

AGENDA ITEM: 10

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**1<sup>st</sup> JULY 2008**

**DETERMINING THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

**For**

**2008 - 09**

**1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To inform Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of the progress made to date by the various Scrutiny Panels in considering their proposed work programme for 2008 – 09.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board considers the range and priorities presented by the Panels in their proposed work programmes.

That the Overview and Scrutiny Board identify any issue they want to be pursued by the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel.

**3 PROPOSALS FROM THE PANELS**

The following presents the proposals from the individual Panels for the Boards consideration.

**4 Community Safety & Leisure Scrutiny Panel**



## 6 Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel

The panel met on 10 June to discuss the options for their work programme. The panel chose the following subjects

- **Improving Levels of Employment for People with Disabilities** – major review
- **Early Intervention/Preventative Services** – major review
- **Individual Budgets and Person Centred Planning** – major review time permitting

## 7 Environment Scrutiny Panel:

The panel met on 6 June 2008 and agreed the following topics for investigation, in the order shown:

- **Countryside Matters** (to include bio-diversity and tree management)
- **Condition of Empty Shops and Properties**
- **Takeaway Policies** (to include an examination of effect on local communities)
- Allotments Strategy

Plus short reviews (or updates where appropriate) on:

- **Area care**
- **Recycling** (to include the implications of latest Government targets)
- **Junk jobs**
- **The contribution of street wardens to town cleanliness**
- **Waste services review**
- **The Council's Carbon Reduction & Climate Adaptation Action Plan**

## 8 Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel:

The panel met on 17 June 2008 and agreed the following topics for investigation, in the order shown:

- **Support for young people leaving care** - to include the implications for looked after children of the recent Government White Paper "Care Matters."
- **The youth service** - to include Connexions.
- **Parenting strategies.**

Plus short reviews of:

- The implications of the Government's National Challenge** relating to the poorest performing schools.
- School attendance** (to update the position following the short review -undertaken in 2007/08).
- Substance misuse by parents/carers** (to update the position following -the recent Joint Area Review).

## 9 Health Scrutiny Panel

The Health Scrutiny Panel has proposed that its first topic will be

- **Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health in Middlesbrough.**

The Panel will also be considering

- **How Practice Based Commissioning is working for the local NHS,**

And will aim to consider

- **Stroke Services in detail.**
- **The effectiveness of the local suicide prevention services in a seminar.**

The Panel is also interested in looking at Dementia services, with a focus upon support for carers. It is hoped that this will be a joint piece of work with Members of the Social Care Scrutiny Panel.

## 10 The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

The committee has a number of issues to look into including

- **service or strategy development in Mental Health**
- **Learning Disability Services**
- **Ambulance Services.**

The Joint Scrutiny Committee may also want to consider cancer screening services, with a particular focus upon accessibility and take up.

## 11 The South of Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

The Committee will be considering the **Community Foundation Trust consultation**, in due course, as the Commissioner/provider split is advanced.

## 12 Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel



<b>Use of Ex Netherfields House/Empty site on Fulbeck Road</b> – people’s preference is a health centre or should social housing providers build housing for rent	Suggested last year by Members
<b>Democracy</b> – What are the factors that affect turnout in local elections? Is civics taught in schools?	
<b>Town Boundaries</b> - Preparation of a case for modifying the Borough boundaries (to the Boundaries Commission) – A19 versus Stainsby Beck (Teesside Leisure Park), The ‘Nunthorpe Problem’, Skippers Lane Boundary, inclusion of part of Maltby Parish beyond Thornton	
<b>Waste</b> – examine spending on catering at meetings and use of envelopes	
<b>Council’s Asylum Seekers &amp; Refugee Dispersal Policy</b> , planning for asylum-seekers and where they are located, implications on communities. How does this fit with Community Cohesion and harmonious race relations? What extra resources and support have been allocated to these areas to help them to cope?	
<b>Council’s Race Equality Policy</b> – How relevant, up to date and useful is this policy? How could it be further improved and made practically relevant and useful both for the Council and residents?	
<b>Council’s Anti Racism and Racial Harassment Policy</b> – How relevant, up to date and useful is this policy to the Council’s policy and service delivery? What do the service users feel and think about how it can be improved?	
<b>Socio- economic impact of a Casino in deprived areas on Middlesbrough</b>	Member Rec
<b>Cleveland Show</b>	Executive 29/04/08
<b>Tourism/Directional Signs in the Town</b>	Member Rec
<b>Relationship between Executive Member and Executive Director</b>	Member Rec
<b>Growing Your Own Food</b> – How the Council can reduce the cost of the weekly food bill, how it can support allotments and how it could be a town wide initiative.	Member of the Public

### 13 BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background paper was used in the preparation of this report: -

2nd June 2008

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