

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 6 SEPTEMBER 2011

REPORT BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

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**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.

<b><u>RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION:</u></b>
<b>(A)</b>   <b>That the report be received.</b>

1.0 Background

1.1 Scrutiny meetings have been held recently as follows:

Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee – 23 August 2011

2.0 Report

2.1 **Corporate Strategic Plan 2012/13 – 2015/16**  
**(Agenda Item 6)**

The Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee resolved that the Executive be informed that the Committee commends the Corporate Strategic Plan 2012/13 – 2015/16 subject to drafting amendments discussed at the meeting.

## 2.2 Financial Strategy 2011; MTFP 2012/13 – 2015/16 and Application of the New Homes Bonus (Agenda Item 8)

The Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee resolved that the Executive be informed that the Committee:

(A) supports the recommendations to Council as set out in the report now submitted; and

(B) advises the Executive that:

- (1) the three proposed uses of the New Homes Bonus are appropriate and a fair balance is struck in the proposed apportionment;
- (2) a key Council priority should receive funding from this source with spending proposals to be developed in this budget round;
- (3) the suggestion for point scoring of criteria for grants is too prescriptive and should be deleted;
- (4) a light touch should be adopted to the administration and audit of the spend on grants and the lower cost of this is welcomed;
- (5) Decisions on spending would normally be expected to be made through Town Councils in the towns and at Ward level in rural areas.

## 2.3 Monthly Corporate Healthcheck – June 2011 (Agenda Item 11)

The Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee resolved that the Executive be informed of its comments concerning the need to achieve planned savings on salaries.

## 3.0 Other Issues

3.1 The Corporate Business Scrutiny Committee considered a report on the **Corporate Annual Report 2010/11** and resolved that the Executive be informed that the Committee approves the initial draft of the Council's Annual Report 2010/11, subject to the drafting amendments discussed at the meeting.

#### 4.0 Implications/Consultations

4.1 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 G McAndrew, Chairman, Community Scrutiny Committee.

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

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Marian Langlely – Scrutiny Officer

## ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/Objectives ( <i>delete as appropriate</i> ):	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