

Report of	Meeting	Date
Chief Executive	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	8 April 2013

REVIEW OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To review the work programme for overview and scrutiny in 2012/13 and in particular the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Panel, twelve months after its introduction.
2. A copy of the current year's work programme is attached to this report.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

3. That the report be noted;
4. That Members determine whether to continue the Performance Panel arrangement into 2013/14 on the same basis; and
5. Whether there are any review topics the Committee wish to put forward to start early in 2013/14.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES

6. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all		A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy communities		An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	/

BACKGROUND

7. On 9 July 2013, in agreeing the work programme for Overview and Scrutiny in 2012/13, it was decided to introduce a dedicated Performance Panel which would focus on the performance elements of scrutiny and consider all monitoring information. This was to enable proper focus on performance issues and some consistency in approach. It was also agreed that the success of the Panel would be reviewed after 12 months.

WORK OF THE PERFORMANCE PANEL IN 2012/13

8. The Performance Panel has met four times in the last 12 months and has considered the Council's Corporate Strategy key projects monitoring; Chorley Partnership monitoring information and directorate business plan monitoring reports. Each meeting also has an

additional performance focus, looking at particular areas of concern or poor performance and inviting the relevant Executive Member to attend.

9. The four specific areas of focus in 2012/13 have been
- **23 July 2012: ICT Programme** – Councillor Peter Wilson, Executive Member for Resources, Policy and Performance attended.
 - **17 September 2012: Planning Performance** – Councillor Dennis Edgerley, Executive Member for Planning and LDF and Councillor Paul Walmsley, Chair of Development Control Committee both attended.
 - **17 December 2012: Streetscene Modernisation** – Councillor Terry Brown, Executive Member for Places was unable to attend and sent his apologies.
 - **11/20 March 2013: Selectmove** – Councillor Adrian Lowe, Executive Member for Homes and Business attended.

In addition, Members have considered other topics which have emerged from discussions eg Supporting People, and have started to shape how future monitoring information is provided and presented to Members.

10. Scrutinising performance is a key role for scrutiny and one of the benefits to this dedicated resource is that a smaller number of Members have drilled down to the detail in key areas and have adopted some consistency in their approach. There has been greater involvement by Executive Members and it has allowed the main Overview and Scrutiny Committee to focus on other business.

SCRUTINY REVIEW WORK IN 2012/13

11. The intention at the start of the year was to undertake three reviews, starting with the Adoption of Estates. The review has now been completed and the final report is being considered on this agenda. It has been a complex review having met on nine occasions and undertaken some public consultation and interviewed developers and an LCC officer. It also included a Member Learning Session early on, to understand the adoptions processes and received a presentation from an officer of Northamptonshire County Council on work taking place nationally on this issue. Whilst this has been an extremely valuable review, it has been time consuming and as a result is the only review undertaken this year. There was a proposal to undertake a review on consultation mechanisms but this did not result in sufficient Member interest. There remains a number of potential review topics on the work programme for future consideration.
12. There has been a number of topics looked at under the Committee's duty to look at crime and disorder issues. There was a presentation on the Police and Crime Commissioner roles prior to the election in November 2012; and in January 2013 an update on IDVA funding; a report on the PCSO role; and a Community Safety Performance report.
13. There has been two call in requests received this year – firstly for the decision on the former McDonalds site and secondly on the decision relating to Chorley Remembers: Astley Coach House Gallery. With hindsight, there needs to be separate call in meeting established to consider such requests as the latter of the two call ins was a long meeting with a lot of public interest and impacted on full consideration of the remaining items of business. This will be taken into account if any further call in requests are received.
14. In preparing the meetings calendar for 2013/14, it was anticipated that there would be eight scrutiny meetings – four main Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings and four Performance Panel meetings. Member's views are invited on whether they would like the Performance Panel to meet on the same basis as in 2012/13 and also for their views on review topics in 2013/14.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

15. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	/

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

16. There are no financial implications in this report.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

17. There are no Monitoring Officer comments on this report.

COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS


18. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Panel has provided a focus for performance issues over the last year to receive closer attention than under the previous arrangements. It has also meant that Members have received more timely information about performance issues and had more opportunity to explore issues with Executive Members. Continuing the arrangement would allow for this approach to develop.

GARY HALL CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Carol Russell	5196	25 March 2013	***

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13

	9 July	23 July	3 Sept	17 Sept	1 Oct	cancelled5 Nov	17 Dec	22 Jan	11 Mar	8 April
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Holding the Executive to account

Performance Monitoring Panel Meeting (to consider Council projects, Directorate and LSP monitoring)		*		*			*		*	
Performance Monitoring Panel Minutes			*		*			*		*
Update Report on Section 106 monies								*		
Notice of key decisions	*		*		*	*		*		*
Executive Cabinet minutes	*		*		*	*				*
Budget Scrutiny								*		
Tenancy Strategy								*		
Health Scrutiny Report										*

Policy Development and Review of Council Services (Task and Finish Groups)

Adoption of Estates			V		S			C		R
Allotments			2 M							
Asset Management			2M							3M
Highways					2M					
Lancastrian			1M							2M
Private Rented Housing Inspection										
Tourism and Promoting Chorley			F							2M
<u>Potential topics for future reviews</u>										
Reporting procedures through the Contact Centre										
Citizen Engagement										
Budget Processes										

Crime and Disorder Scrutiny

Review of crime performance								*		
Contribution to provision of PCSO's in Chorley								*		
Funding of the IDVA Service								M		
Police and Crime Commissioners					*					

Other

Work Programme	*		*			*		*		*
Annual Report										

Reported Annually
Update report on Section 106 monies
Annual Report

Key
Policy Development and Review of Council Services and External Scrutiny
S Scoping
C Collecting and considering evidence
R Report
F Feedback and action from EC
M Monitoring 1 2 and 3
V Verbal Update
ML Member Learning Session