



East
Northamptonshire
Council

Scrutiny Committee - 14 April 2010

Update on work programme for 2010/11

Summary

This report updates the Committee on the progress made by the small group of Members looking at the scoping of the 2010/11 review B, which will look at corporate outcomes relating to strong communities, reduced deprivation, community leadership, and improved market towns.

Attachment(s)

Appendix 1 - Review Programme from May 2010

Appendix 2 - Review Scoping Notes

1. At its meeting on 24 February 2010 the Committee considered its work programme for the next municipal year. Members reviewed the aims of the Corporate Plan and prioritised them for review (appendix 1).
2. Members discussed how to move forward with the programme in preparation for the new municipal year and it was agreed that Councillors Marian Hollomon, Ron Pinnock, Barbara Jenney and Richard Gell would scope review B and feed their suggestions into this meeting of the Committee. As Members will recall the original intention was to focus the review around the following priorities which had previously been grouped together:-
Strong communities
Reduced deprivation
Community leadership
Improved market towns
3. Attached to the report are the notes of the meeting which set out the outcome of the Members' discussions (appendix 2). Members decided that the key questions for the Scrutiny Review should be:
 - What does successful community leadership look like?
 - What is the Council's role in promoting and influencing good community leadership?
 - How can we get the best from community leadership in East Northamptonshire to ensure that it reduces deprivation, builds strong communities and improves our market towns?
4. In view of the discussions held on 24 February 2010 the Committee is now asked to consider the scope of the review being proposed by the group and amend and/or approve the scope of the review accordingly.
5. Should the Committee wish to proceed it will be necessary to consider the appointment of a small "task and finish" Review Team and also consider, with officers, any additional resources required to progress the review and to make recommendations during the next twelve months. Members are reminded that it is proposed to allocate monies from the Contingency Sum to help support the reviews.
6. Recommendations:
 - 1) To consider the proposed scope of Review B (community leadership) and amend or approve the scope accordingly.

- 2) Subject to the above, to formally appoint a Review Team to take forward the review.

Implications:					
Corporate Outcomes or Other Policy/Priority/Strategy					
Good Quality of Life	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good Reputation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Good Value for Money	<input type="checkbox"/>	High Quality Service Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Effective Partnership Working	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strong Community Leadership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Effective Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowledge of our Customers and Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Employees and Members with the Right Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours			<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other:					
Decision(s) would be outside the budget or policy framework and require full Council approval <input type="checkbox"/>					
Financial	There are no financial implications at this stage		<input type="checkbox"/>		
	There will be financial implications – see paragraph 5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	There is provision within existing budget - contingency sum		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure at a later date		<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Decisions may have potential for income generation		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Risk Management	An assessment has been carried out and there are no material risks		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Material risks exist and these are recorded at Risk Register Reference - inherent risk score - residual risk score -		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Staff	There are no additional staffing implications		<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Additional staff will be required – see paragraph 5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Equalities and Human Rights	There will be no impact on equality (race, age, gender, disability, religion/belief, sexual orientation) or human rights implications		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	There will be an impact on equality (see categories above) or human rights implications – see paragraph		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Legal	Power: Local Government Act 2000				
	Other considerations:				
Background Papers:					
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Date: 7 April 2010					
CFO		MO		CX	

(Committee Report Normal Rev. 21)



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Scrutiny Committee Review Programme from May 2010

Year		Priorities for Review
2010-11	A	Enhanced customer experience
		Improved access to information and services
		Customer focus
		Customer and community insight
		Improved business processes
		Strong corporate brand
		Improved website and online transactions
	B	Strong communities
		Reduced deprivation
		Community leadership
		Improved market towns
	C	Strengthened strategic partnerships
		Effective third sector
D	Effective business continuity	
2011-12	A	Reduced crime
		Reduced anti-social behaviour
		Improved road safety
	B	Increased participation in play, sport, leisure and culture
		Good public health
2012 – onwards	A	Clean streets
		Effective management of waste
	B	Meeting housing needs
		High quality built environment
	C	Employer of choice
		Continuous development
		Appropriate behaviours
	D	Good value for money
		Good use of resources
	E	Rushden Regeneration

Scrutiny Review

Corporate Outcomes

- Strong communities
- Reduced deprivation
- Community leadership
- Improved market towns

Scope

“Community Leadership”

Effective community leadership is essential to

- Reduce deprivation
- Create strong communities
- Improve our market towns
- have effective Area Based Initiatives (ABI)

There are many definitions of Community leadership but the most relevant one for ENC is

Community leadership is about councils, both councillors and officers, enabling local communities to steer their own future. It is not traditional, top-down leadership, but involves councillors and officers using all the tools at their disposal to engage communities in making their own difference. It promotes a partnership of shared commitment to promote a shared vision for the locality. IDeA.

To enable successful community leadership, councillors need to have:

- democratic legitimacy
- the ability to build effective partnerships with other local organisations and communities
- a commitment to community engagement and empowerment
- the ability to respond effectively to local priorities
- a sound understanding of local governance arrangements
- an understanding of the local community and the groups and organisations within it
- access to key people in other agencies within that community
- access to officers and key people within local authority.

What do we know?

According to the Place Survey 2009, and in relation to the county council and the 6 other districts and boroughs:

- 23% of residents in East Northamptonshire feel they can influence decisions in their locality. This is a reduction from 25.5% since 2008 and is a fall from 4th best to 6th best in the County.

- 30% think the Council promotes the interests of local residents. This is a drop of 10% since 2008 and is the 5th best in the County.

- 32% think the Council acts on the concerns of local residents. A drop from 39% in 2008. and 5th best in the County.

The key questions for the Scrutiny Review are

- What does successful community leadership look like?
- What is the Council's role in promoting and influencing good community leadership?
- How can we get the best from community leadership in East Northamptonshire to ensure that it reduces deprivation, builds strong communities and improves our market towns?