

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

<b>1. Meeting:</b>	<b>SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY PANEL</b>
<b>2. Date:</b>	<b>15<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010</b>
<b>3. Title:</b>	<b>WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11</b>
<b>4. Programme Area:</b>	<b>Chief Executive's</b>

**5. Summary**

The panel is being asked to discuss issues which it might consider as suitable for review during the coming year.

**6. Recommendations**

**That Members consider the proposed review subjects plus the proposed themed meetings and agree a work programme for the year.**

## 7. **Proposals and Details**

The current scrutiny plan has been informed by the corporate priorities agreed by the council, issues raised by elected members on behalf of the communities they serve and with reference to national agendas.

Each of the Council's Scrutiny Panels is required to develop a forward programme of work for the new Municipal Year. It is important that the forward programme decided by the Panel is realistic in terms of the scope and number of issues to be considered and relevant in terms of adding value to the work of the Council or in responding to the community. Scrutiny should be challenging if it is to be effective and a well thought out forward programme of work is important to enable this to happen.

However, it is not possible to be too specific at this stage on the precise nature of some issues for scrutiny and consequently the forward work programme will to some extent evolve during the course of the year. As the public sector in general and local government in particular are required to make very large savings in the next three to five years, Members will wish to scrutinise closely any proposals coming from service areas in the next few months.

During the last year Members have undertaken reviews around:

- Turnaround Times for Void Properties
- Government Plans for House Building
- The Councillor Role in combating Climate Change

At the last panel meeting Members discussed possible areas of work for the coming year. These included:

- The Role of Private Sector Housing in Rotherham
- Housing Market Renewal – moving on
- Sheltered Housing Warden and Care Enabler Service

We will also be looking at:

- Developing our work with Rother Fed
- The future of Rotherham 2010
- Adaptations & Improvements
- Neighbourhood services & democracy

These proposals came from members of this panel and from officers. The Scrutiny Adviser has also written to each member of the Panel to ask for any other proposals for scrutiny reviews. Members are very welcome to make any further proposals either at the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> or beforehand to the Scrutiny Adviser.

Others issues which the panel may wish to discuss at a themed panel meeting include:

- Better partnership working
- Shared services

## **8. Finance**

There are no financial implications arising out of this report. Recommendations arising out of scrutiny reviews may have financial implications and these will need to be evaluated when such recommendations are referred to Cabinet.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

The work programme must be realistic in terms of the capacity to properly examine issues that come before it. Issues may be referred to the Panel which are not known about at this stage.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Corporate Plan

Community Strategy

All associated Scrutiny Reviews and progress reports

All associated Inspection's by outside bodies and recommendation outcomes.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Scrutiny Services Annual Report & Forward Plan

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