

**SCRUTINY ITEMS CONSIDERED BY COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>COMMITTEE DATE</b>	<b>EFFECTS OF SCRUTINY</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
1	Fire Safety Education for School Age Pupils	11 October 2000	The Scrutiny Panel referred this item to the Community Fire Safety Panel, which considered it at its meeting on 31 January 2001. The Panel reported back advising of links between the service and Children, Schools and Families Dept. It also indicated that it would maintain interest in this area. Since that date the Safe Havens Project has been successfully launched jointly by the Chief Fire Officer and Director of CSF, to date just over 206 of the schools in the county have taken part in the programme. The programme is due for completion in 2005.	Finished
2	Trading Standards Inspection Programme – inc. Food Service Plan	11 October 2000/13 March 2001	Following a decision by Cabinet, the Food Service Plan is now submitted on an annual basis, to both Cabinet and full Council. Quarterly updates, detailing inspection and sampling work are submitted to the Executive member and group spokespersons, as directed by the Cabinet.	Ongoing
3	Scrutiny of Service Property Strategies – Fire and Rescue, Community Information and Registration Service	16 January 2001	Service Property Strategies are reviewed and revised on an annual basis. The revision is currently being undertaken and will be presented for members consideration	Annual Update

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4	Relocation and Redevelopment of Fire Stations	16 January 2001	<p>The issue of relocating the fire stations at St Albans and Watford has received considerable attention in the last two years. Progress has been made in both areas. A site for the St Albans Fire Station has been acquired on the Frances Bacon School site and outline planning permission granted. The detailed planning application is currently being processed and finance on a self-funding basis is provided in the capital programme.</p> <p>Following previous difficulties in negotiations, Watford Borough Council has actively assisted in identifying potential sites for the replacement fire stations and more detailed work is now in hand. Finance for the new station is identified in the Capital Programme.</p>	Finished
5	Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS) Accommodation	4 July 2001	This item has been the subject of written and oral updates at each select committee. Members have been appraised of progress on the developing options for the service, including costs of new accommodation.	Ongoing
6	Best Value Review of Information Communications and Technology (ICT) – Implementation Monitoring Sheet	30 October 2001	The Committee reviewed this issue in March 2002 and requested a report on ICT in libraries (see item 17).	Finished

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7	Best Value Review of Coroners – Implementation Monitoring Sheet	30 October 2001	The Scrutiny follows on from a Best Value Review of the Service. The completion of the review was on time and to budget. Since then there has been ongoing monitoring of the recommendations of the review as the service develops and grows.	Ongoing
8	Civil Naming	30 October 2001	The Scrutiny took place during the piloting of this service. At the end of the year long pilot members agreed that the service should continue. Hertfordshire has carried out more ceremonies than any other authority.	Finished
9	Fire & Rescue Service Equal Opportunities Recruitment Targets	30 October 2001	Superseded by report on 29 October 2002. A review of recruitment standards and targets is anticipated as part of modernisation agenda.	Ongoing
10	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Fire Services Inspection Report 2001	30 October 2001	A follow up report to members indicated a 6.25% reduction in the number of false alarm calls from Automatic Fire Alarm Equipment. Since that date such calls have been reducing by another 6%. A significant reduction was achieved at the University of Hertfordshire where through the work of local crews the number of calls was reduced by 45%. The service has continued to work hard in this area and a recent letter to the top 20 worst offenders resulted in very positive responses indicating how the premises concerned would seek to reduce them.	Finished

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11	Hatfield Derailment, Flooding and Fuel Crisis Debriefing Reports	30 October 2001	The Scrutiny committee commended to the Executive Member a series of initiatives to enhance emergency response arrangements, which have been enacted on. Some of those initiatives pertained to raising public awareness of flood risk and a number of actions have been taken to meet this goal including the running of a Flood fair and 20 public meetings in “flood-risk” communities. Other recommendations pertained to enhancing HCC’s own ability to respond to a flood emergency and this has resulted in the installation of video-conferencing facility in the emergency centre and, as part of a Best Value Review, the introduction of more robust 24hr call-out arrangements for the Emergency Planning Team.	Finished
12	Civil Funerals	12 March 2002	The scrutiny of this service is still ongoing. A report is coming to this meeting giving the latest position.	Ongoing
13	Re-Affirmation of Vows	12 March 2002	The Scrutiny began during the piloting of this service. At the end of the year long pilot members agreed that the service should continue. There is only one authority that has carried out more ceremonies than Hertfordshire.	Finished
14	Fire & Rescue Service Initiatives with Young People	12 March 2002	The Committee agreed to establish a short life topic group to deal with this subject. Due to the industrial action the commencement of this work was postponed. It has now been agreed to recommence this work and nominations for the topic group have been sought.	Ongoing

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15	Installation of Sprinklers in New Developments	12 March 2002	The Committee agreed to establish a short life topic group to deal with this subject. Due to the industrial action the commencement of this work was postponed. It has now been agreed to recommence this work and nominations for the topic group have been sought. In addition the committee agreed that a seminar on fire safety in schools should be organised. This has not been followed through to date. The committee also requested that work continue to raise the profile of sprinklers with District Councils. Officers are in regular discussions with DC officers on this matter.	Ongoing
16	Public Access to Information Technology (ICT) in Libraries	11 June 2002	The committee decided that a future meeting should receive a progress report, on ICT issues, especially Internet access and connection speeds. A future meeting would also scrutinise disabled access to libraries with particular reference to the blind and partially sighted.	Ongoing
17	Partnership Ceremonies	29 October 2002	The scrutiny of this proposed service is ongoing. It is a controversial service. Members have requested further information be obtained about the service from authorities currently offering it before a report comes back to the committee.	Ongoing
18	Fire & Rescue Service Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Operational Uniform	29 October 2002	The committee noted the implications of this approach to procurement. No further action required.	Finished

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19	Fire & Rescue Service Update on Performance Targets for the Recruitment and Retention of Women and People from Ethnic Minority Backgrounds and a Profile on the Non-Uniformed Workforce	29 October 2002	The Committee has asked for an update to the October 2003 meeting. A costed proposal for the Women's Access Course has been requested from North Herts College and approaches have been made to other colleges in Hertfordshire.	Ongoing
20	Fireworks	14 January 2003	The last meeting established a topic group on this issue. The first meeting of that group was due to be held on 27 <sup>th</sup> February.	Ongoing