

UPDATE ON WORK PROGRAMME : ECONOMY & REGENERATION
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 16/01/12

Reports to assist in monitoring the Committee's work programme

It was agreed by the Scrutiny Chairs Group in September 2008 to use the following reports to monitor the work programme for each Scrutiny Committee. The last item on each Scrutiny Committee agenda should be 'Review of the Committee Work Programme'.

Report 1 - Monitoring Report for Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

This report will list all items that have been selected by the Committee for inclusion on the work programme for the current year.

It will also include items, such as previous Panel Reviews, where recommendations have been made to Cabinet. It is important that the implementation of these recommendations is monitored. Otherwise there is no measure of the success of scrutiny.

For each item on the work programme, the report will give a description, an indication of how the item will be dealt with, a relative timescale for the work and brief comments on progress.

Report 2 - Suggestions for Additions to Work Programme

The Work Programme for the Committee should be reviewed at each meeting. This will enable members to ask for new Items to be added to the programme. This report will list any newly suggested items. Committee will then have the opportunity to agree (or not) for them to be added to the programme.

Report 3 - Proposed Outline Meeting Schedule for the Municipal Year

The report will, for each scheduled Committee meeting, list those items which are likely to be on the meeting agenda. This will give the opportunity for Committee members to take a greater lead in organising their work programme.

Report 4 - Progress Report on In-Depth Panel Reviews

This report will give a very brief update on progress / timescales for in-depth panel reviews which are in the 'ownership' of the Committee.

REPORT 1
MONITORING REPORT FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
ECONOMY & REGENERATION : 2011 / 2012

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete?
06/06/11	The implementation of affordable housing policies	Report to Committee on 05/09/11		During the discussion on the 'End of Year Performance Report' on 06/06/11, members requested a report to the next meeting on this item. Report on Affordable Housing presented to Committee on 05/09/11. Further report requested to include 'Mortgage help for first-time buyers'.	
06/06/11	Wirral Apprenticeship scheme	Report to Committee		During the discussion on the 'Apprenticeship Programme' item at the meeting on 06/06/11, members requested a further update specifically on level 3 up-take and on the preparedness of the education sector for the challenge of the new requirement for functional skills. Further report on 'The Wirral Apprentice' provided to Committee on 05/09/11.	Complete
06/06/11	Green Growth – Motion agreed at Council in April requesting this Scrutiny Committee to “investigate and draw up a report for Cabinet on the best ways to create and support a ‘cluster’ of companies to lead the way in driving a Green economy on Wirral and across the country”.	In-depth Scrutiny Review by Working Group of Members	December 2011	This item was proposed by members for inclusion on the work programme at the committee meeting on 06/06/11. Scope document for the Review agreed by Committee on 05/09/11. It is expected that the final report for the review will be presented to Committee in March 2012.	

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete?
06/06/11	<p>Business Start Programme</p> <p>The Programme has performed well but:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are we supporting businesses for the future? • What size of business is supported? • How long have supported businesses remained in business? <p>Were businesses satisfied with the support?</p>	Report to Committee		<p>This item was proposed by members for inclusion on the work programme at the committee meeting on 06/06/11.</p> <p>Report presented to Committee on 07/11/11. Agreed that a further report on the future options for a business start-up programme be brought to a future meeting.</p>	
06/06/11	<p>European Social Fund and the Work Programme to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress report on the contract with the Reach-Out consortia <p>What are the comparisons with arrangements / results at other Local Authorities?</p>	Report to Committee in November		<p>This item was proposed by members for inclusion on the work programme at the committee meeting on 06/06/11.</p> <p>Report presented to Committee on 07/11/11.</p>	Complete
06/06/11	Inward Investment	Report to Committee		<p>This item was proposed by members for inclusion on the work programme at the committee meeting on 06/06/11.</p> <p>Report presented to Committee on 05/09/11. Agreed that a further report will be provided once the Inward Investment Manager is in post.</p>	
06/06/11	<p>Housing Market Renewal Initiative (HMRI)</p> <p>What are the options now that HMRI has ended?</p>	Report to Committee		<p>This item was proposed by members for inclusion on the work programme at the committee meeting on 06/06/11.</p> <p>Report due to be presented to Committee on 16/01/12.</p>	
06/06/11	<p>Visit to regeneration and housing sites, for example, housing schemes, Wirral International Business Park, Wirral Waters</p>	Members visit to be arranged by Kevin Adderley		<p>This item was proposed by members for inclusion on the work programme at the committee meeting on 06/06/11. Visit took place Friday 21/10/11.</p>	Complete

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete?
05/09/11	Budget Issues for Economy & Housing in 2012/13	Officer report		Initial report presented to Committee on 05/09/11 following a request by the Council Leader for Scrutiny Committees to be consulted on budget issues for 2012/13. On 05/09/11, Committee agreed that Cabinet-led suggestions highlighting potential savings be requested. A special Committee meeting will be arranged to discuss those options / suggestions.	
05/09/11	Fair Trade	Mark Johnston		The Chair provided a verbal report to Committee on 05/09/11 regarding the work undertaken by him as Fair Trade Champion. In future, this work will be organised by the Economy & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee (rather than by Champions). A further report will be provided to a Committee meeting in the future (possibly November 2012).	
07/11/11	Child Poverty Strategy	Officer Reports		A progress report on the Child Poverty Strategy and Action Plan was presented to the Committee on 07/11/11. Agreed that regular updates will be brought to Committee in the future.	
07/11/11	Presentation by Lindsay Ashworth, Peel Holdings	Presentation to Committee		A presentation will be made by Lindsay Ashworth to the Committee meeting on 16/01/12.	

REPORT 2
SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO WORK PROGRAMME
ECONOMY & REGENERATION : 16/01/12

Topic Description	Topic suggested by	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Completion Date
On 12/12/11, Council approved a Notion of Motion regarding Affordable Homes. In particular the NOM referred to the Government's New Mortgage indemnity scheme. The NOM requested that the Economy & Regeneration OSC should request a report on how Wirral can "be at the vanguard of any implementation plan of the Government's scheme".	Council meeting held on 12/12/11.		
On 12/12/11, Council referred the draft Corporate Plan to the relevant Scrutiny Committees for comment.	Council meeting held on 12/12/11.		
Request invitation to representatives of the local business community to attend a meeting of the Economy & Regeneration OSC to discuss their concerns with the economy of the borough.	Cllr Mark Johnston		

REPORT 3
PROPOSED OUTLINE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR
ECONOMY & REGENERATION : 2011 / 2012

Meeting Date	Topic Description
06/05/11	Terms of Reference for the Committee End of Year Performance report 2010-11 Apprenticeship Programme Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update
05/09/11	Implementation of affordable housing policies (to include options for localised definition of affordable housing) (Ian Platt) Inward Investment (Kevin Adderley) Performance Monitoring Report – Quarter 1 (Kevin Adderley) Budget Issues for Economy & Housing in 2012/13 (Kevin Adderley) Green Growth Scrutiny review: Update (Report of Working Group – Cllr Mark Johnston, Chair) Referral from Council meeting on 18 th July 2011 – Motion regarding Shale Gas Fracking The Wirral Apprentice – Update report Fair Trade – Progress report (Cllr Mark Johnston) Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update
07/11/11	Invest Wirral – Presentation (Paula Basnett) Future plans for the Business Start Programme (Kevin Adderley) European Social Fund and the Work Programme (Kevin Adderley) Department for Work & Pensions Work programme (David Ball) Performance Monitoring Report – Quarter 2 (Kevin Adderley) Child Poverty Strategy – Update (Jane Morgan) Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update (Exempt Item)

Meeting Date	Topic Description
16/01/12	<p>Presentation by Lindsay Ashworth (Peel Holdings) Progress Report on Housing Market Renewal Initiative (HMRI) and transition funding (Ian Platt) Draft Corporate Plan 2012/13 (Kevin Adderley) Performance Monitoring Report – Quarter 3 (Kevin Adderley) Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update</p>
To be arranged	<p>Special Meeting – Budget Issues for Economy & Housing in 2012/13</p>
08/03/12	<p>Green Growth Scrutiny Review – Final report Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update Plus other items.....</p>

REPORT 4
PROGRESS REPORT ON IN-DEPTH PANEL REVIEWS
ECONOMY & REGENERATION : 16/01/12

Title of Review	Members of Panel	Progress to Date	Date Due to report to Committee
Green Growth Scrutiny Review	Cllr Mark Johnston (Chair) Cllr Peter Kearney Cllr Steve Niblock Cllr Stuart Whittingham	<p><u>As at 28/07/11:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two meetings of the working group have been held to discuss the general approach to the review • A draft Scope for the review has been agreed • Further meetings will be held in September with Council officers and members of the business community to commence evidence-gathering for the review <p><u>As at 12/10/11:</u> Meetings have been held with officers representing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest Wirral. • Forward Planning (Wirral Council). • Strategic Policy, Economic & European Unit (Wirral Council). • Marketing Department (Wirral Council). • Asset Management (Wirral Council). • Three Wirral businesses operating in the green sector. <p>Further meetings with officers and businesses are being planned. A questionnaire for green sector businesses in Wirral is also being developed.</p> <p><u>As at 19/12/11:</u> The evidence-gathering stage of the review is now complete. Members have started to produce their conclusions / recommendations from the review. It is expected that the final report for the review will be presented to Committee in March 2012.</p>	March 2012