

# LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

## STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

23 MARCH 2006

### Scrutiny Communications

#### Reference from meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 30 January 2006

1. Members received a presentation on improving communications with a view to promoting engagement with scrutiny. An Officer outlined some of the aims of the project which were to:
  - educate people about scrutiny, its purpose and its aims;
  - invite the Council's partners and the public to suggest topics for review;
  - encourage attendance at scrutiny meetings;
  - engage with experts and witnesses to provide evidence or assist with reviews;
  - generate dialogue.
2. Members were informed that the main basis of communication would be through the Internet, supplemented by targeted information by other forms of media, for example one-off events. Members' views were sought on the balance to be struck between the content of the Internet site and information available internally on the Intranet. In addition, a bulletin would be produced for Members to update them on the work undertaken. The officer requested feedback on both. Copies of the presentation slides on Scrutiny Communications and the draft bulletin were provided to Members at the meeting.
3. Members suggested that the presentation and the draft bulletin be made available to all the Scrutiny Sub-Committees so that Members could provide feedback on the proposals. Members also highlighted the need to provide information in the local press and through 'Harrow People'.

**RESOLVED:** That (1) the presentation be noted;

(2) Members' comment on the proposals contained in the presentation 'Scrutiny Communications' and the bulletin;

**(3) Members of the Scrutiny Sub-Committees be requested to provide feedback on the proposals.**

### FOR CONSIDERATION

Background Papers: Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 30 January 2006.

Presentation Slides.

Contact: Daksha Ghelani, Committee Administrator, Tel: 020 8424 1881 (Ext 2881)  
E-Mail: daksha.ghelani@harrow.gov.uk