

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: To consider and agree the work programme, including the updates from the Scrutiny Task Group Review Meetings.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE SCRUTINY AND UPDATES

Subject	Date of Consideration	Other Information
Recommendation Tracker	Jan/Mar/May/ July/Sept/Nov	Report monitoring recommendations to be included on the Board's Agenda on a bi-monthly basis for a trial period of 12 months starting January 2008.
Worcestershire Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen Network (Update)	1st April 2008	Members to receive a verbal update from the Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) following the Joint Flooding Task Group Meeting due to be held on 31st March 2008. Future meetings are due to be held on 7th and 28th April 2008.
Energy Efficiency Project Group – Progress Report (Executive Director – Partnerships and Projects)	3rd June 2008	A report on the progress of the Energy Efficiency Project Group is due to be considered by the Board at its meeting in June 2008. (This links into the suggested scrutiny topic of climate change.)
Climate Change	3rd June 2008	To avoid duplicating the work of the Energy Efficiency Project Group (which has been set up to evaluate the recommendations contained within the Energy Savings Trust Assessment) the Board agreed at its March 2008 meeting to consider this item once it had received a report from the Executive Director – Partnerships and Projects. The Board now needs to decide whether or not this topic should remain on its work programme.
Value for Money – Street Scene and Waste Management	TBA	Possible area for future scrutiny. A scrutiny proposal would need to be completed if the Board was minded to scrutinise this topic.
Older People (Councillor Mrs. Bunker)	TBA	Possible area for future scrutiny following the outcome of a focus group to find out specific issues which may need to be scrutinised. A scrutiny proposal would need to be completed if the Board was minded to scrutinise this area.
ICT Spatial Programme (Councillor McDonald)	TBA	Possible area for future scrutiny.

CURRENT SCRUTINY TASK GROUPS

Current Task Groups	Date Report Due	Other Information
Public Transport - Buses	5th February 2008 (Considered by Cabinet on 5th March 2008. Cabinet Response to be presented to the Board on 1st April 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 was granted a month's extension and revised deadline was 21st January 2008.
Refuse and Recycling	4th March 2008 (Due to be considered by Cabinet on 2nd April 2008. Cabinet Response likely to be presented to the Board on 29th April 2008.)	Task Group established and Councillor C. R. Scurrrell 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 following the Scrutiny Training on 20th August 2007. Due to change in Chairman, Task Group's revised deadline was 28th January 2008.
Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour	TBA	Task Group established and Councillor K. Taylor appointed as Task Group Chairman. Membership and Terms of Reference to be agreed.
Alcohol Free Zones	TBA	Task Group established and Councillor J. T. Duddy appointed as Task Group Chairman. Terms of Reference agreed on 5th March 2008. Membership to be agreed.

SCRUTINY TASK GROUP REVIEWS

Car Parking Task Group Review Meeting

The Car Parking Task Group reconvened for a Review Meeting which was held on 6th March 2008. Councillors D. McGrath and C. J. Tidmarsh were in attendance along with the Transport and Engineering Officer. An update was given to Members on what had happened since the Cabinet had approved the recommendations contained within the Car Parking Scrutiny Report almost 12 months ago.

All questions raised by Members were answered. However, Members were informed that the Transport and Engineering Officer had compiled a report on the operation and the future of the Shopmobility Scheme in Bromsgrove but that it had not been brought forward to Members due to conflicting priorities. Task Group Members expressed their disappointment over this and it was therefore agreed that the report should be reconsidered by officers as a matter of priority.

Flytipping Task Group Review Meeting

On 12th March 2008, the Street Scene and Waste Manager and the Waste Policy and Promotions Manager were present to provide an update to Members and answer any questions. Councillors Miss D. H. Campbell JP (Chairman), S. R. Peters and C. J. Tidmarsh were present and considered the update for each recommendation in turn. Several questions were raised and all were answered. Officers informed the Task Group that they would continue to closely monitor the recorded flytipping incidents.

There were a couple of extra suggestions from the Members which officers agreed to take on board and implement. This included the suggestion that when there are any changes to the refuse and recycling service at short notice, the relevant Ward Members for that particular area should be informed at the same time the Customer Service Centre. Officers indicated that this would be implemented.

Watercourses Task Group Review Meeting

As the Review Meeting of the Watercourses Task Group was scheduled to be held on the same day as the Scrutiny Steering Board's Agenda and Reports were published, an update will be included on the work programme for the next meeting later in April.

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 -
Car Parking	6th March 2008 - Task Group work complete -
Flytipping	12th March 2008 - Task Group work complete -
Watercourses	19th March 2008
Air Quality	January/February 2009
Public Transport (Buses)	March 2009

Note: A seminar relating to the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 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.