

1.	Meeting:	Overview and Scrutiny Management Board
2.	Date:	14th June 2013
3.	Title:	Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14
4.	Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

The report updates members of Management Board and all of the Select Commissions on the outcomes from the “development session” on the work programme, held during OSMB on the 24th May 2013, and the proposals for allocation of that work programme to each of the Select Commissions.

6. Recommendation

That Members endorse the work programme and consider the following:

- **OSMB maintain oversight of the emerging Scrutiny arrangements for the City Region Economy and conduct any work as deemed necessary**
- **Additional items for both Health Select Commission and Improving Places**
- **How Self Regulation and/or Improving Places should deal with the Local Procurement agenda**
- **Reallocation of the Housing Finance agenda from Self Regulation to Improving Places**

7. Proposals and Details

The work programme for 2012/13 was agreed early in the municipal year which gave Scrutiny a much earlier start to its work. This has been reflected in the volume of work that has been covered during the year, despite the staffing changes and reductions that have taken place.

The aim is to take the same approach this year and with this in mind Management Board agreed a headline work programme in a dedicated work planning session held at its meeting on the 24th May 2013. Attached at appendix A is the work programme that was agreed during these discussions.

It was agreed that each Commission should aim to have 1 full review and 1 spotlight review during the year, but that other items of interest and priority could be managed as part of the scheduled meetings with well scoped and planned reports by individual officers. On this basis the appendix identifies not only the work area but whether it will be a full review, spotlight review or report to a scheduled meeting.

Whilst information contained within the draft work programme reflects the discussions that were held on the 24th May, there are a number of items that will require further clarification between the Select Commissions and OSMB. These are as follows:

- Whilst the importance of the City Region Economy, in terms of key policy agendas, was recognised, it was noted that there will be new Scrutiny structures on a sub regional basis being devised for this. It was therefore agreed that this was the most sensible way to support scrutiny of the City Region and that OSMB keep a watching brief on this as it emerges.
- Some key suggestions from members of the Health Select Commission were not considered on the 24th May due to an omission, these are School Nursing and Sexual Health Services. The Health Select Commission may well therefore wish to discuss its work programme further in light of this.
- Similarly, additional suggestions for Improving Places have also been received since the 24th May which include Town Centres and Council house gardens. An ongoing work commitment to Pot holes and Section 106 agreements were also omitted. Improving Places Select Commission may also wish to discuss its work programme further in light of this.
- The allocation of Local Procurement to the Self Regulation Select Commission was based on the assumption that it could be looked at as part of their Commissioning Review. The scoping of this may result in it becoming more of a focus on the economic regeneration implications of this and therefore more appropriately allocated to Improving Places
- Council Housing Finance was allocated to Self Regulation on the 24th May, however, there is somewhat of an imbalance between Self Regulation and Improving Places in terms of work load so Members may wish to consider re-allocating this to the Improving Places Select Commission.

By way of assisting Members with these discussions, the terms of reference for all of the Select Commissions are attached as appendix B.

It is intended that this report be considered by all Select Commissions and Management Board at the following meetings:

Improving Lives – 12th June
Health – 13th June
OSMB – 14th June
Improving Places – 19th June
Self Regulation – 27th June
OSMB – 28th June

It is intended therefore that upon completion of the June round of meetings, these discussions will have been completed and that the work programme can be finalised. This would ensure that it could begin in July 2013, in advance of the Summer recess, the same as the previous year.

8. Finance

No direct financial implications.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The development of a clear work programme maximises the potential for Scrutiny to have an impact and mitigates against the risk of using resources with little impact or outcome. It does, however, need to maintain flexibility to allow for uncertainties to be accommodated within the planning process. The work programme should begin by July 2013 to ensure the best chances of it being completed in time.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Scrutiny work programme aims to add value to corporate priorities by addressing key policy and performance priorities. These are taken into consideration when defining the work programme on an annual basis.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Contact Name:

Deborah Fellowes, Scrutiny Manager ext 22769