

Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting:

Portfolio:

**Subject: Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme –
Six monthly review**

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

Committee Secretary: Z Folley (ext 4532)



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;

(2) That the Committee:

(a) consider the progress report on recommendations made by last years Task and Finish Panels; and

(b) make recommendations for further action as necessary.

1. (Head of Research and Democratic Services). 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.

Issues for consideration – Task and Finish Panels

3. At the annual review (May 2007) four Task and Finish Panels were established (or re-established). The Panel for Leisure has met three times this year, the other Panels, Car Parking and Town Centres; Crime and Disorder and Value for Money in Planning Services have not yet met. Arrangements are now in hand for the latter to hold their first meeting in October. The Crime and Disorder Panel is awaiting the passage of legislation.

4. The Town Centre and Car Parks Task and Finish Scrutiny Panel have now not met since November 2006. The Committee is asked to consider whether the need for the review still exists.

Reserve List.

5. New bids which could not be undertaken were placed in the reserve list (details attached) The Committee are asked to consider the reserve items and if they are considered more urgent, replace any which are in the current programme but which are less pressing. 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. Officers have sought clarification from Councillor Cooper of her request.

6. A new request has been received from Councillor Angold-Stephens. This is attached for consideration.

Review of Recommendations Made by Task and Finish Panels

7. Members have requested a review of the recommendations made by the various Task and Finish Panels last year. Attached is a schedule showing the individual recommendations and a progress report against each item. The Committee are requested to review the schedule and make any further requests as appropriate either directly to the relevant portfolio holder or to Service Directors/Lead Officers.