

## North Yorkshire County Council

### Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee

23 January 2012

#### Work Programme

#### **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 2012 and 2013 are set out below:
- 19 March 2012, 10:30am
  - 11 June 2012, 10:30am
  - 10 September 2012, 10:30am
  - 26 November 2012, 10:30am
  - 21 January 2013, 10:30am
  - 22 April 2013, 10:30am

#### **4 Emerging areas of work/updates**

##### 4.1 Libraries

Overview and scrutiny of the library service has transferred to the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee. At this month's Mid Cycle briefing Group Spokespersons were provided with a brief update on the re-organisation of libraries and discussed incorporating this area of work into the work programme. It was agreed that focus in the short to medium term should be on community-led libraries, the Home Library and Information Service and the Supermobile. Reporting on those areas is likely to be on a six monthly basis.

An initial progress report on the re-organisation of libraries overall will be presented to the Committee in March. This will provide an opportunity for Members to express their views as to where improvements in communications and involvement in the consultation process could have been better. These lessons learnt will be

able to be translated to other council services that communities might deliver in the future.

#### 4.2 Drugs and Alcohol Substance Misuse Review

In March last year the Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee together with representatives of this Committee, examined the impact of commissioning efforts to tackle the effects of alcohol misuse needs, against a backdrop of changed structural arrangements within the National Health Service.

The question was how to reallocate resources to intervention and preventative services, especially on combating alcohol abuse, which then benefits other services 'upstream' (especially Health). There were many comments at the meeting about the risk factors associated with drinking, its impact upon healthcare services and the wider society. Alcohol misuse is a causal factor in many medical conditions but excessive drinking contributes to increased risky sexual behaviour, accidents, absenteeism, violence and drug misuse. A profiling report had concluded that the level of alcohol related harm across the region had increased considerably over the last 6 years. The argument in support of public health initiatives to reduce the level of alcohol related harm was overwhelming.

Since that date work has progressed on an alcohol needs assessment with a view to developing a high level alcohol harm reduction strategy, which in turn would be used to give direction and focus on future commissioning intentions. These issues are to be taken forward at a meeting with health colleagues on a date in February yet to be agreed. The Chair of the Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee has indicated he would welcome representation from this Committee. I should have more details on timing and content of this proposed meeting by the time this Committee meets and will therefore report verbally.

## **5 Recommendations**

- 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.

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Date: 12 January 2012

Background documents: None

Annexes: Work Programme Schedule 2012

**Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Schedule 2012**

**In-depth Scrutiny Projects**

| <b>SUBJECT</b>         | <b>AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>   | <b>ACTION/BY WHOM</b>                                       | <b>TIMESCALES</b>   |
|------------------------|--|---|---|
| One Council            | To discuss the One Council Vision/programme and reporting schedules.<br><br>Task Group to be appointed.  | Rob Polkinghorne  | Regular progress updates  |
| Drugs and Alcohol Team | Focus around the strategic assessment on the fitness of the DAAT to deliver against its core objectives. (complete)<br><br>Review of the balance between drugs awareness, treatment and that for alcohol misuse, focussing especially measures to reduce alcohol related harm.   | Task Group with Care and independence<br>Scrutiny Committee | On completion of Draft Strategy by Substance Misuse Team – to be determined |
| Equalities             | To ensure that the Council's Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) process is being used effectively to ensure that equality issues are being considered when drawing up policies or proposals which affect the delivery of services, the carrying out of the Council's functions and the employment practice of the authority. | Neil Irving/Tom Jenkinson                                   | 19 March 2012   |

## Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Schedule 2012

### Overview Reports

| SUBJECT                                 | AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE  | ACTION/BY WHOM                                | TIMESCALES   |
|---|--|---|--|
| Executive Members Update                | Schedule alternately.  | Cllr Carl Les                                 | 19 March 2012  |
| Localism Act                            | A report on the implications of the Localism Act, relating to the ways in which local authorities will work with communities and parish councils regarding planning issues and service delivery.   | Neil Irving                                   | 19 March 2012  |
| Libraries                               | <p>Overview and update on the library service, including community managed libraries.</p> <p>Overview of archives, registration and coroners administration.</p>   | <p>Julie Blaisdale</p> <p>Julie Blaisdale</p> | <p>19 March 2012</p> <p>To be determined at a later date after the re-organisation of libraries.</p> |
| Connecting North Yorkshire/NYNet        | Progress update on implementation of community broadband and the support NYNet provides to communities.  | Ian Marr                                      | 19 March 2012  |
| HR Annual Report                        | Overview and update of HR internal communication.  | Justine Brooksbank / Helen Edwards            | 19 March 2012  |
| Communications Strategy                 | Update on resident communications and other communications initiatives.  | Helen Edwards                                 | 19 March or 11 June 2012   |
| Property                                | Annual Report.   | John Moore                                    | 11 June 2012   |
| Annual Procurement Report               | Annual Report.   | John Moore                                    | 11 June 2012   |
| Health and Safety                       | Includes Public Liability – reported annually.   | John Moore                                    | 11 June 2012   |
| Partnerships Contribution and Resources | Review the annual report on partnership monitoring arrangements and any subsequent decisions taken by the Executive, including the progress on rationalising the number of partnerships across the County Council; and the extent to which the County Council benefits from its involvement in each partnership. | John Moore/ Neil Irving/ Gary Fielding        | 10 September 2012  |

## Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Schedule 2012

|   |   |   |                               |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------|
| Enhanced two tier working   | Update on joint working in relation to customer access.   | Gary Fielding   | 10 September 2012             |
|   | Working together on the localism agenda: planning /New Homes Bonus/working together to promote growth/business rates retention scheme/localisation of Council Tax Benefits.   | Gary Fielding   | To be determined              |
| Scrutiny and the Budget Process   | Further to the post-implementation review of how budget information was made available to Members in 2010, overview and scrutiny committees are asked in the next 12 months to take into account, the savings proposals to be made in Years 3 and 4 for their service remit. For Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee this will involve savings relating to Finance and Central Services. | John Moore  | 10 September 2012             |
| Council Plan  | Look at the achievements of the past year in relation to the current Council Plan and make suggestions for future improvements to be included in the 2013/16 Council Plan   | Neil Irving   | 26 November 2012              |
|   | Comment on the draft 2013/16 Council Plan.  |   | 21 January 2013 (provisional) |
| Area Committees and Community Engagement Forums   | Update report to committee on the review of Area Committees.  | Josie O'Dowd/Neil Irving                                      | To be determined              |
| North Yorkshire Police  | Update on the future direction of the Force, including changes in local policing structures.  | Jonathan Spencer  | To be determined              |
| Future Performance Monitoring Arrangements  | Proposition on the performance management information that the authority will retain or develop in future financial years.  | Robin Mair  | To be determined              |
| Leader of organisations attend to explain commitment/contribution to Community Safety/Safer Communities Forum | Key feature of Designated Crime and Disorder committee - attendance of strategic leaders at forthcoming meetings.   | Jonathan Spencer  | 21 January 2013               |
|   | Police – overview of changes to operational structures.   |   | To be determined              |
| NYSP Community Safety Agreement   | Reviewed annually as part of Crime and Disorder designation.  | Neil Irving / Nigel Hutchinson, Chair Safer Communities Forum | 21 January 2013               |

|                                     |   |                                     |  |   |  |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i> | <b>19 March<br/>2012</b><br>10:30 am        | <b>11 June<br/>2012</b><br>10:30 am | <b>10<br/>September<br/>2012</b><br>10:30 am | <b>26<br/>November<br/>2012</b><br>10:30 am | <b>21<br/>January<br/>2013</b><br>10.30am  | <b>22 April<br/>2013</b><br>10.30am |
| <i>Scheduled Agenda Briefing</i>    | <b>19 March<br/>2012</b><br>9:30 am         | <b>11 June<br/>2012</b><br>9:30 am  | <b>10<br/>September<br/>2012</b><br>9:30 am  | <b>26<br/>November<br/>2012</b><br>9:30 am  | <b>21<br/>January<br/>2013</b><br>9:30 am  | <b>22 April<br/>2013</b><br>9:30 am |
| <i>Scheduled Mid Cycle</i>          | <b>10<br/>February<br/>2012</b><br>10:30 am | <b>21 May<br/>2012</b><br>10:30 am  | <b>9 July<br/>2012</b><br>10.30am            | <b>15 October<br/>2012</b><br>10.30am       | <b>21<br/>December<br/>2012</b><br>10:30am | <b>18 March<br/>2013</b><br>10:30am |