

# Scrutiny at Southend

## Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2013 @ 6 pm

The session will be provided by:

- John Williams, Head of Legal and Democratic Services
- Fiona Abbott, Principal Committee Officer / Health Scrutiny Lead Officer & Designated Scrutiny Officer

### Programme

- (a) Brief overview of Council's decision making processes and how Scrutiny operates within that:
- Cabinet system and decision making:
    - Council functions
    - Regulatory functions
  - Role of Scrutiny and call in – some useful extracts from 'A guide for new Councillors 2013/14' (See Document 1)
  - Significant changes:
    - New scrutiny committees
    - Health scrutiny changes and public health (See Document 2 – note, this document has been updated and revised slightly from the version recently circulated).
    - pre cabinet scrutiny, in more significant way.
- (b) Scrutiny Guide (See Document 3):
- What is 'Scrutiny' – legislative background; 4 principles of good scrutiny; why Scrutiny matters.
  - How Scrutiny works at Southend.
  - How the Scrutiny Committees undertake their different roles - call-in; putting items on the agenda; pre Cabinet Scrutiny; in depth projects; budget; performance management; health Scrutiny.
  - The roles of Scrutiny members & others – role of Chairman; role of committee member; role of co-opted member; involvement of Cabinet Members; role of other stakeholders.
  - Effective Scrutiny – development & training; role of Democratic Services; Scrutiny skills.
  - In depth Scrutiny projects.
- (c) Review of Scrutiny Committees work 2012/13 (See Document 4).
- (d) Questions.
- (e) Useful website [www.cfps.org.uk](http://www.cfps.org.uk)