

AGENDA ITEM: **7**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**26<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011**

**DETERMINING THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

**2011/12**

**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 2011/12 which were not presented to OSB at their meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

**PROPOSALS FROM THE PANELS**

2. The following presents the proposals from the Children and Learning, Community Safety and Environment Scrutiny Panels who have met in advance of this meeting and present their proposals for the Board's consideration.

**CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL:**

3. The topics the panel agreed for inclusion in the 2011-12 programme for detailed investigations are as follows:
  - 14-19 reform agenda.
  - Substance misuse by parents and carers and support for problem families.
  - Local authority procedures for dealing with transient/mobile populations among primary school children.
  
4. The panel also indicated that it wishes to receive updates on the following emerging issues:
  - The position regarding free schools and academies - including any Council policy proposals that may need to be developed in this area.
  - The operation of the Middlesbrough Safeguarding Children Board.
  - The Council's response in respect of the recent consultation exercise on special educational needs.
  - The result of the recent OFSTED inspection of safeguarding provision.
  
5. The schedule of possible topics considered by the scrutiny panel also included the local provision of forensic paediatric services, which was suggested by the PCT. The panel agreed that this could be a possible topic to be undertaken jointly with Health Scrutiny but requested that clarification be sought as to the possible issues involved.

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY & LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL**

6. The panel met on the 30<sup>th</sup> June and consequently the proposed work programme is presented below for the Boards consideration.

### **Proposed Work Program**

- Domestic Violence
- Harassment/Bullying and Hate Crime
- Police Rescuers (the direct affect the reduction of the Police budget and Police Officers will have on Middlesbrough)
- Leisure Facilities for an ageing population (Public/ Private)
- Leisure Facilities – Contribution to tackling obesity

### **Outsourcing of Leisure Facilities**

7. The panel discussed the outsourcing of Leisure Facilities. However, this is presently under revision and the panel agreed to await the departments draft proposals to be presented to the panel.

### **Visit to Golf Centre**

8. The panel scheduled to receive and update on the Golf Centre in September 2011 and will be undertaking a site visit in August 2011..

### **Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)\_**

- 9 The panel has a duty to assess the intentions and actions of RIPA. An update on the actions and application of RIPA in Middlesbrough has been scheduled for October 2011.

### **Food Hygiene**

- 10 The panel will be receiving an update on Food Hygiene and the development of the National Scheme by the Food Standards Agency at their meeting in August 2011.

### **Safer Middlesbrough Partnership**

- 11 The Safer Middlesbrough Partnership is the (SMP) is Middlesbrough's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP). The partnership has been scheduled to present the structure of the Partnership, its purpose, its strategy and the key issues emerging for 2011 to the panel at its meeting in September 2011.

### **Police Reform & Social Responsibility Bill 2010/11**

- 12 The panel recognises issues associated with the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Bill 2010/11 and the impact this may have on Policing in Middlesbrough. Consequently the will be receiving an update from Community Protection when appropriate.

### **TEES VALLEY HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE**

- 13 The situation and future of the Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Committee has recently been unclear and indeed this Board gave direction at its previous meeting regarding this. At the time of this report the indications are that Stockton, Darlington and Hartlepool are in agreement for Middlesbrough to Chair and support the TVHSJC in place of Hartlepool and Redcar & Cleveland are being contacted to obtain their opinion.
- 14 It is also understood that the Tees Valley District Lawyers are again placing this item on there agenda for further discussion.

### **ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL**

- 15 The main scrutiny topics put forward by the Environment Scrutiny Panel for 2011-12 are as follows:

- Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme.
  - Relationship with statutory undertakers (ie the various companies and agencies that have legal rights to carry out highways works).
  - North Ormesby Market.
  - Pavement repairs.
  - Maintenance of natural woodland/highway trees and verges.
- 16 In addition, it is planned that updates will be submitted in respect of the following previous scrutiny subjects:
- Junk jobs charging policy
  - Side waste collection policy
  - Depots review
  - Street cleaning/24 hour economy
  - Recycling
  - Fleet services review
  - Nature's World
  - Energy reduction
- 17 OSB is requested to note that the 2011-12 topics are subject to confirmation at the 20 July 2011 Environment Scrutiny Panel meeting. An update will be presented at the OSB meeting.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 18 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board considers the range of priorities presented by the panels for the scrutiny work programme 2011/2012.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 19 No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

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