

## SOUTH RIBBLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2013

## REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Scrutiny Committee has met on one occasion, namely the evening of 13 August 2013.

The committee started by considering **Matters Arising** which listed the outstanding matters from the last ordinary meeting of the committee. The committee felt that all but one of the items could now be removed from the list. This left the item on the Scrutiny Committee: Review of External Communications – Progress Report (min. no. 3(i, ii and iii), 25/06/13) which for the time being should remain on the list to see how the situation developed.

It then turned its attention to a report on **Customer Satisfaction** in response to the committee's request for more information on the council's survey. The committee appreciated and accepted the explanations given regarding the recent customer satisfaction survey.

The next item considered was the **Member Development Plan 2012/15 – Out-turn Report 2012/13**. The committee welcomed the commitment to provide hand outs at future learning hour sessions. It recommended that consideration be given to the training and support to members and others who volunteer, in such topics as health & safety, dealing with difficult situations etc. The committee advocated a pro-active ICT training programme for members, including e-learning packages. It encouraged that all members be reminded to let the Member Development Champions know of any training and development needs. The committee recommended that all members encourage each other to attend the Learning Hour and training and development events. It requested that future reports included whole numbers instead of percentages. The committee encouraged group leaders to have member development training on the agenda for all their group meetings.

The penultimate item was the **Our People Action Plan (Report 2012/13 and Plan 2013/15)**. The committee acknowledged the review of the questions (and notes the reasons for) in the Employee Survey 2013. It looked forward to receiving the results of the Employee Survey 2013 when available. The committee congratulated the employees on reducing sickness absence annually for the last 5 years. It suggested that the actions be more SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound).

The next and final item discussed by the committee was an **Update on Scrutiny Reviews and Scrutiny Matters**. The chairman reported that he had attended the last meeting of Lancashire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee – which had predominantly discussed the review of the Morecambe NHS Trust. There was no feedback on meetings and training attended by members of the committee and the committee considered and noted its forward plan and also that of the Cabinet.

I hereby commend the report of the Scrutiny Committee to the Council.

COUNCILLOR MICK TITHERINGTON  
CHAIRMAN  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE