

REGENERATION, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

27 JUNE 2013

WORK PROGRAMME

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

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Summary

This item advises Members of the current work programme and allows them to adjust it in the 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 A to this report sets out the existing work programme for this 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 guidance on information Members wish them to provide when scrutinising an issue. An agenda planning meeting was held on 11 June 2013.

3.2 The Chairman and Spokesperson were updated on the committee's current work programme and advised on the reports to be submitted to this meeting.

3.3 At the meeting the Members requested the following additions to the work programme: -

- To review the number of households living in temporary accommodation as a separate agenda item. – October/December meeting.

- 3.4 The Democratic Services Officer suggested at the meeting that, post the meeting on the 27 June, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Opposition Spokespersons of this committee meet with the Director for Regeneration, Community and Culture to discuss topics to add to the work programme.

4. Cabinet Forward Plan

The current Cabinet Forward Plan was published on 10 June 2013. There is one new item within the remit of this committee, which is not already on the work programme:

Rochester Airport Masterplan

This report seeks approval to proceed with a statutory period of public consultation to move forward the ongoing Rochester Airport Master plan work. This will help towards adoption of the master plan as a Supplementary Planning Document.

(This report will be considered by Cabinet before the next meeting of this committee, so cannot be added to the work programme as pre-decision scrutiny.)

5. Planning for in depth scrutiny reviews for 2013/14

- 5.2. The Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on 3 April 2013, agreed the topics for in-depth scrutiny reviews for 2013/14. It was agreed that the topic for this committee would be 'Housing in Medway – demand, supply and affordability' and this was scheduled as fourth priority, so is estimated to take place August – November 2014. The programme of indepth reviews for Summer 2013 to Autumn 2014 was agreed as follows:

Lead Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Topic	Indicative timetable
Health and Adult Social Care	Health Inequalities across Medway wards and how to direct investment where it is most needed	August – November 2013
Business Support	Impact of Welfare Reforms	December 2013 – March 2014
Children and Young People	Preventing Looked After Children from becoming criminalised	April to July 2014
Regeneration, Community and Culture	Housing in Medway – demand, supply and affordability	August to November 2014

5.2. In addition, a range of issues and potential reviews were discussed during this process and the following topics have been added to this committee's work programme:

- High marginal cost of bus travel – report on how costs in Medway currently compare with other local authority areas – bus companies to be invited to attend
- Long term empty properties – report on scale of issue and action being taken
- Community Officer Service – review of impact of any changes implemented following Better

Informal Members working group – parking permit zones New Road:

Following the last meeting on 27 June 2013 the Director Regeneration, Community & Culture and the Assistant Director, Frontline Services have agreed to hold a one-off meeting with Ward Councillors and the lead petitioner to discuss the parking permit zones in Chatham

6. Financial and legal implications

6.1 There are no financial or legal implications arising from this report.

7. Recommendations

7.1 The Committee is asked to note the current work programme and identify items for inclusion in the work programme.

Background papers

None.

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