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| Subject: | Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16 | | Status: | For Publication | |
| Report to: | Overview and Scrutiny Committee | | Date: | 22 nd June 2015 | |
| Report of: | Overview and Scrutiny | | Portfolio Holder: | Legal and Democratic Services | |
| Key Decision: | <input type="checkbox"/> No | Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/> | General Exception <input type="checkbox"/> | Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Equality Impact Assessment: | Required: | No | Attached: | No | |
| Biodiversity Impact Assessment | Required: | No | Attached: | No | |
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| 1. | RECOMMENDATION(S) |
| 1.1 | That the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16 be agreed and sent to Full Council for information. |
| 1.2 | That the final reports of the Task and Finish Groups be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for approval, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, prior to being considered by the Cabinet, Council or other relevant organisation. |

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To approve Scrutiny's Annual Work Programme 2015/16.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

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

- **Regenerating Rossendale:** This priority focuses on regeneration in its broadest sense, so it means supporting communities that get on well together, attracting sustainable investment, promoting Rossendale, as well as working as an enabler to promote the physical regeneration of Rossendale.
- **Responsive Value for Money Services:** This priority is about the Council working collaboratively, being a provider, procurer and a commissioner of services that are efficient and that meet the needs of local people.
- **Clean and Green Rossendale:** This priority focuses on clean streets and town centres and well managed open spaces, whilst recognising that the Council has to work with communities and as a partner to deliver this ambition.

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 The public was given an opportunity to complete an online form on the Council's website and 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 for the Work Programme.

5.2 The Chairs of each of the Scrutiny Committee considered the ideas and put forward the work programme for consideration. **(Appendix A).**

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

6.1 Where any financial implications do arise, they will be considered by Members as part of the annual budget process.

7. MONITORING OFFICER

7.1 No comments.

8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

8.1 The scrutiny process was introduced by the Local Government Act 2000 The purpose of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees is to help improve the way the Council works and to make sure it gets its decisions and policies right. Task and Finish Groups support specific focused pieces of work to produce a report and recommendations.

The four main principles of scrutiny are:-

- Empowering local people working with their local representatives, to challenge the council and other agencies to deal with local concerns
- Ensuring that the views and concerns of local people are heard at the heart of the local authority
- Enabling local councillors as community champions to take the lead in raising issues for scrutiny
- Reinforcing the scrutiny functions as a way to get things changed and improved so that local communities can see tangible results

8.2 Consultation has been undertaken with the following in the development of the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16:

- Internal consultation with Directors, Heads of Service and Managers
- Councillors
- General public via the Council's Website and the One Stop Shop

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 A commitment to the Work Programme will ensure that the Scrutiny process continues to improve its way of working.

No background papers