

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Report**

Committee:	Policy & Resources Select Committee
Date:	28 October 2010
Title:	Approval of Review by Environment and Transportation Select Committee
Reference:	2228
Report From:	Chief Executive

Contact name: Marie Mannveille, Scrutiny Officer

Tel: 01962 845018

Email: marie.mannveille@hants.gov.uk

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The attached proposal for a scrutiny review by the Environment and Transportation Select Committee is submitted for consideration by this committee. This committee is asked to consider whether to endorse the proposal submitted.

2. Contextual Information

- 2.1. Under the constitution, part of the role of the Policy & Resources Select Committee is to 'ensure resources of the scrutiny function are being effectively targeted' and to 'prioritise topics for scrutiny task and finish groups (thematic reviews)'. This committee acts as the overarching local government scrutiny committee, and exercises the roles quoted by requiring that any scrutiny reviews proposed by the other local government select committees (Environment & Transportation Select Committee, Culture Communities & Rural Affairs Select Committee, Children & Young People Select Committee, Safe & Healthy People Select Committee) are submitted to this committee for approval.

3. Consideration of Proposals

- 3.1. When considering whether to approve a proposal for a scrutiny review that has been submitted, this committee is asked to take into account the Topic Selection Criteria (as agreed by this committee in October 2008), see section 4 below. The proposal document should provide the relevant information for the appropriate judgements to be made.
- 3.2. Where the committee is in doubt as to the value of a proposed review, the committee is entitled to request further scoping be undertaken to establish

an evidence base, or that the scale of the review be altered to reflect available resources/pressures.

4. Topic Selection Criteria

- 4.1. Topics for in-depth review by Select Committees should be prioritised taking account of their capacity to:
 - contribute to the delivery of Hampshire County Council's corporate objectives
 - inform understanding of partnership working and delivery of the County Council objectives.
 - respond to a major or Hampshire wide public concern
 - influence or improve services across Hampshire
- 4.2. It is essential that the topics selected for in-depth review are supported by members of the relevant Select Committee and reflect a Hampshire wide perspective. As a topic moves from initial scoping to a substantive piece of work members will agree clearly defined objectives/outcomes to be delivered and timescales. Care will be taken at all times to ensure that topics taken forward for in-depth review do not replicate other monitoring or performance management activities and do not duplicate work being taken forward within the County Council or by partner agencies.
- 4.3. Topics selected for in-depth review should not be based on individual anecdote/complaint or lobbying interests as other more effective routes exist for dealing with issues of this nature. Similarly it is expected that topics that move forward from an initial scope to in depth review will have a defined evidence base.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1. The committee is asked to confirm whether, based on the above selection criteria and any other considerations, the attached proposal is to be approved.

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.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	