

UPDATE ON WORK PROGRAMME : ECONOMY & REGENERATION
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7th MARCH 2013

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 : 7th MARCH 2013

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	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	<p>This item was proposed by members for inclusion on the work programme at the committee meeting on 06/06/11.</p> <p>Scope document for the Review agreed by Committee on 05/09/11. The final report for the review was presented to Committee on 08/03/12 and was referred to the Cabinet meeting held on 12th April 2012. Cabinet also received a departmental report providing a response to the recommendations of the scrutiny review.</p> <p>An officer / member working group, the Green Economy Working Group, has been set up to lead the implementation of the recommendations.</p> <p>An update report regarding progress of the Working Group and the impact of the review’s recommendations will be provided to Committee in March 2013.</p> <p>Due to the impact of budget reductions on the implementation of the scrutiny review’s recommendations, Committee agreed, on 14/11/12, that the Working Group will no longer meet as planned.</p>	

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		<p>During the discussion on the 'End of Year Performance Report' on 06/06/11, members requested a report on this item. Report on Affordable Housing presented to Committee on 05/09/11. A further report on Mortgages / Affordability was provided on 08/03/12. Cabinet (12/04/12) was requested to consider the creation of a LA Mortgage Scheme.</p> <p>The outcome of the Cabinet debate was reported back to Committee on 07/06/12. It was agreed that the item should be retained on the Committee's work programme.</p>	
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> <p>Progress report presented to Committee on 08/03/12. The views of Committee were referred to Cabinet on 12/04/12. The outcome of the Cabinet debate was reported back to Committee on 07/06/12.</p>	

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	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> <p>An update report was provided to Committee on 05/09/12.</p>	
05/09/11	Fair Trade	Mark Johnston		<p>The Chair provided a verbal report to Committee on 05/09/11 regarding the work undertaken by him as Fair Trade Champion.</p> <p>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.</p>	
07/11/11	Child Poverty Strategy	Officer Reports (Jane Morgan)		<p>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. Progress report provided to Committee on 08/03/12. Further Progress reports will be provided to Committee.</p> <p>Committee agreed, on 05/09/12, to retain this item as part of the work programme.</p>	

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete?
07/06/12	Visit to regeneration and housing sites, for example, housing schemes, Wirral International Business Park, Wirral Waters	Members visit to be arranged by Kevin Adderley / David Ball		Tour of sites took place on 03/07/12.	Complete
07/06/12	Housing Welfare Reform - The impact of Welfare Reform on both private and social housing sectors, and particularly on under occupation in the social sector.	To be agreed	Final Report due to be presented to Committee before the end of the 2012/13 municipal year.	This topic was suggested by the Economy & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, 8 th March 2012. On 05/09/12, Committee agreed "Further scrutiny work being undertaken on the impact of Welfare Reform on both private and social housing sectors and, in particular, on under-occupancy in the social sector". A special meeting of members was held on 18/10/12 to discuss the scope for a planned scrutiny review. The draft Scope document was agreed by Committee on 14/11/12. Evidence Days were held on 15 th and 22 nd January 2013. The members' report will be produced by April 2013.	
07/06/12	Wirral Trade Centre – Referral from Council, who agreed a motion on 16 th April 2012 which included: "Council calls on the three Parties to agree membership for a 1:1:1 Member Working Party, reporting to the Economy and Regeneration OSC. This Working Party will scope a project leading to recommendations to ensure this Council and its partners are Trade Centre ready and able to embrace all opportunities for development through its growing links with China and other countries and that potential barriers to businesses and investors are identified and recommendations made as to how these can be overcome".	In-depth Scrutiny Review by Working Group of Members	End of 2012	This item was proposed by members for inclusion on the work programme at the Committee meeting on 07/06/12. The final report from the Working Group was agreed by the Committee on 14/11/12. The report was referred to a future Cabinet meeting. An update report regarding the implementation of the recommendations will also be presented to a future meeting of this Committee.	

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete?
05/09/12	Budget Consultation – Scrutiny Workshop	Workshop		A Scrutiny Workshop regarding the budget and future priorities was held on 25/09/12. A further special meeting was held on 06/11/12 to discuss the outcomes of the 'What Really Matters' Consultation process. Further meetings to discuss Budget Options were held on 05/12/12 and 12/02/13.	
05/09/12	The effect of the economy on youth unemployment in Wirral	Report to Committee	Jan 2013	A report was presented to Committee on 16/01/13. Members requested that a further update be presented in six months (that is, approximately Sept 2013)	
05/09/12	Sub-Regional Choice Based Lettings Scheme	Report to Committee		A report was presented to Committee on 16/01/13. Members requested a future report to include: (a) details of the number of lets that are available within each area; (b) details of the applicant's current area of residence, compared with their first area of preference.	
05/09/12	Deep Clean scheme in town centres	Report to Committee		Further to a report to Committee regarding 'Town Centres Update' on 05/09/12, a future report on the Deep Clean scheme was requested. Due to the impact of budget reductions on future services, Committee agreed, on 14/11/12, that this report was no longer required.	Closed

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete?
05/09/12	The operation of the Free after Three parking scheme	Report to Committee		Further to a report to Committee regarding 'Town Centres Update' on 05/09/12, a future report on the Free after Three parking scheme was requested. Due to the impact of budget reductions on future services, Committee agreed, on 14/11/12, that this report was no longer required.	Closed
05/09/12	An evaluation of projects for Empty Shops funding	Report to Committee		Further to a report to Committee regarding 'Town Centres Update' on 05/09/12, a future evaluation report of projects for Empty Shops funding was requested. The report is to be delivered approximately 12 months after the funding was provided. Due to the impact of budget reductions on future services, Committee agreed, on 14/11/12, that this report was no longer required.	Closed

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete?
05/09/12	Progress reports regarding the Shopping Centre Action Plans	Report to Committee		<p>Further to a report to Committee regarding 'Town Centres Update' on 05/09/12, a future report on the Shopping Centre Action Plans was requested.</p> <p>A report was presented to Committee on 16/01/13. Committee agreed that a report be presented to the next meeting regarding the development of the Trader Toolkit and on progress in relation to the following centres that are the subject of the first phase of detailed action planning work –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Liscard · New Ferry · Seacombe (Poulton Road / Borough Road) · New Brighton (Seabank Road) · Wallasey Village · Irby 	
14/11/12	Digital Inclusion	Presentation (Rose Boylan)		A presentation is planned for the Committee meeting due to be held on 07/03/13.	

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete?
05/12/12	Supporting People – future service provision			<p>Special Committee meeting to discuss Budget Options (05/12/12) agreed to add this topic to the work programme.</p> <p>Committee agreed, on 16/01/13, to undertake a detailed scrutiny review of the Supporting People contracts. The three Spokespersons met with relevant officers on 04/02/13. The Members are confident that officers are already undertaking the required work and an in-depth review is not necessary at this stage.</p> <p>Departmental officers will make arrangements for members to visit some of the key service providers. In addition, an update report will be provided at the meeting of the Economy & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, to be held in April.</p>	

REPORT 2
SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO WORK PROGRAMME
ECONOMY & REGENERATION : 7TH MARCH 2013

Topic Description	Topic suggested by	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Completion Date

REPORT 3
PROPOSED OUTLINE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR
ECONOMY & REGENERATION : 7TH MARCH 2013

Meeting Date	Topic Description
07/06/12	Presentation and discussion – Dave Furlong & Lisa Thompson, Mole Group Terms of Reference for the Committee – Presentation (David Ball) Role of Scrutiny – Presentation (Alan Veitch) Green Growth in Wirral – – Feedback from referral to Cabinet, 12 th April 2012 Wirral Trade Centre – Notice of Motion – Referral from Council, 16 th April 2012 Affordability and Mortgages including First-Time Buyers – Feedback from referral to Cabinet, 12 th April 2012 Business Support – Feedback from referral to Cabinet, 12 th April 2012 Equality Impact Assessments – Referral from Scrutiny Programme Board, 28 th February 2012 Regeneration Tour, 3 rd July 2012 Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update
05/09/12	Presentation and discussion – David Downing, Chairman of Drivecompare Trade Centre Scrutiny Review: Update (Report of Working Group – Cllr Mark Johnston, Chair) Performance Monitoring Report – Quarter 1 (Kevin Adderley) Feedback from the Member’s Regeneration / Housing Tour held on 3rd July Shopping Centre Regeneration – Update (David Ball) Investment Manager’s post – Update (David Ball – verbal report) Budget Consultation – Scrutiny Workshops Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update
25/09/12	Budget Consultation – Scrutiny Workshop
06/11/12	Outcomes of the ‘What Really Matters’ Consultation process.
12/11/12	Presentation and discussion – Rebecca Owens, Recipro UK Trade Centre Scrutiny Review – Final Report Welfare Reform and under-occupation – Draft Scope document for future scrutiny review Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update
05/12/12	Consultation – Budget Options

Meeting Date	Topic Description
21/01/13	Presentation and discussion – CETCO Budget 2013 / 2016 – Initial Proposals The effect of the economy on youth unemployment in Wirral Sub-Regional Choice Based Lettings Scheme (Ian Platt) Progress reports regarding the Shopping Centre Action Plans (David Ball) Performance Monitoring Report – Quarter 2 and Quarter 3 (Kevin Adderley) Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update
12/02/13	Outcomes of the 'What Really Matters' Consultation process – Part 2
Week commencing 22 nd April	Presentation and discussion – Member of the Business Community Digital Inclusion – Presentation (Rose Boylan) Under-occupation Scrutiny Review – Report from the Member's Working Group Draft Housing Needs Assessment (Kevin Adderley) Fair Trade (Cllr Mark Johnston) Supporting People Scrutiny Review – (Ian Platt / Sheila Jacobs) Progress reports regarding the Trader Toolkit and the Shopping Centre Action Plans (David Ball) Scrutiny Work Programme Forward Plan Regeneration Update

REPORT 4
PROGRESS REPORT ON IN-DEPTH PANEL REVIEWS
ECONOMY & REGENERATION : 7TH MARCH 2013

Title of Review	Members of Panel	Progress to Date	Date Due to report to Committee
Trade Centre Scrutiny Review	Cllr Mark Johnston (Chair) Cllr Jean Stapleton Cllr Andrew Hodson	<p><u>As at 02/07/12:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Working Group has met to discuss the draft scope for the review. • The Scope for the review will be finalised and will be reported to Committee in September • A meeting at the Confucius Centre (Calday Grange Grammar School) has been arranged. • Further meetings with Council officers and members of the business, voluntary and community sectors will be arranged as the evidence-gathering for the review continues. <p><u>As at 09/10/12:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several further evidence-gathering meetings have taken place. • Members have met to discuss draft recommendations for the review. • The final report for the Trade Centre Scrutiny Review is due to be submitted to Committee on 14/11/12. <p><u>As at 20/11/12:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final report for the Trade Centre Scrutiny Review was submitted to Committee on 14/11/12 and to Cabinet on 20/12/12. 	End of 2012

Title of Review	Members of Panel	Progress to Date	Date Due to report to Committee
Welfare Reform and under-occupation	Cllr Mark Johnston (Chair) Cllr Rob Gregson Cllr Denise Realey Cllr Jean Stapleton Cllr Mike Sullivan Cllr Janette Williamson	<p><u>As at 20/11/12:</u> The Scope for the Review was discussed / agreed by the Committee on 14/11/12.</p> <p><u>As at 04/02/13</u> Evidence Days have been held on 15th and 22nd January 2013. The Members' Report will be presented to the next meeting of the Economy & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.</p>	By April 2013
Supporting People	Cllr Mark Johnston (Chair) Cllr Jean Stapleton Cllr Andrew Hodson	<p><u>As at 04/02/13</u> The three Spokespersons met with relevant officers on 04/02/13 to discuss the Scope for the Review. The Members are confident that officers are already undertaking the required work and an in-depth review is not necessary at this stage. Departmental officers will make arrangements for members to visit some of the key service providers. In addition, an update report will be provided at the meeting of the Economy & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, to be held in April.</p>	By April 2013