

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. Meeting:	Self-Regulation Select Commission
2. Date:	2 May 2013
3. Title:	Work programme: update 2012/13 and year ahead 2013/14
4. Directorate:	Resources All wards

5. Summary

The paper updates the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2012/13 and asks for Members views on the work programme for 2103/14.

6. Recommendations

That Members:

- a. Discuss the work programme as attached**
- b. Give consideration to the areas identified in 7.3 in the 2013/14 work programme**
- c. Identify if there are any additional areas for inclusion in the 2013/14 work programme in line with the Commission's terms of reference**
- d. Identify if there are additional areas to feed into the wider scrutiny work programme to be considered by OSMB.**

7. Proposals and details

7.1 As outlined in the Council's Constitution, the remit of the Self-Regulation Select Commission is to:

- scrutinise the Council's self assessment processes as part of the self-regulation framework
- scrutinise issues and actions emerging from external assessments (peer review, inspection etc)
- monitor and hold to account the performance of service delivery within RMBC and its partners etc with particular reference to the Corporate Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy
- scrutinise and monitor whether efficiency savings are achieved or exceeded
- co-ordinate the carrying out of value for money reviews
- scrutinise the annual budget setting process
- monitor the Council budget and MTFS

7.2 At its meeting in May 2012, the Select Commission agreed its priorities over the municipal year. A work programme has been drawn up on the basis of these priorities (attached as Appendix A). These have been informed by comments from Commission Members and discussion with Cabinet Members and the Senior Leadership Team.

The main focus of Self-Regulation's 2012/13 work programme has been performance and finance monitoring; concentrating on areas of concern or poorer performance. Members of the Commission have also been involved in ad-hoc Performance Clinics during the year and have commented on the structure and how outcomes from these are fed into performance improvement. The Commission also completed the review of District Heating and oversaw the conclusion of the Review of Central Support Charges.

7.3 The year ahead

Several issues have been identified by the Commission to be scheduled as part of the 2013/14 work programme. These include:

- Scrutiny of commissioning arrangements
- Corporate plan outcomes – review of priorities
- HRA – impact of welfare reform
- Public Equality Duty (update)
- 12 months implementation of the revised laundry charges with a view to ascertaining whether they provide value for money
- Private Finance Initiative - update;

Members views are sought on whether these areas remain a priority for consideration in the work programme for 2013/14 and determine if there are other areas they wish to scrutinise.

- 7.4 Members are asked to feed issues of concern into the Self-Regulation Select Commission 2013/14 work programme. Issues identified by Commission members will be submitted for consideration by OSMB to prioritise the overall work programme across each of the select commissions. This will highlight any areas of joint working, thematic approaches or potential duplication.
- 7.5 The work programme is flexible and issues may be referred to OSMB and Select Commissions by individual members as well as from other sources, including members of the public. In determining its priorities for the work programme, OSMB Members should make a judgment on what outcomes may be achieved by accepting a referral, bearing in mind resource and capacity implications.
- 7.6 It is suggested that the work programme is reviewed by OSMB members and Select Commissions at regular intervals. This will ensure that issues of greater importance can be given a higher priority, reflecting changing circumstances or events. However if new issues are introduced, to ensure that the work programme is manageable and achievable, Members will need to decide if other items should 'fall off the agenda' to accommodate these discussions.

8. Finance

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, recommendations arising from the Commission may have financial implications should they be implemented.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The work programme must be realistic in terms of the Commission's capacity to properly examine issues that come before it. If additional items are added, the Commission will have to re-prioritise which issues it wishes to scrutinise.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposed work programme takes on board key policy agendas the Council is currently considering and performance information as and where necessary. The areas identified for future scrutiny should complement the priorities identified in the Corporate Plan.

It is also important to note the changes that have occurred during the last year and the reduction in staffing resources across the Authority. Any work programme needs to take account of this and look realistically at what can be achieved and where it is best to focus resources and efforts.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

This has been brought at the request of OSMB

12. Contact

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Work programme:

Appendix A

	Issue	Comment
May 31, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Heating • Work programme 	
July 11, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Sector Equality Duty • Capital Programme Outturn 2011/12 and updated estimates 2012/13 to 2014/15 • Revenue Account Outturn 2011/12 • CYPS Budget 2012/13 	
September 20, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Plan Outcomes - September 2012 • Work Programme Update 	
October 11, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Complaints Report - April 2011-March 2012 • Localisation of Council Tax • Update Digital Region 	
November 22, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Heating Review – final report • 2012/13 Revenue Monitoring • 2012/13 Capital Programme Monitoring • Central Support Charges • Performance Updates – focusing on Child Poverty and Obesity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • final report (re-scheduled from September) • Request made at meeting of September 20

January 10, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Setting Process • Housing Rents (2013/14) • District Heating Scheme Charges 	
February 21, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2012/13 Revenue Monitoring • 2012/13 Capital Programme Monitoring • Corporate Risk Register • Commissioning – focus on health and social care 	<p>Requested at meeting of September 20, 2012. NOTE other aspects of commissioning activity to be scheduled</p>
March 28, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Plan Outcomes • Performance update - outcomes relating to worklessness and job creation • Format of performance clinics 	<p>requested at meeting of November 22, 2012</p> <p>report scheduled new municipal year</p>