

**Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board**

**Date: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2012**

**Subject: Overview of the Parks and Countryside Service**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 At its meeting in June 2012, the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board noted that the portfolio responsibility for Parks and Countryside had transferred to the Executive Board Member for Environment and that a planned move of the Parks and Countryside Service to the Environment and Neighbourhoods directorate would follow.
- 1.2 It was reported at full Council on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012 that amendments to the Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) had been made by the Leader with immediate effect. As a result, Parks and Countryside has now moved to Environment and Neighbourhoods.
- 1.3 As well as the focus on partnership scrutiny, Scrutiny Boards have and will continue to challenge service directorates. The Scrutiny Boards' terms of reference are therefore determined by reference to Directors' delegations. Terms of reference for the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board will now be revised to reflect this recent amendment to the Officer Delegation Scheme.
- 1.4 The Chair has therefore requested a verbal presentation at today's meeting to provide Board Members with an overview of the Parks and Countryside Service.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the information contained within this report.

### **3 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

3.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.