

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
19 JANUARY 2016**

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

AGENDA ITEM No.

13

**TITLE OF REPORT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY OFFICER**

1. SUMMARY

1.1 The Committee's work programme for 2015/16.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Committee is asked to consider and comment on its work programme.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To enable the Committee to plan its work effectively.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None.

5. CONSULTATION WITH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS AND WARD MEMBERS

5.1 None.

6. FORWARD PLAN

6.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

7. TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

7.1 The Task and Finish Group on the **Quality of Council Reports** met on 10 December and will meet again on 1 February. A report should be ready for the Committee's meeting in March.

7.2 The membership of the Task and Finish Group on the **Council's Approach to Managing Larger Projects** has been finalised. Its members are Cllrs Michael Weeks (Chairman), Judi Billing, Steve Jarvis, Paul Marment and Gerald Morris. It will begin in February or March. A report should be ready for the Committee's meeting in June or July.

7.3 The Task and Finish Group after this will look at **Recharges and Value for Money**.

- 7.4 In previous meetings, the Committee has also indicated that it may wish to look at the following topics as future task and finish groups:
- a review of NHDC’s Document Centre;
 - keeping North Herts tidy;
 - balancing cost savings against possible environmental impacts;
 - Section 106 Agreements.

8. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- 8.1 The schedule for Executive Members to attend is:
- March – Cllr Needham
 - June – Cllr Lovewell
- 8.2 The work programme for the Committee’s meetings is at Table 1 below. The Committee is invited to consider this in conjunction with the Forward Plan at **Appendix A**.

Table 1: Items for Committee Meetings

22 Mar 2016	Presentation by Cllr Lynda Needham, Leader of the Council Task and Finish Group Report: Quality of the Council’s Reports Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Review of New Scrutiny Arrangements in 2015/16 Protocol for Task and Finish Groups Resolutions Report Work Programme Report Performance Indicator Report (information item) RIPA update (information item)
June 2016	Presentation by Cllr Bernard Lovewell, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Environmental Health Task and Finish Group Report: The Council’s Management of Larger Projects Performance Indicator Report (information item) RIPA update (information item)

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None.

10. FINANCIAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

10.1 None.

11. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 The Equality Act 2010 came into force on the 1 October 2010, a major piece of legislation. The Act also created a new Public Sector Equality Duty, which came into force on the 5 April 2011. There is a general duty, described below, that public bodies must meet, and this is underpinned by more specific duties which are designed to help meet them.
- 12.2 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of its functions: give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.3 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 There are no social value implications arising from this report.

14. APPENDICES

- 14.1 Appendix A – Forward Plan for 4 January 2016

15. CONTACT OFFICERS

- 15.1 Author: Brendan Sullivan, Scrutiny Officer, 01462 474612,
brendan.sullivan@north-herts.gov.uk

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 None.