
**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 5 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.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that Members note the current status of the Work Programme.

Paul Wildsmith,
Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources

Background Papers

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

Karen Graves : Extension 2364

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. For Members information, it has been previously agreed that a number of topics be included on the Work Programme of the Place Scrutiny Committee and Quad of Aims have previously been approved. The status of those items is detailed in the table below.

6. 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
Local Plan	To contribute to and influence the development of the Local Plan - Making and Growing Places Development Plan Document (DPD) Retail/Town Centre Study	Ongoing - A special meeting of Scrutiny gave consideration to the Preferred Options consultation responses on 20 December 2013. Once study complete findings to be considered by this Committee at a future meeting as agreed on 20 December 2013.
Economic Strategy	To monitor progress of the Strategy Action Plan against outcomes	Ongoing – Committee to monitor progress of the Strategy. Last considered 12 December 2013.
Housing Strategy	To monitor progress of the Strategy Action Plan against outcomes	Ongoing – Committee to monitor progress of the Strategy. The Strategy was last considered on 17 October and the Private Housing Manager addressed Committee 12 December 2013.
Sport and Physical Activity Strategy	To contribute to and influence the development of the Strategy.	Ongoing – Committee to monitor progress of the Strategy. Last considered 17 October 2013.

Cultural Provision	<p>Scrutinise potential delivery options for cultural services.</p> <p>Scrutinise a range of governance models.</p>	<p>Ongoing – A Task and Finish Review Group was established, meetings held and reported back to this Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>A further meeting is scheduled to be held 22 April 2014.</p>
Car Parking Strategy	To contribute and influence development of the Car Parking Strategy	This item was considered at the meeting held on 6 February 2014
Network Management Plan	To monitor progress and raise issues/ concerns if necessary	To be submitted to the meeting of 5 June 2014
Markets Review Group	To assess the potential of all spaces and places suitable for market activity.	Ongoing – A tour of the Old Market and Clock Tower was held 4 February and a meeting of the Group held 13 March 2014 – The notes of those meetings appear elsewhere on this Agenda.
Medium Term Financial Plan - Budget Proposals	To advise Members of the decision of Cabinet in relation to a number of budget savings proposals from areas which fall within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee.	A Special meeting considered AWC in December 2013. Further meetings in January 2014 considered Street Cleaning/ Grounds Maintenance and items concerning community involvement i.e. Head of Steam and Cockerton Library.
Regulatory Services	To be advised of the services and the contribution they make to the economy of the Borough.	Item appears elsewhere on this Agenda.
Litter Reduction and Grounds Maintenance	To contribute to the Litter and Ground Maintenance Projects.	Ongoing - Committee advised of the work being undertaken by the Group 8

	Review regular updates from that Group.	January 2014.
Sustainable Community Strategy	To contribute to the revised Strategy document and to consider how this Scrutiny Committee can contribute to the objectives to reduce inequality by ensuring Darlington has more businesses and more jobs, more people caring for our environment and that Darlington is a place designed to thrive.	Item appears elsewhere on this Agenda.
Wheeled Bins	To monitor the introduction of Wheeled Bins in the Borough.	Completed – The Final report of the Review Group was submitted to Cabinet on 1 October 2013
Performance Management Framework	To provide Members with an update regarding the Performance Management framework in order to inform the future work programme of this Scrutiny Committee	Item appears elsewhere on this Agenda.

Quad of Aims

7. 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.

Forward Plan

8. 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.