

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 2012

REPORT BY: ENVIRONMENT & HOUSING OVERVIEW &
SCRUTINY FACILITATOR

SUBJECT: FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report to the committee on work which was left outstanding at the end of the municipal year. To outline how topics can be brought to Overview & Scrutiny and to suggest items to be included on the Forward Work Programme for the successor committee to consider.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01** Experienced Overview & Scrutiny Members will be aware that items feed into a committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Individual Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny committees; members of the public can suggest topics; items can be referred by the Executive for consultation purposes; items can be referred by the County Council, or Directors can request that a committee gives a view on a particular topic.
- 2.02** Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Executive for consultation purposes, or by County Council, or Directors. Other possible items are identified from the Executive Work Programme and the Strategic Assessment of Risks & Challenges.
- 2.03** In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:
1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?
 2. Are there issues of weak or poor performance?
 3. How, where and why were the issues identified?
 4. Do local communities think the issues are important and is there any evidence of this? Is there evidence of public dissatisfaction?
 5. Is there new Government guidance or legislation?
 6. Have inspections been carried out?

7. Is this area already the subject of an ongoing review?

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work Programmes of the committees of which they are Members.

3.02 At the last meeting of the Committee, consideration was given to the Quarter 3 Performance Report. Following questions from committee on the speed limit review the Director of Environment agreed to bring back to committee the outcome of the review with draft proposals in Sept/Oct '12. Members agreed to this item being commended to the relevant successor committee.

When the Environment & Housing Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator reported on the Forward Work Programme, there were items outstanding for consideration of the Winter Maintenance service following the winter period of 2011/12 and the new Streetscene service following its launch in March 2012. In addition a task and finish group had been established in September 2011 to work with officers of the Directorate to review Street lighting services in Flintshire. A report on the progress of the task & finish group had been received by the committee in February 2012, and is available for new members of the committee to view on request. It was suggested that these items be commended to the successor committee.

The committee had a number of items still waiting to be scheduled, together with a series of regular items upon which it has previously decided that it wished to receive updates on a regular basis. These items are identified in **Appendix 1** together with a schedule of the meetings of the committee as agreed at County Council on 21 February 2012 in the form of a draft Forward Work Programme.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the committee has regard to the considerations above, and identifies a draft Forward Work Programme for the forthcoming periods: (i) June - July 2012 and (ii) September 2012- April 2013.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

Not applicable.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

Not applicable.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

Not applicable.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

12.00 APPENDICES

Draft Forward Work Programme.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None

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