

## **FOR THE ATTENTION OF SCRUTINY PROGRAMME BOARD**

**This Work Programme was adopted by meeting of Council Excellence on 1st July**

### **Council Excellence.**

#### **Chairs Report on a possible way forward.**

This is a new, cross cutting committee. In order to bring all the elements together, it is suggested that the work programme is designed around the four themes of the Comprehensive Area Assessment, which is how Council Excellence will be judged in future. This is a much broader inspection regime than the CPA, and looks at all the public sector in Wirral and how it is contributing to the well being of Wirral Residents.

#### **There are four key themes:**

1. Sustainability, (which is not just environmental but social and economic as well.)
2. Tackling inequality, disadvantage and discrimination.
3. People whose circumstances make them vulnerable
4. Value for money.

#### **The three key questions the inspectors will ask are:**

- How well do local priorities express community needs and aspirations
- How well are outcomes and improvements being delivered?
- What are the prospects for improvement?

They will use (sparingly) a red and green flag system to flag up where we are doing well and where we have real problems that need attention.

I would suggest we approach the work programme like this:

1. Ask the Audit Commission for an explanation of how the Comprehensive Area Assessment will work, and in particular what they understand each key theme to mean, any immediate problems they are aware of, and what work they believe it would be useful for the committee to do in monitoring progress. Also ask for any examples of best practice the committee could look at.
2. Ask the officers to do a SWOT analysis on each theme (Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats – these reports may lead to further reports and perhaps some subcommittee working.)
3. Ask for a presentation from key partners on their contribution to the Comprehensive Area Assessment and the way in which they would like to be working with the Council.
4. Arrange visit/s to other authorities to learn from best practice.
5. In the last meeting of the year, assess progress against each theme, highlighting any problems that need to be tackled, or any major successes or gains that with a bit of a push could gain excellence for the people of Wirral.

# Report

## MONITORING REPORT FOR COUNCIL EXCELLENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2009/2010

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Comments on Progress	Complete ?
<b>JULY</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b><u>Equality session</u></b></li> <li>2. <b><u>Comprehensive Area Assessment</u></b> <b><u>Members to agree work programme based on four themes</u></b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Sustainability</li> <li>b) Tackling inequality, disadvantage and discrimination</li> <li>c) People whose circumstances make them vulnerable</li> <li>d) Value for Money</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Circulation of LGIU briefing.</p> <p>Presentation by Audit Commission covering key themes, key questions and any suggestion for areas to be considered by committee.</p>		
<b>SEPT</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b><u>Presentation by Audit Commission</u></b> Covering key themes, key questions and any suggestion for areas to be considered by committee.</li> <li>2. <b><u>SWOT analysis of each of the four CAA themes.</u></b> Officers to report on a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats analysis of each theme and identify further work that could be undertaken by the committee or specialist subcommittees to improve the council's performance  Members to decide on further areas of work arising from above.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Sustainability</b> Bill Norman (Sustainability Unit) Jim Wilkie (Social and Economic sustainability)</p> <p><b>Tackling inequality, disadvantage and discrimination.</b>  (Choose officer following first meetings presentation/training etc.)</p> <p><b>People whose circumstances make them vulnerable</b> (John Webb/Alan Stennard?)</p> <p><b>Value for Money</b> – Ian Coleman .</p>		

<b>NOV</b>	<p><b>1. Joint or individual presentation from partners on their contribution to CAA, their relationship with the Council and any joint working to improve results.</b></p> <p>(Through Local Strategic Partnership or LAA Board?)</p> <p><b>2. Members to decide on areas to monitor and ways to improve joint working and possible connections with other Scrutiny Committees.</b></p>	<p>Partner members to report on their contribution to CAA. Possibly include LAA targets at this point? Information for members on what to monitor and how to improve joint working.</p>		
<b>FEB</b>	<p><b>Review progress on each theme, highlighting successes and problems.</b></p> <p><b>This should be set against the earlier SWOT analysis to demonstrate tangible results</b></p>	<p>Each officer to report on their own theme, highlighting progress made, key achievements, problems still to be tackled.</p>		
	<p><b><u>Throughout the year visit/s to be arranged to examples of best practice</u></b></p>	<p><b>Facilitator Ian Coleman</b></p>		
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## Report 2

### SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO WORK PROGRAMME FOR COUNCIL EXCELLENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

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