

Agenda Item No:

Report No:

Report Title: Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2010/11 and Work Programme 2011/12

Report To: Council

Date: 28 September 2011

Wards Affected: All

Report By: Scrutiny Committee, Chair – Councillor S Osborne

Contact Officer

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Purpose of Report:

To inform Council of the Scrutiny Committee's activities for the municipal year 2010/11 and to seek approval of its work programme for 2011/12.

Committee Recommendation:

- 1 To note the Report and agree the Scrutiny Committee's work programme for 2011/12 as set out in the Appendix.
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Reason for Recommendation:

- 1 To meet the requirement of the Council's Constitution with regard to the Scrutiny Committee Annual Report, including any recommendations for amended working practices if appropriate (Article 6, Paragraph 6.3e), and the preparation, execution and adjustment of the Work Programme (Article 6, Paragraph 6.3f).

Information

- 1 The Scrutiny Committee and its Panels met eight times during the municipal year 2010/11.
- 2 The Committee's Work Programme was agreed by Council on 29 September 2010 and subsequently updated regularly.
- 3 The Scrutiny Committee and Panels completed one Review during the period, namely:
 - Clean and Green Service

which was presented to Cabinet. Recommendations within were accepted and led in some cases to ongoing work. The Committee thanks the councillors and officers who contributed to this review.

- 4 The Committee considered the Parks and Open Spaces Scrutiny Review and decided a Scrutiny Review was not necessary at the time and would be looked at again in 2011/12.
- 5 The Committee considered crime and disorder matters under the new powers and extended remit of the Scrutiny Committee as set out under the Police and Justice Act 2006 and made recommendations for reviews for 2011/12.
- 6 The Committee also considered in the past year:
 - Service Budgets and Capital Programme 2011/12
 - Value for Money Studies and Benchmarking Reviews
 - Scheme of Delegation to Officers
 - The Duty to Respond to Petitions
 - Moving Scrutiny Forward at Lewes District Council
 - Grass Cutting Standards
 - Councillors Training Requirements
 - Chair of Council's Business Report.
- 7 In September 2010 suggestions were sought for the Committee's Work Programme for 2011/12. Ongoing work and resultant proposed new work is detailed for Council's approval in the Committee's Draft Work Programme (attached as Appendix) which was agreed at the Committee's 30 June 2011 meeting.

Financial Appraisal

- 8 There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report.

Environmental Implications

- 9 I have completed the Environmental Implications questionnaire. This report is exempt from the requirement because this is a progress report.

Risk Management Implications

- 10 I have completed a Risk Assessment in accordance with the Council's Risk Management methodology and this report does not require a risk assessment.

Equality Implications

- 11 The proposals in the report have been screened for impact on equalities. As no potential negative impacts were identified, a full equality impact assessment is not required.

Background Papers

- 12 Council, Cabinet and Scrutiny Committee minutes June 2010 – May 2011.

Appendix

13 Proposed Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2011/12.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2011/12

Affordable Housing in Rural Areas	Scoping Report agreed 8 September 2011, Scrutiny Review to commence Autumn 2011.
Issues concerning commerce, business and regeneration	Will be discussed 17 November 2011.
Working with the Voluntary Sector	Will be discussed 17 November 2011.
Parks and Open Spaces Contracts	Reconsideration of whether review is required nearer to contract renewal (2012). Parks and Open Spaces contract is up for renewal in 2014.
Value for Money, Benchmarking Reviews	Agreed a timetable and programme for reviews at June 2010 meeting.

ONGOING MATTERS

Quarterly Performance Indicators Cabinet Report	Committee to refer to reports when setting Annual Work Programme.
Topics for Council-wide seminars/presentations	Committee to recommend topics for future seminars/presentations.
Councillor Call for Action	Councillors to bring any future issues to Committee.

ANNUAL FIXED POINTS

June	Consider Work Programme and Councillors' Training Requirements.
September	Consider Annual Report and fix Work Programme (to September Council).
January	Consider budgetary matters (to February Cabinet).
February	Consider crime and disorder matters that the Committee needs to review in consultation with the relevant partners on the Crime Reduction Partnership.
April	Councillors, CMT, Chairs of Area Partnerships consulted re. suggestions for following year's Work Programme.