

AGENDA ITEM: 6

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

29 June 2010

### DETERMINING THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

2010/11

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To inform Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of the progress made by the various scrutiny panels in considering the work programme for 2010/11.

#### PROPOSALS FROM THE PANELS

2. The following presents the proposals from the individual panels for the Board's consideration.

#### Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel:

3. The panel met on 15 June 2010 to consider and agree a range of suitable topics for inclusion in the work programme. The topics that the panel wishes to review are detailed below:
  - Delivery Issues re. Primary Strategy for Change
  - Bullying.
  - Child Poverty.
  - Safeguarding.
  - Substance misuse by parents and carers.
  - Support for problem families (including real costs).

## Community Safety & Leisure Scrutiny Panel

4. The panel met on 16 June 2010 to consider and agree a range of suitable topics for inclusion in the work programme. The topics that the panel wishes to review are detailed below:

- Licensing Policy ( is it robust enough)
- Dog Control ( Policies, re-restraint in public areas, controls re dangerous dogs)
- Food store ratings ( Controls, how applied, benefits achieved)
- Gypsy Site ( Council funding / provision / controls)
- Golf Centre ( its use and financial requirement)
- Anti Social Behaviour linked with Alcohol

## Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel

5. On 21 June 2010, the panel will consider and agree a range of suitable topics for inclusion in the work programme. At today's meeting the Board will be updated on the topics, selected by the panel, from the list detailed below:

TOPIC	Councillors	Carried over from last year	Other
<b>Economic Regeneration/Housing Issues</b>			
<b>Housing needs of an Elderly Population</b> – How will the housing needs of an increasingly elderly population be met in future years? A report is being prepared to look at how additional provision can be secured.			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Social Housing</b> - The impact/welfare/availability of social housing on tenants of Middlesbrough, following the stock transfer of homes – 6 years this November	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Imbalance of Housing Stock</b> – What action is being taken to rebalance the town's housing stock and provide for future needs			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Section 106 Agreements</b> – The monitoring and enforcement of 106 agreements to ensure Middlesbrough is receiving the benefits e.g. housing, park improvements, road works that have been agreed with the developers when larger planning applications have been approved			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Estate Design</b> – to accommodate car parking, pedestrians and community space	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Middlesbrough Local Development Framework</b> – a review is due to be undertaken of the policies and provision for future housing outlined within the statutory LDF – review document to be referred to the Panel for consideration. The LDF is part of the Council's Policy Framework.			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Impact of the closure of Corus</b> The impact to the town and what plans are in place to help	<input type="checkbox"/>		Topical news

residents find alternative employment			story
<b>Arts Development</b> – Contribution of Arts Development towards supporting communities and the regeneration of Middlesbrough			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Support for the unemployed</b> – What support is currently provided to job seekers by the Council and other agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Enterprising behaviours</b> – The level and success of business start ups and how enterprising behaviour can be encouraged within the town			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Mima</b> – The impacts of mima on the regeneration of the town. An evaluation of the progress that has been made in the 3 years since mima's opening			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Durham Tees Valley Airport</b> Its role in the regeneration of the Tees Valley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Skills for the Future</b> The potential growth in green jobs and whether the Tees Valley is developing people with the appropriate skills to realise these opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>		

TOPIC	Councillors	Carried over from last year	Other
<b>Transport</b>			
<b>Match Day Parking</b> Conclusion of investigation into problems/solutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Park and Ride</b> – Investigate the potential of a Park and Ride scheme	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Speed Limits</b> The introduction of 20mph limits in residential areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Transport</b> The greater use of the River Tees as a transport facility	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Travel Sustainability</b> Travel to school, travel plans and mode of travel, walking, bus, cycle routes – how is the Council promoting the use of sustainable travel and transport	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Speed Bumps</b> – what is the annual maintenance cost, how many man hours are employed to undertake the maintenance, do the speed bumps serve a useful purpose, speed bumps outside of schools	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Local Transport Plan</b> Effectiveness and "fit for purpose" of Middlesbrough's Local Transport Plan – consideration of Mayor's Transport Plan 2011 - 2016	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Pot Holes</b> The correlation and impact of pot holes on road safety	<input type="checkbox"/>		

## Environment Scrutiny Panel:

6. The panel met on 4 June 2010 to consider and agree a range of suitable topics for inclusion in the work programme. The panel wishes to further consider and finalise the work programme at its next meeting on 5 July 2010, although the topic of Pest Control was agreed as the first subject for investigation. Topics that were suggested by Members and Officers are detailed below:

TOPICS	Councillors	Officers	Carried over from last year
Vehicle emissions/air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>		
CO2 emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>		
The future needs of neighbourhood management & links with environmental matters	<input type="checkbox"/>		
The council's powers and duties in respect of empty properties	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Noise complaints	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Private landlords -condition of properties and choice of tenants	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Play areas - cleaning, maintenance etc	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Pavement repairs	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Street lighting - intelligent use/energy efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Revisit area care and Streetscene cleaning regime	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Joint authority working on refuse collection	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Weed control	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Development of micro communities/Easterside Project	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Liaison arrangements with other agencies re. environmental matters	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Pest Control	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Back alleys improvement team (BAIT)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Empty Properties	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fees and charges		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Building cleaning		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Building maintenance		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Municipal waste land filled	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fly tipping	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Maintenance of natural woodland			<input type="checkbox"/>
North Ormesby Market		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Threatened species			<input type="checkbox"/>

## Health Scrutiny Panel

7. The panel met on 11 May 2010 to consider and agree a range of suitable topics for inclusion in the work programme. The topics that the panel wishes to review are detailed below:

- End of life care
- Dental services capacity
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults
- Regional specialisms

## Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

8. The committee is scheduled to meet in July to consider and agree a range of suitable topics for inclusion in the work programme. The suggestions that the panel will consider are detailed below:

- Preparing for a tighter NHS financial climate
- Community mental health services
- Cancer screening updates

## South of Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

9. The committee will meet in July 2010 to consider and agree a range of suitable topics for inclusion in the work programme.

## Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel

10. The panel is scheduled to meet on 1 July 2101 to consider and agree a range of suitable topics for inclusion in the work programme. The suggestions the panel will consider are detailed below:

TOPICS	Director of Social Services	Councillors	Carried over from last year
<b>Individual Budgets and Person Centred Planning</b> - what are the implications for the Council of Individual Budgets (financial, policy issues)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Adult Protection</b> Are the Council's adult protection procedures robust?		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Single Point of Access</b> How is the Council progressing with the introduction of a single point of access for enquiries?		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Telecare</b> What is the take up, if it is not as high as expected why is this happening and what can we do about it and how do we compare nationally?		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Asylum Seekers</b> How does the Council help Asylum Seekers to settle?		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Update from Previous Reviews (as per the recommendations)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From the review of Improving Levels of Employment for People with Disabilities</li> <li>• Update from the Prevention and Early Intervention Services Review</li> <li>• Update on the mini blitz enforcement exercises and independent assessments from the Blue Badge Parking Scheme review</li> </ul>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>The impact of Warm Front</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Developing activities for Older People</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Free personal care for over 85s</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Sensory Support Services and Appointeeship</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Citizenship for people with Learning Disabilities</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Accessibility of information, advice and advocacy</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Supporting Carers in or into employment</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Supporting vulnerable people to live independently</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

### Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel

11. To be determined on an ad hoc basis by the Board. On 12 January 2010 the Board agreed that the panel should undertake a review into:

- The Coroner's Department.

In addition, the following suggestions have been submitted for the Board's consideration:

TOPIC	Councillors	Carried over from last year	Other
<b>Social deprivation</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Population decline</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>The future needs of scrutiny</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Disabled access to polling stations</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Licensing policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Buskers – policy required</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Casino</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Examine an alternative to the East Middlesbrough Bypass</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Geographical/physical area of town and possibility of increasing boundary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Erimus Housing – single parent males</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>The implications of/added value/costs of external inspections</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>The response to the recession</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Introduction of Health Impact Assessments when considering planning applications for hot food takeaways</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Working age people on out of work benefits</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Coroner's department</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Asylum seekers</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

## **Overview and Scrutiny Board**

12. At the Overview & Scrutiny Board meeting that was held on 12 January 2010, the Board agreed to undertake a review of the following topic:

- Winter Maintenance

## **RECOMMENDATION**

13. It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board:

- Considers the range of priorities presented by the panels for the scrutiny work programme 2010/2011.
- Considers and agrees topics for inclusion in the work programme for the Overview and Scrutiny Board and the Ad Hoc Scrutiny panel.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

14. No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

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