EAST HERTS COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 8 FEBRUARY 2011

REPORT BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

Purpose/Summary of Report

- This report details the comments and recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committees since the last meeting of the Executive and should be read in conjunction with reports of the Executive Members found elsewhere on the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION:
(A)   **That the report be received.**

1.0   Background

1.1   Scrutiny meetings have been held recently as follows:

Joint meeting of Scrutiny Committees – 18 January 2011
Community Scrutiny Committee – 25 January 2011

2.0   Report

2.1   **Capital Programme 2010/11 (Revised) to 2013/14 (Agenda Item 6)**

The Joint Scrutiny Committees resolved that the Executive be informed that they note the invest to save aspects of the Capital Programme and consider it is appropriately phased and the Programme should be approved.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2011/12 and Minimum Revenue Policy Statement (Agenda Item 7)

The Joint Scrutiny Committees resolved that the Executive be informed that they consider that the Treasury Management

Strategy Statement and Annual Investment and Prudential Indicators 2011/12 should be approved and the options recommended for the Minimum Revenue Provision in the report now submitted (Option 1 and Method 2) should be approved.

Fees and Charges 2011/12
(Agenda Item 8)

The Joint Scrutiny Committees resolved that the Executive be informed that the fees and charges as set out in Essential Reference Paper 'B' of the report now submitted should be approved, including a concessionary rate of planning pre-application fees for Charities and Parish and Town Councils, changes to fees for the land charges service in line with neighbouring authorities and setting the hackney carriage fees to reduce the subsidy.

Service Estimates – Revenue Budget Probable 2010/11 – Estimates 2011/12
(Agenda Item 9)

The Joint Scrutiny Committees resolved that the Executive be informed that they consider the budget variances in the report now submitted are reasonable and the estimates should be approved.

Consolidated Budget Report: Probable Outturn 2010/11: Revenue Budget Proposals 2011/12: Medium Term Financial Plan 2011/12 – 2014/15
(Agenda Item 10)

The Joint Scrutiny Committees resolved that the Executive be informed that they consider the Consolidated Budget should be approved subject to the following comments:

(A)   an addition of a Member Development Officer (1 day a week) should be considered;
(B)   support for PCSOs should be continued for one year;
(C)   a review of Community Safety be supported;
(D)   the aim to freeze Council Tax for a further year after 2011/12 be supported;
(E)   proposals for savings in support for the Chairman and Museum Service and Sunday and Bank Holiday car park charges should not be implemented; and

(F)   the decision to freeze car park charges from April 2011 be noted.

3.0   Implications/Consultations

3.1   Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers
None

Contact Members: Councillor D Andrews, Chairman, Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee.
Councillor Mrs D L E Hollebon, Chairman, Environment Scrutiny Committee.
Councillor C Woodward, Chairman, Community Scrutiny Committee.

Contact Officer: Jeff Hughes – Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services, Extn: 2170.

Report Authors: Martin Ibrahim - Senior Democratic Services Officer, Marian Langley – Scrutiny Officer

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/Objectives *(delete as appropriate):*	This report seeks to summarise scrutiny activities, which in general terms, support all of the Council's objectives.
Consultation:	This report assists the wider consultation process in reporting issues arising from scrutiny to the Executive.
Legal:	The Constitution requires issues arising from Scrutiny to be reported to the Executive.
Financial:	None
Human Resource:	None
Risk Management:	None