

North Yorkshire County Council

Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee

13 June 2011

Work Programme and Forward Plan

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To invite the Committee to consider the work programme.

2 Scope of the Committee

- 2.1 Under the Council's constitution the scope of this Committee is defined as:

“the Council's corporate organisation and structure, resource allocation, asset management, procurement policy, people strategy, equality and diversity, performance management, communications and access to services.

Partnership working, community development, community engagement, community strategies and community safety (the designated Crime and Disorder Committee)”.

3 Scheduled Committee Dates

- 3.1 The Committee dates for the remainder of 2011 are set out below.
- 12 September 2011, 10:30 am, Meeting Room 3
 - 14 November 2011, 10:30 am, Meeting Room 3

4 Emerging areas of work

4.1 One Council

- 4.1.1 Group Spokespersons discussed the One Council change programme and involvement of Overview and Scrutiny at the Mid Cycle in May. It was agreed that the monitoring of the programme, including its nine work-streams, should come under the remit of this Committee. The programme plan will be brought to the September meeting and thereafter there will be regular reporting back to the Committee.
- 4.1.2 The One Council change programme will be key to achieving the Budget 2 savings and it is clear that the impact of the programme will not be confined to staff. Members and the public will see changes too in terms of how the authority operates. The Committee could have a role in helping to implement and monitor how these changes are being communicated back to Members and the public.

4.2 Sustainable Community Strategy

4.2.1 At the final meeting of the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership ('NYSP') Executive in February it was agreed that the Sustainable Community Strategy would be refreshed around the following pared down list of priorities:

- protecting and supporting vulnerable people
- supporting economic growth and employment
- improving accessibility for all our communities

4.2.2 The North Yorkshire and York Chief Executive's Group, which has replaced the NYSP Executive, has produced a re-draft for consultation based upon these three priorities.

4.2.3 The consultation period will run from 20 June to 16 September and the Committee will be invited to comment on the draft strategy at its September meeting. The finalised draft will be submitted for approval to Full Council on 14 December.

4.2.4 The Committee will have a watching brief on the implementation of the strategy and relevant partnership indicators.

4.2.5 The government is proposing to repeal the statutory duty to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy. If repealed, councils will still be able to carry on having a strategy but will no longer have a top-down duty to do so. Similarly, councils will not be prevented from consulting partner authorities and others in developing their strategy, but will no longer be required to do so.

4.3 Access for Rural Services, Big Society, Rural Post Offices

4.3.1 Since the Committee's meeting in March the working group met with NYNet and a number of voluntary sector organisations working in the field of community engagement and volunteer support (Rural Action Yorkshire, North Yorkshire and York Forum, Plunkett Foundation, Volunteer Bureaux). It is clear that we need to work closely with such organisations as they can provide community groups with independent support, advice and expertise. Ideas suggested at the meeting included:

- working with voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations to identify and support 'champions' in local communities interested in running community run/managed projects
- involving the VCS at an early stage when planning service changes so that they can plan where their resources will be needed the most – be it in terms of geographical area or client group.
- have a more joined up cross-directorate approach in NYCC to increase awareness within the Authority of all the work that NYCC does with volunteers to see if links can be made between directorates on existing and new initiatives.

4.3.2 The working group also visited the community run pub and shop in Hudswell and the Vale of Mowbray Community Broadband Project. Both visits were insightful, highlighting the fact that for such projects to get off the ground they need at least one individual living in the area with a passion and determination to respond to the withdrawal of an existing service or lack of service provision. They in turn need access to good quality advice on such aspects as governance, technology, legal and financial issues etc.

4.3.3 The working group will be meeting in July to discuss the review's findings and produce outline recommendations. This will be reported back to the Committee's meeting in September.

5 Recommendation

5.1 That Members review the Committee's work programme, taking into account issues highlighted in this report, the outcome of discussions on previous agenda items and any other relevant developments taking place in the county.

Bryon Hunter
Scrutiny Team Leader
County Hall
Northallerton

Author and Presenter of Report: Jonathan Spencer
Contact Details: Tel: 01609 533488
E-mail: jonathan.spencer@northyorks.gov.uk

2 June 2011

Background Documents:
Appendix 1 – Work Programme Schedule 2011

Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme

In-depth Scrutiny Projects

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE	ACTION/BY WHOM	TIMESCALES
Citizens Panel	<p>Referred by the Executive. Reviewed the status of the Citizens Panel in March 2011, which included an assessment of the value of this resource, what evidence there was that the results were being used by directorates to inform service planning. A number of recommendations were made.</p> <p>12 month review in March 2012 to assess progress in implementing the Committee's recommendations.</p>	Neil Irving	March 2012
One Council	To discuss the One Council Vision/programme and reporting schedules.	Gary Fielding	12 September 2011
Future Performance Monitoring Arrangements	Proposition on the performance management information it would be most appropriate for the authority to retain or develop in future financial years.	Robin Mair	12 September 2011
Access to Services	<p>Looking at community managed resources, building community capacity, sustainable Broadband-led transformation and the aspirations of the Big Society</p> <p>Task Group appointed: Cllrs John McCartney, Val Arnold, Geoff Webber, Brian Simpson, Liz Casling, David Jeffels. Report with recommendations</p>	Neil Irving/ Gary Fielding	12 September 2011
Drugs and Alcohol Team	<p>Focus around the strategic assessment on the fitness of the DAAT to deliver against its core objectives. (complete)</p> <p>Review of the balance between drugs awareness, treatment and that for alcohol misuse, focussing especially measures to reduce alcohol related harm.</p>	Task Group with Care and independence Scrutiny Committee	On completion of Draft Strategy by Substance Misuse Team
Partnerships Contribution and Resources	Review the annual report on partnership monitoring arrangements and any subsequent decisions taken by the Executive, prior to considering what additional work, if any, may be required.	John Moore/ Neil Irving/ Gary Fielding	Autumn 2011

Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme

Overview Reports

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE	ACTION/BY WHOM	TIMESCALES
Executive Members Update	Schedule alternately.	Cllr Carl Les	13 June 2011
NYSP Community Safety Agreement	Reviewed annually as part of Crime and Disorder designation.	Neil Irving / Chair Safer Communities Forum	Autumn 2011
Sustainable Community Strategy	Statutory requirement on work on the LAA removed. Committee to be consulted on draft SCS. A watching brief to be made on the preparation of possible key indicators on partnership working.	Neil Irving	12 September 2011
Leader of organisations attend to explain commitment/contribution to Community Safety/Safer Communities Forum	Key feature of Designated Crime and Disorder committee. Programme to be drafted for attendance of strategic leaders at forthcoming meetings.	Jonathan Spencer	To be determined
Enhanced two tier working	Joint meeting with representatives of District & Borough Councils deferred. This has been deferred pending results of discussions on shared services and future collaboration.	Gary Fielding	To be determined
Equality – taking into account the new public sector equalities duties.	Monitor compliance	Neil Irving	Autumn 2011
Corporate Risk Register	Reported at the appropriate time.	John Moore	12 September 2011
Health and Safety – 2010/2011	Includes Public Liability – reported annually.	John Moore	12 September 2011
Annual Procurement Report	Annual report including Sustainable procurement for Directorates within NYCC and in respect of property and highways works.	John Moore	Annual Report 12 September 2011
Property	To be agreed.	John Moore	Annual Report 13 June 2011
Communications Strategy	Update on resident communications regarding replacement of NY Times in an electronic format combined with pages in local newspapers with content tailored to local interest.	Helen Edwards	Autumn 2011
Community Engagement/Duty to Involve	A key part of the Committee's Work Programme but no decision has yet been made on when a report will be submitted.	Neil Irving	Not decided

Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme

Scrutiny and the Budget Process	Proposals to be drafted for the Committee to be involved in the budget process at an early stage.	John Moore	Autumn 2011
HR Annual Report	Overview and update of HR internal communication.	Justine Brooksbank / Helen Edwards	Autumn 2011

2011/12

<i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i>	28 March <i>10:30 am</i>	13 June <i>10:30 am</i>	12 September <i>10:30 am</i>	14 November <i>10:30 am</i>	23 January <i>10:30 am</i>	19 March <i>10:30 am</i>
<i>Scheduled Agenda Briefing</i>	28 March <i>9:30 am</i>	13 June <i>9:30 am</i>	12 September <i>9:30 am</i>	14 November <i>9:30 am</i>	23 January <i>9:30 am</i>	19 March <i>9:30 am</i>
<i>Scheduled Mid Cycle</i>	3 May <i>10:30 am</i>	19 July <i>10:30 am</i>	17 October <i>10:30 am</i>	12 December <i>10:30 am</i>	10 February <i>10:30 am</i>	21 May <i>10:30 am</i>