
Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date: 13 September 2011
Subject: Draft Work Programme 2011–2012 & Executive Forward Plan
Report of: Richard Carr, Chief Executive
Summary: The report provides Members with details of the current Committee work programme and the latest Executive Forward Plan.

Contact Officer: Peter Storey, Committee Services Officer (0300 300 5089)
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

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

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee:
 - (a) considers and approves the attached work programme, subject to any further amendments it may wish to make;
 - (b) considers the Executive Forward Plan; and
 - (c) considers whether it wishes to add any further items to the work programme.

Work Programme

1. The work programme is kept regularly under review by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and is amended as appropriate, which also includes adding further items during the course of the year if Members so wish and capacity exists. The current work programme is attached at **Appendix A**.
2. Also attached at **Appendix B** is the latest version of the Executive's Forward Plan (1 September 2011 – 31 August 2012) so that Overview & Scrutiny Members are fully aware of the key issues Executive Members will be taking decisions upon in the coming months. Those items relating specifically to this Committee's terms of reference are shaded in grey.

Task Forces

3. The Committee is permitted to establish Member Task Forces to review items in greater depth and report back its findings. Arising from the previous meeting on 21 June 2011 the Committee currently has the following Task Forces:-

Development Strategy Task Force

4. The Development Strategy Task Force has met regularly since September 2009 to consider items relating to the Local Development Framework for Central Bedfordshire. These items include site allocations for housing and employment, gypsy and traveller site allocations and Local Transport Plan 3. An indicative list of the items proposed to be considered by the Task Force during 2011-2012 is attached at **Appendix C**. Meetings of the Task Force are arranged as necessary and all Members of the Council will be notified of the dates in advance. The Chairman of the Task Force will be able to provide a verbal update on progress if necessary.

Highways and Transportation Task Force

5. The Committee has established a Task Force to consider the agreed managing agent contract with Amey LG and raise their concerns. The Task Force will provide an opportunity to understand Members concerns and seek to identify ways that some flexible practices could be adapted so that they are suitable for Central Bedfordshire Council. The Task Force will also consider the Council's draft approach to road and footway

maintenance and the Council's draft approach to parking. It has been agreed that this review will be completed within 3 months. The Chairman of the Task Force will be able to provide a verbal update on progress if necessary.

Review of leisure facilities in Central Bedfordshire

6. The Committee has also established a Task Force to review leisure facilities in Central Bedfordshire. This review will focus only on leisure facilities provided by Central Bedfordshire Council in Central Bedfordshire. This review will not commence until the completion of the Highways and Transportation Task Force. It has been agreed that this review will also be completed within 3 months of its commencement.

Conclusion

7. The Committee is requested to consider the attached work programme and make any further amendments it considers necessary.

Appendices:

- Appendix A:** Proposed Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2011 – 12.
- Appendix B:** The Executive Forward Plan for the period 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012.
- Appendix C:** Development Strategy Task Force Work Programme 2011 – 12.