

## **REGENERATION, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**7 JULY 2009**

### **WORK PROGRAMME**

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

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#### **Summary**

The item advises the Committee of the current work programme and enables adjustments to be made in light of latest priorities, issues and circumstances. It gives Members the opportunity to shape and direct the Committee's activities over the year.

#### **1. Budget and Policy Framework**

- 1.1 Under Chapter 4 – Rules, paragraph 22.1 (v) General terms of reference, each overview and scrutiny committee has the responsibility for setting its own work programme.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 Appendix 1 to this report sets out the existing work programme for the Committee.

#### **3. Agenda planning meeting**

- 3.1 Members will be aware that Overview and Scrutiny Committees hold agenda planning meetings on a regular basis. These give officers greater guidance on information Members wish them to provide when scrutinising an issue. An agenda planning meeting took place on Wednesday 24 June 2009. No changes to the work programme were made at the meeting.

## **4 Future work programme**

### **4.1 Cabinet's Forward Plan**

The following item was identified on the Cabinet Forward Plan as being within this Committee's remit and an issue which the Committee may wish to consider:

#### Social Regeneration Strategy Review

22 Sept 2009

This will present an annual review of the Social Regeneration Strategy.

### **4.2 Report on dedicated museum for Medway**

Councillors Crack and Haydock have voiced interest in the Council exploring the idea of developing a new museum in Medway. The proposal was discussed at a recent meeting of the Medway Tourism Association (MTA), at which both Councillors are representatives. The meeting was attended by over 50 members of the local tourism and museums sector and proved to be a highly informative and productive debate. However, while there was general support for the idea of further collaboration between the existing museum providers in Medway and especially for the need for Medway's industrial history to be captured, there was no support for developing a new museum. The full minutes of the MTA meeting are attached at Appendix B.

### **4.3 Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder – future provisions**

The crime and disorder scrutiny provisions of the Police and Justice Act 2006 took effect from 30 April 2009. Regulations and Home Office guidance have now been published and a full report will be considered by the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2 July 2009. It will then be submitted to Cabinet for consideration on 14 July and at the Council meeting on 30 July 2009.

In summary, the Police and Justice Act 2006 sets out a Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) for crime and disorder and community safety issues. The provisions for the 'crime and disorder CCfA' are essentially identical to the general CCfA. Section 19(3b) of the Act gives members who are not members of the Crime and Disorder committee the right to refer any local crime and disorder matter to the committee.

The Police and Justice Act also introduces a requirement for one Committee to be designated for the purposes of crime and disorder scrutiny generally and with a duty to review the activities and action of the Community Safety Partnership at least once a year. In practice this does not require the setting up of a separate committee and does not require separate arrangements. In Medway the relevant committee is currently the Regeneration, Community and Culture (RCC) Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Members of this committee are not being asked to comment at this stage but a full report will be submitted to this committee in the autumn, outlining the proposals and full requirements of the Act.

- 4.4 Due to the number of items on this agenda, Councillor Godwin offered to defer his Member Item on road resurfacing to the next meeting in August.

## **5 Legal and financial implications**

- 5.1 There are no financial or legal implications arising directly from this report.

## **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 Members are requested to:
- (i) consider the Committee's current workload and identify items for inclusion in the work programme set out at appendix A;
  - (ii) consider whether the Committee wishes to receive a report on the Social Regeneration Strategy Review, as pre-decision scrutiny;
  - (iii) note that a report will be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on the arrangements for scrutiny of crime and disorder which will be the responsibility of this Committee.
  - (iv) Note that the Member Item on road re-surfacing is deferred to the August meeting.

## **Background papers**

None.

## **Lead officer contact**

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