16 June 2006

Crawley Borough Council

Agenda for the **General Purposes Committee** which will be held in Committee Room B, Town Hall, Crawley, on **Tuesday 27 June 2006 at 8.00 p.m.** (or at the conclusion of the meeting of the Audit and Governance Sub-Committee, whichever is the later)

Nightline Telephone No. (01293) 551636

Head of Democratic Services

Members

Councillors R D Burrett (Chair), D English (Vice-Chair), B K Blake, C A Cheshire, D G Crow, M T Head, R A Lanzer, J Mortimer D J Shreeves, J G Smith and L A Walker.

Please note that Members requiring refreshments should contact Member Services on 01293 438391 no later than 48 hours before the meeting

Business - Part A

1. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the <u>minutes</u> of the meeting of the Committee held on 20 March 2006 (Enclosure A).

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Members' Disclosures of Interest

The law requires Council Members to disclose details of any interests they have that others might think could influence their decision. Members should disclose the fact that they have an interest in any items on the agenda **and the nature of that interest** at this point in the meeting. They should say whether or not they consider the interest to be prejudicial and, if they do think

the interest is prejudicial, they must leave the meeting when that item is discussed.

Members' Allowances Scheme 2006/07 – Supplementary Report of Independent Review Panel and Appointment of New Panel Members for 2007/08

To consider the report of the Head of Democratic Services, <u>DS/63</u> (Enclosure B)

5. Constitutional Changes

(1) Procurement Code - Delegation for Repairs Contracts

The Procurement Code contained within the Constitution provides for the approval of contracts to be delegated to officers where the total value is no greater than £200,000 and by officers in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder for contracts up to £400,000 (subject to the criteria described in the Code)

Under the previous 'Standing Orders with respect to Contracts', an extension of the above delegation was provided to enable repair contracts above £400,000 (and, in particular, contracts for repairs to Council housing) to be delegated to the Head of Crawley Homes/ Head of Property Services and Procurement, subject to compliance with tendering procedure. This element of the delegation scheme was omitted when the Procurement Code replaced the Standing Orders with respect to Contracts.

The additional delegation regarding repairs had been inserted into the Constitution because Members did not consider that they could add value to the decision as the recommendation for the award of the contract followed a market testing tendering exercise.

It is proposed that the delegation to officers/portfolio holders for the approval of contracts be amended to allow a higher limit of up to £1m where the contract is for building repairs. The letting of repair contracts over £1m would still require Executive approval.

The Committee is therefore asked to **RECOMMEND** the Council to substitute the wording set out in **Enclosure C** to this agenda for paragraph 14 of the Procurement Code in the Council's Constitution.

(2) Changes to the delegation scheme

The Committee is asked to **RECOMMEND** the Council to make the following amendments to the Council's Constitution to reflect the requirements of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006:-

(a) Add the following to the functions of the full Council:-

'Power to resolve not to issue a casino premises licence under Section 166 of the Gambling Act 2005.'

(b) Add the following through the functions of the General Purposes Committee:-

'This function is delegated to the Head of Legal Services

The enforcement of byelaws'

6. Supplemental Agenda

Any urgent item(s) complying with Section 100(B) of the Local Government Act 1972.

