

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 11 January 2010
Report of: Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title: Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

1.1 To consider any additional items for inclusion in the Committee's Work Programme.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee reaffirm its Work Programme, priority order, timescales and methodology.

2.2 Reasons for Recommendations

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

3.0 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 The Committee has at each of its meetings, reviewed the work programme and has divided the list of items into an 'active' and 'reserve' list.

11.2 The attached schedule has been updated to take account of progress made since the last meeting of the Committee. Further work is still required in some areas to determine the method that the committee intends to employ to progress any scrutiny involvement– for example, whether items should be dealt with by a Task/Finish panel or by the Committee etc.

11.3 In addition, the Committee must not lose sight of the need to assess all items against the well established criteria as follows:

- 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 sub-judice
- 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:

Name: Mark Nedderman
Designation: Senior Scrutiny Officer
Tel No: 01270 686459
Email: mark.nedderman@cheshireeast.gov.uk