

**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL**  
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**1 JULY 2014**

<p><b>SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME - 2014/15</b> <b>- UPDATED INFORMATION</b></p>
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**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To update the position concerning scrutiny panel work programmes for the 2014-15 Municipal Year.

**RECOMMENDED**

2. It is RECOMMENDED that the Overview and Scrutiny Board agrees topics for inclusion in each of the scrutiny panel's work programmes for 2014-15.

**BACKGROUND**

3. At the time that the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting papers of 1 July 2014 were circulated to Members, scrutiny panels had not met to consider their work programmes. As indicated in the report at Agenda Item 9, the panels met during week commencing 23 June 2014 to identify and agree topics for inclusion in work programmes for 2014-15.
4. In addition to the above, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board requested that, as part of the programmes, the scrutiny panels consider how they can be best involved with, and influence, the Council's Change Programme. As a result, OSB and scrutiny panel Members were invited to meet with the Executive Director for Commercial and Corporate Services on this issue on 24 June 2014. At that meeting, a range of topics were discussed. As a result, each of the panels has identified one or more relevant subject area(s) from the Change Programme for detailed investigation.
5. It is envisaged that timescales for examination of Change-Programme-related topics will be discussed with relevant service areas. These will then be scheduled throughout the year in order to influence the Change Programme at the most appropriate stage and will run in parallel with other topics being scrutinised at that time.

6. Members will be aware that possible topics for inclusion in the **Ad-Hoc Scrutiny Panel's** work programme were included in the previously circulated report and will therefore be addressed separately at the OSB meeting.

## **SCRUTINY PANEL PROPOSALS**

7. The topics that have been put forward for inclusion in scrutiny work programmes for 2014-15 are shown below. Items that relate directly to the Council's Change Programme are marked with an asterisk \*.

### **a) Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel:**

- School improvement and support
- Comparison of how each school spends the pupil premium
- Teenage pregnancy rates
- Early help - improving outcomes for children, young people and families
- Safeguarding and Middlesbrough's looked-after children\*
- Community learning service and alternative delivery\*

### **b) Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel:**

- Sport and leisure services\*
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- Use of local health-related data when considering licensing
- Improving standards and behaviour of direct debit street fundraisers ('chuggers')
- Events in the town (ie the system relating to event management)
- Implications of the Crime and Policing Bill
- Mental health support services offered to prisoners and people leaving prison
- Plus updates on Safer Middlesbrough Partnership; Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act; and domestic violence

### **c) Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel:**

- Town centre - long-term plans/strategies
- Wi-fi town
- Non-strategic assets (to include Nature's World site)\*
- Traffic congestion
- Pay on exit car parks
- Middlehaven (including possible links with town's heritage)
- Bus services
- Condition of roads and footpaths
- Rail links (including HS3)

### **d) Environment Scrutiny Panel:**

- Property services - outline business case\*
- Future service delivery models\*

- North Ormesby Market
- Maintenance of open spaces
- Plus updates on energy reduction and flood risk management

**e) Health Scrutiny Panel:**

- Healthcare associated Infections
- Examination of local NHS finances
- Neurological services
- Winter pressures
- Pharmacy arrangements in hospitals
- Surgery opening

Note: The Health Scrutiny Panel met prior to the list of possible Change Programme-related topics being discussed. These have since been identified as:

- Public health commissioning
- Mental health

**f) Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel:**

- The implementation and implications of the Care Act - seminar to take place for all Councillors
- Demand mitigation - transforming adult social care\*
- Assistive technology and how new technology could transform care
- Quality of homecare services
- How care homes prevent abuse, neglect and theft by staff

8. OSB is reminded that, previously, in addition to the approved lists of topics, the Board and the scrutiny panels have also dealt with any ad-hoc or urgent issues as they arose throughout the year.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9. There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

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