

# Executive

## Overview and Scrutiny Reports: (1) Committee report on Democratic Engagement with Young People and (2) Task & Finish Group report on Crime and Anti Social Behaviour

6 September 2010

### Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the following overview and scrutiny reports:

- (1) Democratic Engagement with Young People (Appendix 1)
- (2) Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (Appendix 2)

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will attend the meeting to present the reports.

This report is public

#### Recommendations

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The Executive is recommended:

- (1) To note the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutiny review into the Council's approach to Democratic Engagement with Young People.
- (2) Agree the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendation regarding the Council's approach to Democratic Engagement with Young People as detailed below:

##### **Recommendation 1:**

That the Council should adopt a more pro-active and structured approach to youth engagement in local democracy and that the Young People's Champion and officers should be invited to develop a formal policy and action plan to achieve this.

- (3) To note the work of the Task & Finish Group scrutiny review into Crime and Anti Social Behaviour.
- (4) Agree the Task & Finish Group recommendation regarding Crime and Anti Social Behaviour as detailed below:

##### **Recommendation 1:**

That the Council take an active role in promoting the positive activities which

young people in the district are involved in.

**Recommendation 2:**

That the Council promote the success of the Street Wardens in Bicester and Banbury and that the possibility of developing the scheme in other areas of Cherwell be investigated.

**Recommendation 3:**

That Overview and Scrutiny investigate how the Council engages with young people in the District in more detail.

**Recommendation 4:**

That the Council embarks on intergenerational activities to tackle the perception of crime in the District.

**Recommendation 5:**

That the Council develop a policy on youth engagement and involvement as part of the Council's consultation and decision making arrangements.

## **Executive Summary**

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### **Introduction**

- 1.1 These two reports present the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 2009/10 and of a Task & Finish Group from the summer of 2008 to the winter of 2009. The reports are presented together because the themes emerging from these two separate reviews are complementary and focus our attention on the fundamental importance of creating a meaningful role for young people in our society.

### **Proposals**

- 1.2 In the current financial environment it is important to note that none of the recommendations in these two reports need result in a significant increase in cost to the Council.

### **Conclusion**

- 1.3 Although both of these reviews took longer to complete than was ideal their submission to Executive now is timely given their clear links and relevance to the current debate on breaking the cycle of deprivation.

## **Key Issues for Consideration/Reasons for Decision and Options**

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The following options have been identified. The approach in the recommendations is believed to be the best way forward

**Option One** To accept all of the recommendations contained in the two Overview and Scrutiny reports.

**Option Two** To accept some of the recommendations contained in the two Overview and Scrutiny reports.

## **Consultations**

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See Appendix 1 and 2 for details

## **Implications**

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**Financial:** There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by Karen Muir ,Corporate System Accountant, 01295 221559

**Legal:** There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by Paul Manning Solicitor 01 295 221688

**Risk Management:** There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by Rosemary Watts, Risk Management & Insurance Officer, 01295 221566

## **Wards Affected**

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All

## **Corporate Plan Themes**

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All

## **Executive Portfolio**

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**Councillor Colin Clarke**  
**Portfolio Holder for Breaking the Cycle of Deprivation**

## **Document Information**

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Appendix No	Title
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Appendix 1	Democratic Engagement with Young People
Appendix 2	Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
<b>Background Papers</b>	
None	
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