
**PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –
WORK PROGRAMME**

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the work programme items scheduled to be considered by this Scrutiny Committee and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest should be added to the previously approved work programme.

Summary

2. Members will recall that, at the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 5th November, 2011, a discussion was held and agreement reached on areas which this Scrutiny Committee would like to focus its work and work has been and is currently being, undertaken in relation to some of those areas and works is still due to commence on others.
3. Members are now requested to consider the current status of the work programme and suggest any further areas of work which Scrutiny would like to undertake. It also requests a discussion on a number of other items which have been formally requested to be included by a member of this Scrutiny Committee.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that :
 - a. Members note the current status of the Work Programme;
 - b. Approve the Terms of Reference relating to Arriva (**Appendix 1**); and
 - c. Consider adding items to the Work Programme in relation to :-
 - (i) Financial Advice/Guidance to Local Small Businesses;
 - (ii) Business Plan for the Town's Markets; and
 - (iii) Community Transport Solutions.

**Paul Wildsmith,
Director of Resources**

Background Papers

There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

Karen Graves : Extension 2291

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder.
Health and Well Being	This report has implications to the address Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington, through scrutinising the services provided by the NHS Trusts.
Carbon Impact	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address.
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the delivery of the objectives of the Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of local elected members contributing to the Healthy Darlington Theme Group.
Efficiency	The Work Programmes are integral to scrutinising and monitoring services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.

MAIN REPORT

Work Programme

5. A key role of Scrutiny is to ensure that the programme is able to deliver the service improvement and the budget savings necessary and Members need to take this into account when considering their Work Programmes and ensure that any work focuses on delivering outcomes rather than service delivery.

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
Civil Parking Enforcement	To understand the benefits and constraints of Civil Parking Enforcement followings its introduction.	Considered by Place Scrutiny Committee on 19th April, 2012.
Town Centre Fringe	To contribute to and influence the development of the Town Centre Fringe as part of the Local Development Framework.	This work is currently on going however a further report appears elsewhere on today's agenda.
Local Development Framework (LDF)	To contribute to and influence the development of the LDF including the Making Places and Accommodating Growth Development Plan Document (DPD); Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD); and Town Centre Fringe Area Action Plan (AAP).	This work is currently on going.
Medium Term Financial Plan	To contribute to and challenge the Medium Term Financial Plan and assist with the implementation and development of the required savings.	Work has been completed and recommendations forwarded to Special Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 26th January, 2012
Housing Strategy	To consult with relevant Committees on the emerging housing strategy	Joint Special Scrutiny with Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee held 11th April, 2012.

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
Refuse Collection	To contribute to and influence the implementation of a Wheeled Bin system in the Borough of Darlington.	A Task and Finish Review Group has been established and several meetings held together with a visit to a neighbouring authority already operating a wheeled bin system.
Cultural Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To track the progress of DBC's application to the Arts Council; (b) To investigate how cultural activity will be facilitated in the intervening period between the closure of the Arts Centre and new Arts Hub; (c) Scrutinise any potential delivery options for cultural services; (d) Scrutinise a range of governance models. 	A Review Group has been established and two meetings held. A further meeting will be held when necessary.
Arriva	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To explore how commercial bus services can be improved in terms of quality and reach of services; (b) To hear evidence about real or perceived concerns about bus services; (c) To hear evidence from Arriva about their current performance and their plans to improve bus patronage; (d) To hear evidence from Transport Officers about what is, and what can be 	A Review Group has been established and an initial meeting held with Officers of Arriva the notes of which appear as a separate item on this Agenda.

	done to improve bus services in Darlington.	
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Quad of Aims

6. If Members wish to add any item to the Work Programme a Quad of Aims would need to be developed and submitted to Monitoring and Co-ordination Group prior to being brought to Scrutiny Committee, to ensure that it does contribute to the strategic aims of the Council.
7. In accordance with 6 above, a number of Quads of Aims in relation to the following have been submitted by a Member of this Committee and Members are requested to add these items to the future work programme of this Committee and consider how to undertake the work :-
 - a. Financial Advice/Guidance to Local Small Businesses;
 - b. Business Plan for the Town's Markets; and
 - c. Community Transport Solutions.

Terms of Reference

8. With regard to the Arriva Review Group the Quads of Aims recently referred to the Monitoring and Co-ordination Group has now been approved and the Terms of Reference is attached (**Appendix 1**).

Forward Plan

9. Members are also requested to consider Cabinet's Forward Plan, which is available on the Council's website, to assist in determining any further items which they might wish to include on their Work Programme and if so, complete the necessary documentation.