

AGENDA ITEM: 3b

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

21ST JUNE 2005

COMMUNITY SAFETY and LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2005/06

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To seek approval from the Overview and Scrutiny Board on the proposed Draft Work Programme of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel for the 2005/06 Municipal Year.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board approves the content of the Draft Work Programme of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel for the 2005/06 Municipal Year.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3 At the first meeting of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel held on 8th June 2005, consideration was given to a wide range of information, extracted from various sources to assist in the formulation of the Panel's Draft Work Programme for the forthcoming year.
- 4 Prior to that meeting, the Senior Scrutiny Officer met with the Executive Director for Environment and the Head of Community Safety to identify the major issues in community safety and leisure at this time.
- 5 The Panel has therefore considered a wide range of suitable topics relating to both Community Safety and Leisure to ensure a balanced agenda for

inclusion into the Panel's Draft Work Programme for 2005 - 06. The Panel addressed twenty five different subjects within Community Safety and Leisure at the Panel meeting.

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

- 6 The Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel have identified four subjects which are presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Board for their consideration. The Panel considers these are key areas and reflect the community safety and leisure dimensions, and invites the Boards observations and validation on the sequence in which these subjects will be addressed.

The four areas are: -

Wardens and Funding -	The present funding expires in 2006. To asses how are the wardens are deployed and what options are available to fund the resource.
Boro Buzz -	The Boro Buzz is identified in both the Corporate Plan and the Policing plan for 2005. An initiative which is targeted to reduce anti social behaviour and the fear of crime. Engaging both Leisure and Community Safety.
Anti Social Behaviour -	A subject referenced in the Corporate Plan, Policing Plan and raised as an area of concern by the Public. The aim would be to asses the incidence levels, the damage and levels of enforcement.
Playing Pitches -	This examination will be targeted specifically towards the Changing Facilities. This subject was referenced in last years programme and the Panel have determined that this area is in need of examination.

- 7 The Scrutiny Panel has considered the schedule of meetings and have determined that they should meet on a fifteen working day frequency.

- 8 In addition to the above, the Panel have also acknowledged that throughout the 2005/06 Municipal Year it may be necessary to respond on an ad hoc basis to emerging issues which would be considered appropriate for a review to be undertaken.

SUPPLEMENTARY CONSIDERATION

- 9 While the Community Safety and leisure Scrutiny Panel were addressing their 2005 – 06 work programme proposals, reference was made to the lack of response regarding tasks or complaints conveyed through the “one stop shop”
- 10 The Panel expressed that, issues conveyed by members through the one stop shop and passed to the appropriate department are handled courteously and efficiently by staff on the one stop shop. However, once received by the department, members do not always receive feedback on whether the tasks or complaints have been addressed, either satisfactorily or otherwise.
- 11 Whilst it is recognised that the concern regarding lack of feedback is currently being explored centrally. The Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel request that the Overview and Scrutiny Board give consideration to the direction of a Scrutiny examination into the process and the need to ensure adequate feed back is given to members.
- 12 However, before the Overview and Scrutiny Board give direction upon undertaking an examination into this area. The board may consider it beneficial to receive information on the recently undertaken independent report, which may clarify the present process and feedback procedure for members.

**COUNCILLOR CHRIS ROBSON
CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper was used in the preparation of this report: -

- i) Briefing Note of the Senior Scrutiny Officer entitled ‘Determining the Panel’s Work Programme’ to the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel held on 8 June 2005.

9th June 2005

Contact: Peter Clark
Senior Scrutiny Officer, Performance and Policy Directorate
Telephone: 01642 729 708 (direct line)