for their presentation.

2. Major Review: Wireless/Business Friendly Borough

Action By:

Consideration was given to the draft of this Council's final report on its review into Hillingdon: A Wireless and Business Friendly Borough.

Members agreed that the report was a good representation of the review which had been undertaken and officers were thanked for their support during the review and on the production of the final report.

Discussion took place on the recommendations in the report and a number of suggestions and additions were made.

Resolved -

1. That the following be agreed as this Committee's recommendations from the review to Cabinet:

Khalid Ahmed

Recommendation 1 – That the Council's Communications Team be asked to instigate a publicity campaign in relation to the Council introducing pilot schemes for wi-fi into town centres with the intention of encouraging people and businesses into the Borough's town centres.

Recommendation 2 - That a full quotation be sought from providers for wi-fi pilots to be run in two town centres; namely Hayes and Ruislip.

Recommendation 3 - That a full quotation be sought from providers for a roll out scheme to all LBH town centres.

Recommendation 4 - That statistical data be trapped for 1 year to see how, when and where the free wi-fi is being used.

Recommendation 5 - That subject to the use and operation of the pilot and the roll out costs as acceptable that the scheme is rolled out to all LBH town centres.

Recommendation 6 - That the wireless broadband be provided free to use but without service guarantees.

Recommendation 7 - That cooperation is sought with The Chimes operators to seek possible joined up implementation for an Uxbridge Town Scheme.

Recommendation 8 - That external funding be sought from the Local Government Association, from 2012 Tourism Funds or other possible funders.

Recommendation 9 – That work takes place with Business

	Link to promote wi-fi to businesses in the area.	
3.	Cabinet Forward Plan	
	Members were informed that subject to discussions with officers an early draft of the Road Safety Update Report which was to be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 25 June, would be considered at this Committee's next meeting on 9 June 2009.	
	Resolved –	
	That the information now reported be noted.	
4.	Work Programme	
	Consideration was given to a report which provided Members with details of this Committee's work programme for 2008/09. Members were informed that a discussion would take place at this Committee's next meeting on 9 June 2009 on proposals for reviews for the next Municipal Year.	
	Resolved –	
	That the information now reported be noted.	
5.	Major Review: Wireless/Business Friendly Borough	
	The report on this item was included in Part II as it contained information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) and the public interest in withholding the information outweighed the public interest in disclosing it (exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 as amended.	
	The Committee noted a paper which provided details of costings for pilot wireless schemes.	
	Meeting closed at 8.10pm Next meeting: 9 June 2009 at 7.30pm	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Khalid Ahmed on 01895 250833. Circulation of these minutes are to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.