

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

23 JULY 2008

CORPORATE AFFAIRS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Corporate Affairs Overview and Scrutiny Committee has met once since the last full Council meeting. The following items were considered:

Committee Meeting – 16TH June 2008

Enhanced two tier working

Our Committee meeting in June was a single item agenda meeting to which representatives from the District and Borough Councils were invited. It proved to be a worthwhile meeting with frank discussions taking place around the table. It was encouraging to hear of those areas where two tier working was working well but inevitably there are areas for improvement.

We were told that overview and scrutiny in each of the Councils is playing its part by encouraging closer working relationships between the Councils. An event took place on the 26th June 2008 to look at how overview and scrutiny at each of the authorities can look at the outcomes of the partnership working through the Local Area Agreement (LAA).

The Committee intends to maintain its interest in how the District, Borough and County councils can work together. I think everyone agrees that the future holds more and more two tier and multi tier working and we will do all we can to support this process.

In-depth Scrutiny Review

Members' Induction

As Local Government becomes more complex, it becomes ever more of a challenge for newly elected councillors. Induction can make the difference between being effective and involved and experiencing long term problems and lack of understanding.

(Institute of local government studies, 2008)

The in-depth scrutiny review looking at Members' Induction is reaching its conclusion and has been informed by responses from Members to a questionnaire at the last full council meeting. The Task Group is comprised of, County Councillors Liz Casling (Task Group Chairman), John Blackburn and Mark Wheeler. We look forward to their final report to the 28 July meeting of the Committee

County Councillor Margaret-Ann de Coursey-Bayley
Chairman – Corporate Affairs Overview and Scrutiny Committee
July 2008