

Committee:	Scrutiny	Agenda Item 6
Date:	28 September 2010	
Title:	Lead Officer's Report & Action Plan	
Author:	Simon Martin, Head of Customer Support & Revenue Services, 01799 510422	Item for Information

Summary

This report updates Members on matters arising from the minutes that are not otherwise on this agenda and other items of interest.

Committee actions

The Committee Action Plan is attached as an appendix. All actions are complete or are assigned to future dates in the committee calendar.

Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) Annual Conference

The 2010 CfPS Annual Conference took place on June 30th and July 1st in London. Over 300 delegates attended this year's conference and three prominent themes are reported to have emerged:

- There was a clear feeling amongst speakers and delegates that despite the threats associated with the end of ring fencing and looming budget cuts, the coalition programme for government represent opportunities for local decision makers to focus on the priorities of local people. However, it was agreed that increased localism and a general power of competence for councils would require stronger local accountability.
- In a time of challenges and opportunities for public accountability it is important to challenge dominant positions and ask difficult questions.
- There was strong support for a continuation and expansion of the Total Place agenda. The eroding of silos in public services provision has implications for public accountability.

This Council has not previously been represented at Annual Conference. It may be something that could be considered for 2011.

Work programme

The work programme for 2010/11 is currently on track. The next meeting will include an update on Neighbourhood Watch, status reports on Emergency Planning and Section 106 Agreements, and draft terms of reference for the forthcoming annual review of Bridge End Gardens.