

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 9 July 2015
Report of: Head of Corporate Resources and Stewardship
Subject/Title: Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To review items in the 2014/2015 Work Programme listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

2.0 Recommendations

That the 2015/2016 work programme be reviewed.

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 - Carbon reduction - 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 schedule attached contains the recommendations by the Committee in March 2015 on potential items for the new civic year 2015/16.

10.2 Under normal circumstances Members would be asked to review the schedule attached to this report, and if appropriate, add new items or delete items that no longer require any scrutiny activity. However, the Committee has not yet had an opportunity to meet relevant portfolio holders and heads of service to discuss priorities for the forthcoming year. There is an informal meeting taking place with Cabinet on 7 July and it is hoped that progress will be made at that meeting and a clear way forward established for all Overview and Scrutiny Committees to develop work programmes.

10.3 When selecting potential topics, Members should have regard to the Council's new three year plan and also to the general criteria listed below, which should be applied to all potential items when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate.

10.4 The following questions should be asked in respect of each potential work programme item:

- 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;

10.5 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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