

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.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE SCRUTINY AND UPDATES

Subject	Date of Consideration	Other Information
Recommendation Tracker	Jan/Mar/May/ July/Sept/Nov	A bi-monthly report monitoring the implementation of scrutiny recommendations. (Initially for a trial period of 12 months starting January 2008.)
Worcestershire Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen Network (Update)	29th April 2008	Members to receive a verbal update from the Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) following the Joint Flooding Task Group Meetings due to be held on 7th and 28th April 2008.
ICT Spatial Programme (Councillor McDonald)	29th April 2008	Presentation to be given to the Scrutiny Steering Board. Members will then need to decide if further scrutiny is required.
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 to be considered by the Board. (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. (This links to the Cabinet’s Response relating to the Refuse and Recycling Scrutiny Report which is an earlier item on the Agenda)
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.

CURRENT SCRUTINY TASK GROUPS

Current Task Groups	Date Report Due	Other Information
Refuse and Recycling	4th March 2008 (Considered by Cabinet on 2nd April 2008. Cabinet Response to be presented to the Board on 29th April 2008.)	Task Group established and Councillor C. R. Scurrell 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.
Anti-Social Behaviour and Alcohol Free Zones	TBA	Task Group merged and Councillor K. Taylor appointed as Task Group Chairman. Membership and Terms of Reference to be agreed.

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.

SCRUTINY TASK GROUP REVIEWS

Watercourses Task Group Review Meeting

Members of the Watercourses Task Group reconvened for a Review Meeting on 19th March 2008. Councillors Miss D. H. Campbell JP (Chairman), S. R. Peters, C. R. Scurrrell and C. J. Tidmarsh were present along with the Drainage Engineer and the Natural Environment Officer. Members discussed each recommendation in turn and had many questions for the officers on the implementation of the approved recommendations.

In conclusion, the Members of the Task Group unanimously agreed to register their disappointment and concern over the lack of any action and/or tangible progress taken on the recommendations put forward in their final report. It was therefore agreed that the Chairman of the Task Group would write to both the Leader and Chief Executive highlighting their concerns and requesting a meeting be convened to discuss these matters.

As Members of the Scrutiny Steering Board will know, the implementation of all Cabinet approved Scrutiny recommendations are now monitored via the Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker Report.

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 - Task Group work complete -
Air Quality	February 2009
Public Transport (Buses)	March 2009