
OVERVIEW OF PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Place Scrutiny Committee has undertaken :-
 - (a) **Work Programme 2011/12** – We have given consideration to the Work Programme for this Committee for the Municipal Year 2011/12 and possible review topics and in doing so, we have taken into account the reduced resources available within the Authority and ensured that, in recommending our work programme to Monitoring and Co-ordination Group, that any work we undertake will have demonstrable outcomes and contribute to the work of the Council and its strategic aims and objectives.
 - (b) **Medium Term Financial Plan** – We have met on four occasions to consider the many MTFP proposals which fall within Place Scrutiny Committee's remit. All our recommendations have been submitted to the special meeting of Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.
 - (c) **Speed Management within the Borough Task and Finish Review Group** – The Group has met formally three times, hearing the views of the 20's Plenty Campaign, Durham Constabulary and Public Transport Operators. Two Members of Scrutiny also visited Middlesbrough Council to discuss with their Officers how they tackled the introduction of 20mph speed limits. Our Final Report has now been approved and recommendations forwarded to Cabinet for its consideration.
 - (d) **Darlington's Economic Strategy** – We received a report and presentation which detailed a project established to prepare an Economic Strategy relevant to the business community of Darlington. Members found the topic extremely interesting and some useful ideas were put forward. Arrangements are in hand to establish a Task and Finish Review Group to look at the future requirements and provision of broadband for business use to assist in the preparation of the Strategy

2. Since the last meeting of Council, I have attended the following meetings :-
 - (a) Various briefing meetings with Officers.
 - (b) Middlesbrough Council Highways Officers as part of our Speed Management Review Group.
 - (c) Public Meeting as part of our Speed Management Review Group.

Councillor Dorothy Long
Chair of Place Scrutiny Committee