

REGENERATION, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

3 APRIL 2012

WORK PROGRAMME

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

Author: Caroline Salisbury, Democratic Services Officer

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 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 guidance on information Members wish them to provide when scrutinising an issue. An agenda planning meeting was held on 20 March 2012.

3.2 The Chairman was advised that responsibility for housing services would move from the Business Support Directorate to the Regeneration Community and Culture Directorate on 1 April 2012 and therefore would also be moved to within the remit of this committee (see paragraph 5 below). It was suggested that a short presentation on the various services provided by the housing teams is given to Members and the Chairman agreed to include it on the agenda for this meeting (agenda item 6).

4. Future work programme

- 4.1 The Cabinet's latest Forward Plan was published on 16 March 2012 and there were no new items within the Committee's remit.

5. Change to terms of reference of the Committee

- 5.1 The Council has agreed that responsibility for housing services should be moved from the Business Support Directorate to the Regeneration Community and Culture Directorate to be managed by the Assistant Director, Housing, Development and Transport from 1 April 2012.
- 5.2 In December 2005 the Council established the principle of aligning the number and terms of reference of Overview and Scrutiny Committees with the Council directorate structure to ensure clear links between the functions of the authority. This also promotes clear lines of Executive and Directorate accountability.
- 5.3 In line with this principle, the Committee is advised that responsibility for scrutiny of the provision and management of housing services will be transferred from the terms of reference of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee as from 1 April 2012. These services include homeless and housing options; housing allocations for social housing; housing strategy; private sector housing; and the development and management of the council's housing stock.
- 5.4 The remaining items for housing services on the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee's work programme will transfer to the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration. These are:
- Business Plan and review of Housing Asset Management Strategy
 - Community Involvement Strategy (Housing) 2012/2013
 - Regular report on empty properties being brought back into use
 - Planned housing maintenance.

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:
- (a) consider the current workload and identify items for inclusion in the work programme, including possible items from the Cabinet Forward Plan;

- (b) note the transfer of housing services to the remit of the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee as from 1 April 2012;
- (c) note the transfer of the remaining housing reports (set out in paragraph 5.4 of the report) to this Committee's work programme.

Background papers

None.

Lead officer contact

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Work Programme
Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Policy framework documents: Community Safety Plan, Local Transport Plan and plans and other strategies which together comprise the Development Plan

Item	Work type	Responsible officer	Objectives	Timescale
Council Plan – 3 rd quarter monitoring 2011/2012	Scrutiny of performance/budget	Anna-Marie Lawrence-Lovell, Performance Manager	To consider the Council Plan – 3 rd quarter monitoring 2011/2012.	3 April 2012
The Leader, in his role as Portfolio Holder for Inward Investment and Strategic Tourism Promotion and Regeneration – in attendance	Holding to account		The Leader will be invited to give a presentation on work carried out in his role as Portfolio Holder for Inward Investment and Strategic Tourism Promotion and Regeneration, and answer any questions.	3 April 2012
Community Safety Plan 2012-2013 – annual refresh	Pre-decision scrutiny	Neil Howlett, Community Safety Partnership Manager and Tim England, Head of Safer Communities	This report will provide an update on the changes to the Community Safety Plan setting out the priorities for 2012-2013.	3 April 2012
Annual scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership	Holding to account	Neil Howlett, Community Safety Partnership Manager	Annual scrutiny of the work of the Community Safety Partnership.	June 2012
End of year performance report 2011/2012	Scrutiny of performance/budget	Anna-Marie Lawrence-Lovell, Performance Manager	To consider the end of year Council Plan monitoring for 2011/2012.	Summer 2012
Report from the in-depth task group on “fair access to credit”	Policy development	Anthony Law, Democratic Services Officer	To consider the report from the task group (which will also be reported to the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	Summer 2012

Item	Work type	Responsible officer	Objectives	Timescale
Developer Contributions Guide	Pre-decision scrutiny	Jill King, S106 Officer	This is an opportunity for the committee to consider and comment on the document prior to submission to Cabinet.	October 2012
Using the River Medway to its full potential	Service information		This report follows a referral from the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 23 June 2011	To be confirmed

Future meeting dates:

3 April 2012

Work completed in 2011/12:

16 June 2011

- End of year performance report 2010/2011
- Petition referral
- Six month update on progress of the recommendations of the PACT review
- Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Plan
- Annual scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP)
- Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and Water Regulations 2009

10 August 2011

- Quarter 1 council Plan monitoring 2011/2012
- Highway Winter Services task group - update
- Attendance of Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services
- Flood and Water Management Act 2010 – preliminary flood risk assessment for Medway

4 October 2011

- Local Development Framework (LDF) – Core Strategy
- Interim Medway Housing Design Standards
- Lodge Hill Development Brief
- Members' Item: Pavement resurfacing – water meter replacement

13 December 2011

- Council Plan – 2nd quarter monitoring 2011-2012
- Review of the waste contracts (to include any known problems in the future, such as the provision and cost of recycling bags)
- Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services – in attendance
- Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth – in attendance
- Proposed draft revenue and capital budget 2012/2013
- Petitions

31 January 2012

- Kent Fire and Rescue Service – update
- Probation Service – prevention of future generations offending
- Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Customer Contract – in attendance
- Community Infrastructure Levy