

# MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM:	<b>6</b>
--------------	----------

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012

<p><b>WORK PROGRAMME</b> 2012 – 13 REVISION</p>
---

### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To inform Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of the intention to revise the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2012 -13 in response to the financial pressures facing the Council

### RECOMMENDATION

- 2 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board considers the information below and determines the areas of service delivery the Board would want the panels to explore.

### BACKGROUND

- 3 The Overview and Scrutiny Board approved the panels work programmes at its meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> July. However, as the Council continues to face increased pressure on its budget the Board agreed at its meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> August that the work programme should be again reviewed with a greater emphasis on looking at areas of service delivery. The purpose is to primarily look at the policy which establishes the standards of service, the facilities provided and the associated costs.
- 4 To assist Members of the Board in their consideration. The agreed work programme for 2012 - 13 is replicated below. The Board will be aware that some panels have already incorporated topics into their work programme which focus on service delivery. The Board may wish to advance these topics in the individual programmes or indeed identify new areas for consideration.

## **CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL**

- Academy Status and the LA role in Education with input from the Middlesbrough Achievement Partnership
- Demand-Led Placement Pressures in Social Care
- SEN/Children with Disabilities (Green Paper)
- Early Help and Engagement of Partners/Common Assessment Framework (CAF)/Preventative Early Intervention Services/Access to CAMHS
- Education of Children Looked After in Children's Homes/Supporting Care Leavers
- Young People's Participation in Delivering Council Services
- Raising Educational Attainment of Children on Free School Meals/Low Educational Attainment and Deprivation
- Youth Unemployment and Connexions/Integrated Youth Service.

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

- Police resource                      Effect of reduction in Police budget on the resources applied to Middlesbrough Re Community Safety
- Neighbourhood Watch              The effectiveness of Neighbourhood Watch and its relationship to Police and Street Wardens
- Leisure Facilities                      The shaping of Leisure Facilities provided by the Council in response to budgetary reduction
- Exploitation of Children              Issues associated with Child Abuse, Identification, Facilities and Procedures available to tackle this
- Anti Social Behaviour              Problems associated with ASB in Stewart Park
- Hate Crime                              Facilities afforded to victims and detection of offenders

## **HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

- Progress in Implementing the Health Reforms
- The Possible development of Private Patient Units at James Cook University Hospital
- Possible changes to national formulae to establish levels of health funding.

## **ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL**

- Environment Department Service Promises (To also include Environmental Enforcement).
- Renewable Energy - Potential for Council Involvement (To also include Wind Turbines - what are the benefits?).

- Environmental Awareness of Local Public Bodies.
- Fees and Charges (Environment Services).
- Joint Authority Working on Refuse Collection and Street Cleaning.
- Dog Fouling.

### **ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL**

- Grove Hill and Gresham.
- Empty Buildings.
- Welfare Reform.
- Voluntary and Community Sectors.
- Town Hall Quadrangle - Future Use.
- Southfield Road Closure.
- Speed Bumps (Carried over from 2011-12).

### **SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL**

- The current role played, and service provided, by the Integrated Occupational Therapy Service
- Welfare Reforms and their impact on the provision, planning and accessibility of Social Care in Middlesbrough
- The Government Social Care White Paper (when published)
- Access to Social Care for BME Communities
- Adults with Learning Disabilities and Personal Budgets

### **AD HOC**

- Voluntary Sector and the extent of its current and potential involvement with Council Service provision.
- The impact of reductions in public spending on Council Services and the long term impact on the shape and functions of the Council
- Paperless Committee meetings.

### **REVISED WORK PROGRAMME**

- 5 At OSB 21<sup>st</sup> August panels were requested to give consideration to a change of emphasis and identify topics within their area for the examination of policy and service delivery, paying acute attention to the financial implications. The Board may wish to give consideration to the proposed topics and/or discuss and select topics at this meeting for individual panels to address.

Peter Clark  
Scrutiny