

REPORT FOR: **CABINET**

Date of Meeting:	14 September 2010
Subject:	Neighbourhood Champions Scrutiny Challenge Panel Report
Key Decision:	No
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap, Divisional Director Partnership Development and Performance
Portfolio Holder:	N/A currently [Councillor Jerry Miles, Chairman Overview and Scrutiny Committee]
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	Yes
Enclosures:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Report from the Neighbourhood Champions scrutiny challenge panel2. Comments from the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Lead Councillors3. Reference from Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report introduces the findings of the Neighbourhood Champions scrutiny challenge panel held during the previous administration

Recommendations:

Cabinet is requested to:

1. Consider the findings of the challenge panel in the future development of the Neighbourhood Champions scheme.

Reason:

In order that the issues identified by the scrutiny challenge panel can contribute to the future successful development of the Neighbourhood Champions scheme.

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

In February this year, towards the end of the previous administration, the Overview and Scrutiny committee commissioned a challenge panel to examine the Neighbourhood Champions scheme. The challenge panel produced a report of its findings which was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny committee later in the same month. At this meeting, the committee was advised that the panel's report did not reflect a consensus of opinion amongst the members of the panel and as such, the committee decided that it could not accept the recommendations and that the panel should reconvene to confirm its findings before the report could again be considered by the committee.

In the time available prior to the local and national elections, this was not possible and since this time, the election has resulted in a change of administration and change in the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny committee itself.

This left the report in abeyance and meant that the recommendations from the review were not available to the new administration which wished to continue with the scheme and had expressed a desire to understand the concerns raised in the original challenge panel report.

In order to address this, the original report was again considered by the Overview and Scrutiny committee on 27th July and was agreed and it was also agreed that it should be referred to Cabinet for consideration along with comments from the Safer and Stronger Communities scrutiny lead councillors. The report as agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny committee in July and the comments of the Safer and Stronger Communities scrutiny lead councillors are therefore attached to this report.

Options considered

None

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report as it offers comments on an existing scheme.

Performance Issues

The performance issues to be impacted by the Neighbourhood Champions scheme were considered during its original development. The purpose of this report is to support Cabinet in the further development of the scheme by sharing the findings of the scrutiny challenge panel.

Environmental Impact

There are no environmental issues associated specifically with this report

Risk Management Implications

There are no risk management implications associated specifically with this report.

Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

If yes, summarise findings, any adverse impact and proposed actions to mitigate / remove these below:

If no, state why an EqIA was not carried out below:

An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been undertaken as the attached report refers to the performance of the Neighbourhood Champions scheme which is not within the purview of the scrutiny function. Should any of the challenge panel's recommendations be taken up and result in a change to the scheme, it will be the responsibility of the service itself to ensure that an Equalities Impact Assessment is carried out.

Corporate Priorities

Please identify which corporate priority the report incorporates and how:

- Deliver cleaner and safer streets ✓
- Improve support for vulnerable people ✓
- Build stronger communities ✓

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Myfanwy Barrett Chief Financial Officer

Date: 23 August 2010

Name: George Curran on behalf of the
Monitoring Officer

Date: 24 August 2010

Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name: Alex Dewsnap

Date: 23 August 2010

Section 5 – Environmental Impact Officer Clearance

Name: John Edwards

Date: 23 August 2010

Section 6 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Lynne Margetts, Service Manager Scrutiny 020 8420 9387

Background Papers: None

**Call-In Waived by the
Chairman of Overview
and Scrutiny
Committee**

NOT APPLICABLE