



**meeting      OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**date            20 April 2009**

**agenda item number**

## **Report of the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny**

### **Managing the Programme of Work**

#### **Purpose of report**

1. To provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to review the programme of work.

#### **Background**

2. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for co-ordinating the programme of scrutiny work and allocating topics for scrutiny to topic Select Committees. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee provides an initial question for each review.
3. When prioritising topics for scrutiny the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed that reviews should reflect:
  - i. Concern of Members, the Public or Partners
  - ii. Strategic Priorities for the delivery of services and
  - iii. Clear Outcomes to improve performance, value for money or to change the priorities of the Council.

#### **Issues**

4. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee was due to receive reports on the Place Survey and development of the new Sustainable Community Strategy at the meeting on 20 April 2009. A delay in the publication of the Place Survey prevented this item being included. The development of the Sustainable Community Strategy relies on the findings of the Place Survey and in consultation with the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny it was considered that this item should also be deferred. It is suggested that these be proposed as possible items for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the next municipal year.

## **Elections - next meeting**

5. Members have previously expressed anxiety at the appropriateness of the meeting on 18 May 2009 and its proximity to the County Council elections on 4 June 2009. Members may wish to consider whether this meeting should take place.
6. The items scheduled for consideration on 18 May 2009 are listed below:
  - Pitt Review – an update on how the County Council will respond to the proposals from this national review including possible implications for scrutiny.
  - Annual Report on Scrutiny – constitutional requirement. Should be sent to County Council by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
  - LINKs – the proposed item is to review progress during the first year, in addition the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a statutory requirement to receive the LINK's annual report.
  - Olympics Review – A discussion with the leader on progressing the recommendations of this review
  - Budget Consultation – Response from the Cabinet Member.
7. Of these items, only Annual Report must be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. To provide Members with the option to cancel the meeting on 18 May 2009, the Annual Report has been included as an item on the agenda for the meeting on 20 April 2009.
8. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee also has to receive the Annual Report of the Local Involvement Network (LINK). Nottinghamshire County LINK has indicated that a meeting in July 2009 would be more suitable.
9. The remaining items could be deferred to the new municipal year. As an option, to reduce the delay in receiving these items and as it is unlikely that any select committees would meet before September 2009, Members may wish to suggest that two meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be held following the election, prior to the summer recess.

## **Work programme – new municipal year**

10. All Select Committee work and current reviews are scheduled to be completed before the end of the municipal year and the County Council elections on 4 June 2009. Select Committee recommendations will be sent to the appropriate executive/s, this may include the County Council Cabinet following the elections. Responses will be due during the next municipal year.

11. Whilst Members can not determine what work should be undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee following the election. Members may wish to consider referring any outstanding scrutiny items to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Members may wish to particularly highlight scheduled:
- responses to scrutiny reviews from executive Members and
  - progress reports on the implementation of scrutiny recommendations

### **Recommendations**

12. It is recommended that
- i. the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agrees the updated programme of work for 2008-09
  - ii. the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 18 May 2009 be cancelled
  - iii. the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meet on 6 July 2009 and 20 July 2009.
  - iv. the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be informed of outstanding responses to scrutiny reviews and progress reports on the implementation of scrutiny recommendations at the commencement of the new municipal year.

**Councillor E D W Llewellyn-Jones**  
**Chair of Overview and Scrutiny**

Background papers: nil