

Nottinghamshire County Council Scrutiny

Community Services Select Committee Annual Review

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Community Services Select Committee as defined by Article 6 – Select Committees of the County Council's Constitution, are to provide:

An overview of the Council's effectiveness in respect of

- culture,
- arts,
- libraries,
- youth,
- community regeneration,
- economic development and
- public protection

Major Area of Work 2005-06

Community Services Select Committee agreed to concentrate on a single major area of work this year:

Crime & Disorder Study

The Community Services Select Committee undertook a detailed examination of the work of the Crime & Disorder Team, which provides detached youth work with youth offenders or young people who are at risk of offending. The Study Group engaged in extensive discussion with the Crime & Disorder Team. The Study Group received evidence from the Operations Director of Connexions Nottinghamshire and the Assistant Director of the Young People's Division. The Study Group identified a need for measures of the effectiveness of the various initiatives for which team are responsible to be put in place and recommended that ways be found to raise the professional profile of Youth Workers.

Other work undertaken by the Select Committee is detailed in the attached table.

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Review of Work 2005-06

| Select Committee | Outputs | Further Action |
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| 13 June | | |
| Work Programme Scrutiny at the County Council is Member led. Therefore each Select Committee was invited to develop a realistic and flexible work programme for 2005/06. Members considered items for inclusion. | It was agreed that a work programme for the next 12 months would be brought back to the next Committee meeting for agreement. | It was agreed to invite the Portfolio Holder to the next Committee meeting. |
| 18 July | | |
| Report of the Cabinet Member for Community Safety The Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Partnerships gave an insight to Members of the Council's new portfolio. | - | - |
| Trading Standards Peer Review and Improvement Plan The Committee was updated on the Improvement Plan that had been drawn up following the recent peer review of the Trading Standards Service. | The Committee noted the report. | - |
| Adult and Community Learning Service Inspection and Improvement Plan The Committee were informed of the outcome of the recent Adult Learning Inspection of the Adult and Community Learning Service and asked questions. | The Committee noted the report. | - |
| 3 October | | |
| Report of the Cabinet Member for Community Safety The Cabinet Member for Culture gave a presentation to the Committee on issues affecting his portfolio and the Committee asked questions. | - | - |
| Scrutiny of Community Safety Initiatives The Committee considered the report on three areas of work. | It was agreed to set up a study group to undertake a review of the Activate Project. | Ongoing. |
| Annual Performance Assessment of Children's Services in Nottinghamshire 2005 | | |

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| The Committee considered the report. | The Committee noted the annual performance amount. | It was agreed to receive regular updates on the progress of priorities concerned with Community Services. |
| Work Programme The Chair informed the Committee of a proposed visit to the Archives Service on 21 November | The work programme was noted. | - |
| 14 November | | |
| Culture and Community Department Performance July to September 2005 The Committee considered the report. | The Committee noted the report. | - |
| Nottinghamshire's Great Library Debate The Committee received a presentation on the Notts Great Library Debate and asked questions. | - | - |
| Meeting the Needs of Disabled Children: A Strategy to Improve Service Delivery in Culture and Community Members were informed of the Department's strategy and framework for improving services for disabled children and young people, and asked questions. | The Committee noted the report. | - |
| 19 December | | |
| Presentation by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration The Committee received a presentation on the Regeneration portfolio and asked questions. | - | - |
| Scrutiny of Community Safety Initiatives – Progress Report The Committee considered the report and asked questions. | The Committee noted the report. | It was agreed to defer the Group's final report to 27 March |
| Adult and Community Learning Service Outcomes 2005 The Committee considered the report which concerned progress made to date in addressing the key challenges set following the Adult Learning Inspection of the Adult and Community Learning | The Committee noted the progress report. | - |

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| Service. | | |
| 27 March | | |
| Cabinet Member for Culture Oral Presentation | | |
| Crime and Disorder Study | | |
| Work Programme | | |
| 8 May | | |
| Report from Regeneration Portfolio | | |
| Nottinghamshire Libraries Debate | | |
| Crime & Disorder Study Final Report | | |

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Outstanding Areas of Work 2006

| Work Programme Item | Details | Recommendation |
|--|--|---|
| Imitation Weapons and Crossbows | The Select Committee had identified this topic as a likely one for inclusion in its work programme after the conclusion of the current Crime & Disorder Study. The topic has not yet been formally scoped. | That this topic be included within the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2006/2007. |
| Core Community Issues | The Select Committee had planned to conduct a detailed review of Community issues examining the Community Strategy, Community Engagement and the role of LSP's. | That this topic be included in the Scrutiny work programme for 2006/2007. |
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