

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 13 July 2009
Report of: Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title: Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To consider further the items proposed for inclusion in the Committee's Work Programme and determine which items should be included in the Work Programme for the current municipal year.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee agree its Work Programme, determine a priority order, agree timescales and methodology.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is good practice to agree a 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 for Transition Costs (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

- 7.1 None identified at the moment.

8.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

8.1 Not known at this stage.

9.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk Management

10.1 There are no identifiable risks.

11.0 Background and Options

- 11.1 At the previous meeting of the Committee on 12 June 2009, Members considered a list of potential items for the Work Programme that had been given a priority order at the Informal meeting held on 5 May 2009, together with a number of additional items identified by the Resources and Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holders. The Committee also decided to delete two items and to set up Task and Finish Groups to deal with Members IT and Role Performance and Funding of Voluntary Organisations.
- 11.2 Further meetings are planned to be held with the Procurement, Assets and Shared Services and Performance and Capacity Portfolio Holders, after which it can be expected that additional items will have to be considered for prioritisation by the Committee.
- 11.3 Although there are no new items to be considered at this stage, the Committee will be required to review its work programme at subsequent meetings. To assist Members in this process, all O&S Committees are being advised to assess all items against the following criteria in future when the Committee is deciding priority orders, timescales.
- 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

Also, if during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the committee should consider rejecting the topic:

- 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

12.0 Overview of Year One and Term One Issues

- 12.1 It is good practice to have a Work Programme for the Committee to consider and prioritise on a regular basis.

13.0 Access to Information

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

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