

Report Title: **Scrutiny Review of Neighbourhood Wardens**

Report of: **Chair of Scrutiny Review of Neighbourhood Wardens**

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Non-Key Decision**

1. Purpose

To agree the report outlining the conclusions and recommendations of the Review.

2. Recommendations

That Members agree the, conclusions and recommendations of the Review, as outlined in the Scrutiny Review report.

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3. Executive Summary: Funding streams for Neighbourhood Warden schemes across the Borough are expiring and, in the light of this, Overview and Scrutiny Committee set up a scrutiny review to look at proposals regarding the future of the service. The review report strongly supports the current efforts to maintain funding levels for the service through the use of mainstream resources and such grant funding as might be available.

4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable)

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

6. Background Papers

6.1 *Please refer to the Scrutiny Review report (attached).*

7. Description

7.1 *Please refer to the Scrutiny Review report (attached).*

8. Consultation

8.1 The Review report has been submitted to the relevant departments for consideration of technical accuracy and feasibility of the recommendations.

9. Summary and Conclusions

9.1 *Please refer to the Scrutiny Review report (attached).*

10. Recommendations

10.1 *Please refer to the Scrutiny Review report (attached).*

11. Legal and Financial Comments

11.1 Since the review report was drafted, it has been established that funding levels for the wardens service can be maintained at current levels for at least the next two financial years, i.e. until March 2008. Loss of ODPM grant funding is being mainstreamed from next financial year. Grant funding from NDC is likely to continue until this regime runs out in 2010/11. It was recently announced that NRF/SSCF grant funding will also continue for at least the next two financial years and funding for wardens from this source will be sought as appropriate.

11.2 Full legal and financial comments will be sought to recommendations agreed by the Executive in the Executive Response.

12. Equalities Implications

12.1 Equalities Implications will be sought to recommendations agreed by the Executive in the Executive Response.