

Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 29 November 2011

Subject: Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme – Six Monthly Review

Officer contact for further information: Simon Hill (Ext 4249)

Committee Secretary: A Hendry (ext 4246)



Recommendations:

(1) That the current work programme be reviewed in accordance with rule 9.3 of the Overview and Scrutiny Rules having regard to:

- (a) the resourcing and scope of the programme; and**
- (b) the reserve programme and new proposals from members.**

1. (Assistant to the Chief Executive). The Overview and Scrutiny Procedural rules state that 'The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme shall be of six – months duration and be reviewed at or before the expiration of that six month period'.

2. The current work programme is attached. A review of this plan is therefore now due.

Task and Finish Panels

3. At the September 2011 meeting a new Task and Finish Panels was established: 'Senior Recruitment Task and Finish Panel', which has met once this year.

Scrutiny Standing Panels

4. No new Standing Panels were created this year.

Reserve List.

5. A reserve list of scrutiny topics is required to ensure that the work flow of OSC is continuous. OSC will 'pull out' items from the list and allocate them accordingly once space becomes available in the work plan following the completion of existing reviews.

6. To date three items have been added to the work programme. One is to ask the Corporation of London to attend a meeting on the management of Epping Forest; another to ask the British Transport Police to attend to update the committee on their plans for the Olympics; and finally, to review the Mental Health Services in the District. Members can put forward any further suggestions for inclusion in the reserve list either during the meeting or at a later date. Existing review items will be dealt with first, and then time will be allocated to the items contained in the reserve work plan.

7. Members need to bear in mind that new projects can be added but only if there is capacity among Panels and officers to undertake them.