



Scrutiny Committee – 8 July 2015

Work Programme 2015-16

Purpose of report

This report seeks councillors' views on the future work programme for the committee for the year ahead.

1.0 Background

1.1 In order to undertake the three key roles of the committee (as noted below), it needs to agree a balanced programme of activity for the next 12-18 months. This forward plan will then allow for appropriate preparations to be made for each meeting to maximise the committee's effectiveness.

- Wider View - the committee can review any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants, including provision and performance of services to local residents from a range of providers (with the exception of health matters which are reserved to the County Council's Health, Adult Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel.) The Corporate Plan priorities could provide a useful framework for this aspect of the committee's work.
- Monitoring Performance – as well as receiving quarterly Performance Clinic Reports, it is proposed that each of the Heads of Service will present their business plans to the committee, with a focus this year on the relationship between service priorities and budget provision. Reports on progress on previous Scrutiny Committee Reviews should also be considered.
- Call In – Call in of policy committee decisions is a valued role for Scrutiny at this council but one for which forward planning is not practical as it is not possible to predict which decisions might be called in in advance. Any call-in will usually trigger a dedicated Scrutiny Committee meeting being held thus they do not have to be programmed in to the work-programme but they may take resources which result in a slower pace on other activities.

1.2 In the past 12 months the following areas have been suggested as possible new future Scrutiny Reviews:

- Planning Enforcement (to include Keats Way as example)
- Public transport – in relation to access to medical facilities or access to work for young people
- Older residents' future requirements – which could include any/all of the following: Disabled Facilities Grants; Building for Life; voluntary sector support for socialisation; and this council's role in implementation of the Care Act.

1.3 It is suggested that reports on progress on previous Scrutiny Reviews are required for:

- Engagement with Town and Parish Councils
- Performance of the East Midlands Ambulance Service locally
- Implementation of High Speed Broadband in East Northants

2.0 Future Work Programme

2.1 The future work programme could look as follows:

Meeting	Performance Management Activity	Review Activity
8 July 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarter 4 14/15 Performance Clinic• Resources and Organisational Development Service Plan and Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree work programme
9 Sept 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarter 1 15/16 Performance Clinic• Planning Service Plan and Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning Enforcement
11 Nov 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarter 2 15/16 Performance Clinic• Customer and Community Services Service Plan and Budgets (including Revenues and Benefits)	
11 Jan 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ICT Service and Finance Service Plans and Budgets• Progress in review of East Midlands Ambulance Services	
14 March 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarter 3 15/16 Performance Clinic• Environmental Service Plan and Budget• Progress in implementation of review of Town and Parish Councils	
June 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarter 4 15/16 Performance Clinic• Progress on implementation of review of High Speed Broadband in East Northants	

3.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

3.1 This is an information report for discussion. There are no equality and diversity implications arising from it.

4.0 Legal Implications

4.1 This is an information report for discussion. There are no legal implications arising.

5.0 Risk Management

5.1 There are no significant risks arising from the information provided in this report.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 This is an information report for discussion. There are no financial implications arising unless Members identify areas for review that require additional resources.

7.0 Corporate Outcomes

- 7.1 The information provided in this report demonstrates how the council is performing in relation to its Corporate Outcomes of:
- Good Quality of Life - Prosperous
 - Good Quality of Life - Sustainable
 - Good Value for Money
 - High quality service delivery

8.0 Recommendation

- 8.1 The Committee is recommended to consider the draft programme in paragraph 2.1 and make additions/changes to enable it to adopt the programme for the next 12 months

[Reason: to enable forward planning of committee activity.]

Legal	Power: Local Government Act 2000				
	Other considerations:				
Background Papers: Previous Scrutiny Review Reports					
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Date: 22/06/2015					
CFO		MO		CX	

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