

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 14 December 2010
Report of: Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title: Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To review items in the 2010/2011 Work Programme and consider new items listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

2.0 Recommendations

1. That the Committee note the work programme.
2. That Councillors P Findlow, J Narraway and A Thwaite be appointed to the Business Generation Centre Task and Finish Group.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is good practice to agree and review the Work Programme to enable effective management of the Committee's business.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change - Health

- 6.1 Not known at this stage.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 Not known at this stage.

8.0 Legal Implications

8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 There are no identifiable risks.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 The Committee at a mid point meeting on 2 November 2010, agreed to set up a Task and Finish Group to review the 4 Business Generation Centres in the Borough. Subsequent to that meeting, volunteers were sought from this Committee. Councillors P Findlow, J Narraway and A Thwaite volunteered. The Committee is now requested to formally appoint the Business generation Task and Finish Group.

10.2 Also during the mid point meeting, Members requested additional information about the depot rationalisation project that had been reported upon during the presentation on assets. A separate item is on today's agenda

10.3 In selecting new items for the work programme, Members must pay close attention to the Corporate Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy. Both of these documents have now been approved and adopted by Council.

10.4 Members must also have regard to the general criteria which should be applied to all potential items when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate. Matters should be assessed against the following criteria:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority
- Is the issue of key interest to the public
- Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation
- Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends
- Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
- Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service

If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:

- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
- The matter is subjudice
- Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

11 *Access to Information*

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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