

Report of	Meeting	Date
Corporate Director (Governance)	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	22 June 2009

POTENTIAL REVIEW TOPICS FOR 2009/10

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To outline potential review topics for 2009/10 arising from the review session held on 23 March 2009 and to set the membership and objectives for the two reviews agreed at the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- The Committee to consider whether a third review topic should be agreed.
- To confirm the chairperson and membership of the Highways Task and Finish Group and set out any key issues / areas of focus for the inquiry.
- To confirm the chairperson and membership of the Town Centre Regeneration Task and Finish Group and set out any key issues / areas of focus for the inquiry.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region		Develop local solutions to climate change.	
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances		Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	
Involving people in their communities		Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	x

BACKGROUND

- Each year the Committee determines the review topics to be considered. As part of the review session in March all non-Executive Members were asked to suggest potential topics. From the topics raised it was agreed at the last meeting that Highways issues and Town Centre regeneration should go ahead as scrutiny inquiries and that a report on the other topics and possible way forward should come to this meeting.

TOPIC SUGGESTIONS FOR REVIEWS IN 2009/10

7. The following topics were raised and grouped under three headings of Corporate Strategy, Public concerns/service issues and external scrutiny. These are all listed below with a potential way forward for these topics is outlined in the right hand column.

8. Corporate Strategy

Suggested topic	Potential way forward
Outsourcing: the effectiveness of sub-contractors.	A report on different monitoring regimes in place for Veolia, Glendale, CLS, etc could be presented to the Committee.
Effectiveness of in-house project management.	97% of our projects are on track. Projects are monitored through the quarterly performance report on the Corporate Strategy.
Increasing business in the Town Centre, reducing vacant floor space, shops closing down/ too many charity shops.	A scrutiny task and finish group has been set up to investigate this.
Affordable housing issues.	A Joint Affordable Housing Task Group with South Ribble and Preston is about to report on this.
Strategic Housing Initiatives.	A Member Learning Session is scheduled in July on this topic.
Development and implementation of neighbourhood action plans.	A monitoring/update report following scrutiny review into neighbourhood working will be presented to a future meeting.

9. Public Concerns/Service Issues

Suggested topic	Potential way forward
Organisational effectiveness review.	Value For Money (VFM) reviews of the Business and Neighbourhoods Directorate are complete. VFM of Business Transformation and Policy & Performance Directorates will be undertaken in 2009 and People Directorate in 2010. The results of these will be presented to Executive Cabinet.
Premises rationalisation.	A Strategic Asset Review has recently been undertaken. The results of this review will be reported to Executive Cabinet.
Travellers.	This is currently being dealt with by Lancashire Leaders.
De-regulation of Licensing.	A report with background information could be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.
Buckshaw Village Development.	A pre-application briefing for the Buckshaw Group 1 application will be arranged and all Members invited.
Dog fouling.	A session was held recently for all Members on the approach to dog fouling enforcement.
Alcohol: youth nuisance control orders.	Some aspects of this have been covered under Local Strategic Partnership Scrutiny Task Group.
Monitor blue bins/new waste contract.	As the contract has only recently started it is

	proposed to consider this in 12 months.
Physical activity of older people e.g. what is the uptake of free swimming and co-ordination of play space provision.	A Member Learning Session could be held on this topic.
Neighbourhood Wardens duties and performance.	Information could be presented as an intheknow article.
Spending of Section 106 monies.	A training session could be held prior to a Development Control meeting with all Members invited to attend.
Training of Councillors for movement to Executive.	Member Support Working Group could be asked to look at this.
Effectiveness and performance of communications strategy and team.	A VFM study in 2009 will consider this. The results will be presented to Executive Cabinet.

10. External Scrutiny

Suggested topic	Potential way forward
Scrutinise the Highway's Partnership with LCC, gritting, pavements, Speed Restriction, Traffic Regulation, Pedestrian crossing, funding.	A scrutiny task and finish group has been set up to investigate this.
Public Transport: including LCC services/subsidised school bus services, Network Rail Timetable and Parking.	Lancashire County Council could be invited to present a Member Learning Session on this topic.
Bus routes through rural areas.	The Rurality Task Group (from the Equalities Forum) has recently looked at this.
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.	A 12 month review is being undertaken in December. Scrutiny could investigate this in Spring 2010.
Children and young people: including partners priorities e.g. C&YP Grants, Youth Opportunity Fund, Children's Trust, Primary Care Trust.	Lancashire County Council could be invited to present a Member Learning Session on this topic.
Partner/Voluntary Community Faith organisations development of Community Centres etc.	A Member Learning Session could be held on this topic.
Local Strategic Partnership funding priorities, including partners.	The Local Strategic Partnership Task Group has considered some funding issues.

TOWN CENTRE

11. The following Members have indicated their interest to be on the group:
Alistair Bradley, Pat Haughton, June Molyneaux, Iris Smith (OSC member) and Stella Walsh.
12. The Committee need to formally appoint to this group, including appointing a Chair and give some guidance on what aspects of the town centre are to be the focus.

HIGHWAYS

13. The following Members have indicated their interest to be on the group:
Alan Cullens (OSC member), Mike Devaney (OSC member), Doreen Dickinson, Roy Lees, Adrian Lowe (OSC member), Marion Lowe and June Molyneaux.

14. The Committee need to formally appoint to this group, including appointing a Chair and give some guidance on what aspects of highways are to be the focus.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

15. This report has no implications in the following areas:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		No significant implications in this area	x

ANDREW DOCHERTY
CORPORATE DIRECTOR (GOVERNANCE)

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Ruth Rimmington	5118	2 June 2009	FutureReviewTopics