
Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 4 August 2009

Subject: Draft Work Programme 2009-2010

Report of: Bernard Carter, Overview & Scrutiny Manager

Summary: The report provides Members with a draft work programme for approval following initial discussion at the last meeting and a subsequent meeting between the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Director to clarify priorities and timing issues.

Contact Officer: Bernard Carter

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: n/a

Key Decision n/a

Reason for urgency/
Exemption from call-in
(if appropriate) n/a

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **That the Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers and approves the draft work programme attached, subject to any further amendments it may wish to make.**
2. **That the Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers whether it wishes to establish any Task Forces to assist it in reviewing specific items on the draft work programme.**

Reason for Recommendation: So that Members of the Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee can establish its work programme for the municipal year 2009 - 2010.

Work Programme

1. As Members will be aware, the Committee received a directorate presentation at its last meeting, complemented by a long list of suggested items for inclusion in a draft Committee work programme for 2009 - 2010.

2. At this meeting, and with the support of the Director, Members highlighted from this long list a number of priority items for inclusion in a Committee work programme, subject to further consideration by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Director to ensure any programme finally agreed was equally spread throughout the municipal year, took account of Executive timing issues and made use of Task Force reviews if appropriate.
3. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Director subsequently met on 16 July to discuss the Committee's work programme in further detail and agreed to submit the draft version attached at Appendix A, which in essence reflects those priority items selected by Members at the first meeting.
4. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Director were however unable to refine the attached version any further (i.e. to ensure equal spread throughout the municipal year and suggest items appropriate for Task Force review) due to the need to firstly resolve how this Committee wished to manage scrutiny of the Local Development Frameworks and the growth agenda generally, which forms a major part of the draft work programme as attached.
5. A separate report is therefore included elsewhere on today's agenda, which outlines options for scrutiny of the Local Development Frameworks and the growth agenda. The outcome of discussions regarding this report will dictate refinement of the remaining work programme.
6. The Committee is therefore requested to consider the draft programme attached (following discussion of the scrutiny of the Local Development Frameworks and the growth agenda), make further amendments if considered necessary and approve a final version so that officers can plan accordingly (this will not preclude further items being added during the course of the year if Members so wish and capacity exists).

Task Forces

7. In addition to approving a final version of the work programme, Members will also need to consider how each item will be reviewed i.e. by the Committee itself (over one or a number of Committee meetings) or by establishing a Member Task Force to review an item in greater depth and report back its findings.

Conclusion

8. Members are requested to consider and agree the attached draft work programme, subject to any further amendments they may wish to make and highlight those items within it where they wish to establish a Task Force to assist the Committee in its work.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The work programme of the Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee should contribute to all 5 Council priorities, and will specifically support those 2 directly related to the work of the Sustainable Communities directorate, being managing growth effectively and creating safer communities.

Financial:

n/a

Legal:

n/a

Risk Management:

n/a

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

n/a

Equalities/Human Rights:

n/a

Community Development/Safety:

n/a

Sustainability:

n/a
