

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee:	Policy & Resources Select Committee
Date of meeting:	21 July 2011
Report Title:	Work Programme
Report From:	Chief Executive

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1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Please find attached for consideration the work programme for the Policy & Resources Select Committee for 2011/12, as of 12 July 2011.

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

WORK PROGRAMME : POLICY & RESOURCES SELECT COMMITTEE – 2011/12

Overview / Pre-Scrutiny - To maintain an overview of issues relevant to the terms of reference of this committee, and to consider proposed scrutiny topics for inclusion in the work programme.								
Topic	Priority	Issue	Lead Member / Officer	Status	14 April 2011	21 July 2011	27 Oct 2011	19 Jan 2012
IT update	Low	Overview of I.T. issues and developments.	Jos Creese, Head of I.T.	IT Disaster Recovery item received Oct 2009. Annual general IT update (last received Oct 2010)			Annual update due	
Budget and Performance Monitoring	High	To provide an overview of performance and budget issues as relevant to the terms of reference of this committee.	County Treasurer's	Following agreed cycle of budget scrutiny, final accounts are considered at the July meeting, and the proposed revenue budget and capital programme is considered at the January meeting. Other monitoring reports when necessary. July 2011 could include updated Medium Term Financial Strategy. Opportunities to explain the strategy used to prepare the budget?		Budget Monitoring due		Budget proposals due
Corporate Improvement Plan	Medium	To consider how key performance issues are monitored through the corporate improvement plan.	Deborah Harkin, Head of Performance and Partners, Chief Executive's	Cabinet in January 2010 requested that the appropriate select committee scrutinise the corporate improvement plan. Considered July 10, update requested if significant changes are made. Update expected during 2011.			Update?	

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Economic Development	Medium	To consider the key opportunities and challenges for this department and its future direction.	Economy Transport and Environment Dept.	Item on how the county council is responding to the recession received March 10. Item on the Economic Assessment required in the LDEDC Act 2009, received Oct 10. Director offered to provide an update in future on the strategy informed by the Economic Assessment.				
HC3S Catering Services	Low	To consider the business model used by the in house caterers.	Karen Murray, Director of CCBS	Issue raised at January 2011 meeting (Cllr Wheale), in relation to income generation vs costs of the restaurant and café at the Winchester offices.				

Scrutiny – to scrutinise priority areas agreed by the Committee

Topic	Priority	Issue	Lead Member / Officer	Status	14 April 2011	21 July 2011	27 Oct 2011	19 Jan 2012
Recruitment and Retention of Staff	High	At the meeting in Jan 09 members requested this issue be reviewed, to look into what policies HCC has in place to ensure a workforce fit for the future, given anticipated challenges and changes to local government.	Gavin Wright, Director of Human Resources	A workshop was held in April 09 where members of the committee received evidence. Report of findings endorsed by committee Oct 09. Update from HR requested on certain issues. Oct 10 Members requested an update after initial staff reductions anticipated as a result of reduced funding from central government from April 2011. To include reference to current policy on use of consultants.			Update ?	
Voluntary Sector Capacity to Provide Services	Medium	To consider the input of the Voluntary Sector in the current climate.	Gail Tong, Third Sector Policy Officer, Chief Executive's Department	Update received April 2011 regarding relationship with the Voluntary and Community Sector. Requested to follow up in future the capacity of the voluntary sector to provide services on behalf of the County Council (where this would result in high quality services and provide value for money) and enabling the sector to input to the County Council's policy development where appropriate.	Update received			

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Broadband Internet	Medium	To scrutinise what the County Council is doing in relation to supporting access to broadband internet connection in parts of Hampshire not yet covered.	Economic Development and I.T. officers	Item suggested by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in 2010. Interest reinforced at Oct 10 meeting. Links to 'Britain's Superfast Broadband Future' (Dec 2010) coalition government vision. Note updates have been given at general member briefings.				
Flooding	Medium	To consider how flood risk in Hampshire is managed, how successful partnership working is in relation to flooding, and how prepared we are for the implications of new legislation.	Ian Houlton Head of Emergency Planning, plus relevant partner agencies	Following the light touch scrutiny of this subject by the Environment & Transport Select Committee, agreed March 2010 to undertake an indepth review of flooding following completion of the Winter Resilience Review. Oct 10 agreed to wait due to imminent changes from Flood and Water Management Act. April 2011 kept on hold due to E&T SC consideration of PFRA in May.	Review reconsidered			
Consultation policy	Medium	To consider whether improvements could be made to the County Council's consultative engagement with the people of Hampshire.	Corporate Communications?	Item suggested by Cllr Reid at April 2011 meeting.				

Managing Hampshire County Council Scrutiny Activity

Topic	Issue	Lead Member / Officer	Status	14 April 2011	21 July 2011	27 Oct 2011	19 Jan 2012
Collation of annual report of select committee activity	This committee reports back to full council each year providing a summary of the activity of all the select committees.	Scrutiny Officer	Summary of work agreed by each SC. Collated draft report considered by this committee and submitted to full council in September. Agreed April 2011 to simplify the annual report in future.		Annual report approval		
Total Items				April: 2	July: 2	Oct: 3?	Jan: 1
Not Yet Allocated: 5							