

SCRUTINY STEERING BOARD

WORK PROGRAMME

The Work Programme consists of three sections: Items for Future Scrutiny and Updates; Current Scrutiny Task Groups; and Scrutiny Task Group Reviews.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) To consider and agree the work programme; and
- (b) Note the update relating to the BDHT Task Group Review Meeting

ITEMS FOR FUTURE SCRUTINY AND UPDATES

Subject	Date of Consideration	Other Information
Recommendation Tracker	Jan/Mar/May/ July/Sept/Nov	Report monitoring approved recommendations to be included on the Board's Agenda on a bi-monthly basis for a trial period of 12 months.
Scrutiny Proposal: Reducing Teenage Anti-Social Behaviour (Councillor Hollingworth)	8th January 2008	The Board considered the scrutiny proposal put forward. Due to the scrutiny investigations already underway, the Board decided to defer this item until a new Task Group could be set up. Therefore, it was agreed, this scrutiny proposal would be considered in January along with other scrutiny proposals submitted.
Scrutiny Proposal: Alcohol Free Zones (Councillor Duddy)	8th January 2008	At the November meeting, it was agreed that Councillor Duddy would complete a scrutiny proposal form for the Board to consider in January along with other scrutiny proposals submitted.
Worcestershire Chairmen and Vice- Chairmen Network (Update)	4th February 2008	Members to receive an update from Chairman after the next Worcestershire Network meeting expected to be held in January 2008.
Climate Change (Possible scrutiny topic)	4th March 2008	Due to the scrutiny proposals above and to avoid duplication of work now the Energy Efficiency Project Group had been set up to evaluate the recommendations contained within the Energy Savings Trust Assessment, the Board agreed at its November Meeting to consider this item as a possible topic for scrutiny at a later date. A scrutiny proposal would need to be completed if the Board was minded to scrutinise this area.

Older People (Possible scrutiny topic – Councillor Mrs. Bunker)	TBC	Possible area to be scrutinised following outcome of a focus group to find out specific issues which may need to be scrutinised in future. A scrutiny proposal would need to be completed if the Board was minded to scrutinise this area.
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CURRENT SCRUTINY TASK GROUPS

Current Task Groups	Date Report Due	Other Information
Air Quality	-	Scrutiny Report approved by Board in December 2007. Cabinet expected to consider report at its meeting on 9th January 2008.
Public Transport - Buses	6th February 2008	Task Group established and Councillor B. Lewis F.CMI appointed as Task Group Chairman. Membership and Terms of Reference agreed July 2007. First Task Group Meeting held on 22nd August 2007 following the Scrutiny Training on 20th August 2007. Task Group has been granted one month's extension and work is to be completed no later than 21st January 2008 .
Refuse and Recycling	4th March 2008	Task Group established and Councillor C. R. Scurrill appointed as the new Task Group Chairman in October. Membership and Terms of Reference originally agreed July 2007. First Task Group Meeting held on 22nd August 2007 at 6pm following the Scrutiny Training on 20th August 2007. Due to change in Chairman, Task Group work is now due to be completed no later than 28th January 2008 .

SCRUTINY TASK GROUP REVIEWS

BDHT Task Group Review

The BDHT Task Group reconvened for a Review Meeting which was held on Tuesday 11th December 2007. Councillors Mrs. Boswell, McGrath and Peters were present along with the Strategic Housing Manager. An update was given to Members on what had happened since the Cabinet had approved the recommendations contained within the BDHT Scrutiny Report in December 2006.

Mr. Coel, Strategic Housing Manager, went through each recommendation in turn and provided Members with updates. All questions from Members relating specifically to the recommendations as well as more general questions relating to Strategic Housing and BDHT were answered.

It was noted that although there had been difficulties in the relationship between Bromsgrove District Council and BDHT previously, communication and understanding between the two organisations had improved significantly. Officers, including senior management from both this Council and BDHT, met on a regular basis and BDHT were now formally the Council's principal preferred partners with West Mercia Housing Group.

Task Group	Date of Review (when Task Group is due to reconvene)
Culture and Community Services	9th July 2007 - Task Group work complete -
Use of Consultants	24th July 2007 - Task Group work complete -
Bromsgrove District Housing Trust (BDHT)	11th December 2007 - Task Group work complete -
Flytipping	March/April 2008
Car Parking	March/April 2008
Watercourses	March/April 2008

Note: A seminar relating to the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill 2006 will be held in the future covering key courses of action. This will be arranged once more is known on what the impact will be on overview and scrutiny committees.