

Subject:	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2011/12	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Council	Date:	20 th July 2011
Report of:	Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management	Portfolio Holder:	Finance and Resources
Key Decision:	No <input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Impact Assessment:	Required: No	Attached:	No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Required: No	Attached:	No
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1.	RECOMMENDATION(S)
1.1	That Council approve the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2011/12.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To receive for information the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Work Programme 2011/12.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:

- **A clean and green Rossendale** – creating a better environment for all.
- **A healthy and successful Rossendale** – supporting vibrant communities and a strong economy.
- **Responsive and value for money local services** – responding to and meeting the different needs of customers and improving the cost effectiveness of services.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

5.1 Information was published in the Lancashire Evening Telegraph and Rossendale Free Press seeking ideas from the public for Overview and Scrutiny to look at as part of their Work Programme for 2011/12. There was also an opportunity for the public to complete an online form on the Council's website. Scrutiny forms were also made available in the One Stop Shop. An email was also sent to Heads of Service and Managers asking for ideas.

5.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, at its first meeting on 6th June considered the ideas put forward and agreed the Work Programme 2011/12. (Attached as Appendix A)

5.3 The draft work programmes for both the Performance Scrutiny Committee (Appendix B) and Policy Scrutiny Committee (Appendix C) are attached.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

6.1 "Where any financial implications do arise, they will be consider by Members as part of the

annual budget process.”

7. MONITORING OFFICER

7.1 No comments.

8. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)

8.1 No HR implications.

9. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

9.1 Local Media.

Councillors

Council's Website

Internal consultation with Directors, Heads of Service and Managers

10. CONCLUSION

10.1 A commitment to the Work Programme will ensure that Overview and Scrutiny continues to improve its way of working.

10.2 Consideration will have to be taken when agreeing the Work Programme for the provision of any new legislation (Localism Bill/Health and Social Care Bill), relating to the Overview and Scrutiny function.

No background papers

SCRUTINY

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2011/12

Suggested by	Topic	How could we proceed	Accept as Full Review/light touch
Member of the public	Birthing Centre - an evaluation of birth planning services offered to the women of Rossendale once pregnancy is confirmed	Decide who to invite to T&FG at first meeting. Possibly produce a questionnaire for both midwives/GPs and for pregnant mums.	Task and Finish Group – Full Review
Councillor Morris	<p>Youth Services - What budget is there for YS in the Valley? What are the current facilities for youth services?</p> <p>Out of hours front line service provision - the need for an out of hours service by Officers for such things as litter-picking in visitor areas (parks etc) at weekends and bank holidays.</p> <p>Community Transport - Look at community transport and the commissioning of transport services with LCC</p>	<p>Due to recent reductions in youth services we need to look at the possible impact this could have on youth services.</p> <p>As the issue of litter has been brought up by Members and the public – it was agreed to undertake a review of Street Scene as a whole</p> <p>Look at future provision and impact to Rossendale residents.</p>	<p>Task and Finish Group – full Review</p> <p>Task and Finish Group – full review</p> <p>Either through a response group or light touch Task and Finish Group</p>
Helen Lockwood	Rossendale Transport – Review of its 3 Year Business Plan and its Finances.		Undertaken by Performance Scrutiny on a quarterly basis
Councillor Jackson	a) Impact Appraisal Procedures – to examine the procedures for assessing impact of implementation of our Policies when we are going through unprecedented cuts – we need to ensure we are truly on top of the impact on people	This will be discussed with the Chair of Policy Scrutiny.	The Chair of Policy could meet with Emma Hussain to discuss how O & S can examine this more thoroughly

	<p>b) Cuts in Community Sector - In December-January by which time we should be able to get a picture. NB we agreed at O & S that in September we would have feedback on how the new grants system had worked.</p>	<p>To be examined by Performance Scrutiny in consultation with the Communities Manager in Sept 2011 and January 2012 (agreed at Policy O & S in March 2011)</p>	.
<p>Councillor Alyson Barnes/Tom Aldred</p>	<p>Follow-up Review - to determine the progress made with implementations of recommendations. This enables the verification of outcomes agreed by the Task and Finish Groups over recent years.</p>	<p>A questionnaire to be produced and sent to Officers.</p>	<p>Could be undertaken by the Scrutiny Support Officer and provide a report to O & S Management on the comments from Officers to recommendations.</p>
<p>Councillor Helen Jackson</p>	<p>Review - The provision of support for people suffering from and at risk of domestic violence. Whilst there is a statutory requirement, it is unclear how/ what this is and how we are fulfilling this as a borough</p> <p>Given the lack of clarity and the fact that the Star Centre is currently dependent on grants, this needs to be examined urgently. I gather that referrals to Star Centre are rising rapidly in line with all the predicted patterns associated with recession.</p>	<p>Agreed to undertaken this piece of work as everyone felt this was an important issue which is on the rise. Would also include other organisations within the Borough who support these clients.</p>	<p>Task and Finish Group – Full Review</p>

REGULAR TOPICS FOR THE THREE SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Topic	Issue	Officer	Committee
Consideration of the Council's saving proposals for the next 12 months	Possible meeting to review the budget saving requirements (similar to last year)	Helen Lockwood/Phil Seddon	Special O & S Management meetings
Presentations from other outside bodies/partners ie Health, Fire	Confirmed that representatives from the Mental health services will attend to discuss changes to the service and what they would mean to Rossendale		O & S Management (Sept)
Community Safety Partnership	Statutory responsibility to scrutinise the work of the Community Safety Partnership – Members wish to include a presentation on Drug and Alcohol Services within the Borough. There was also discussion on the Criminal Justice System following the closure of the courts in the Borough	Communities Manager	O & S Management (Dec)
Medium Term Financial Strategy	To review the Medium Term Financial Strategy within the Quarterly Performance Report Presentation on the new MTFS at the Feb meeting	Phil Seddon	O & S Management Committee (Feb)
Quarterly Performance Reports	Review on quarterly basis to include CAPITA and Green Vale Homes	Liz Sandiford	Performance Scrutiny in June, Sept, Nov and Feb
Leisure Development Update	Review 3 times per year re the Leisure Trust and CLAW	Mike Riley/Martin Kaye/Christine Ashcroft	Performance Scrutiny in June, November and February
Rossendale Transport	Review on quarterly basis	Phil Seddon/Directors of Rossendale Transport	Performance Scrutiny in July, Oct, Jan and March