

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. Meeting:	Self-Regulation Select Commission
2. Date:	27th June 2014
3. Title:	2014/15 Work programme
4. Directorate:	Resources All wards

5. Summary

The paper asks for comments on the proposed work programme for 2014/15.

6. Recommendations

That Members:

- a. Note the Commission's terms of reference and the role of overview and scrutiny as outlined in para 7.1 and 7.2.**
- b. Discuss the work programme as attached as Appendix 1.**
- c. Identify if there are any additional areas for inclusion in the 2014/15 work programme in line with the Commission's terms of reference.**

7. Proposals and details

7.1 As outlined in the Council's Constitution, the remit of the Self-Regulation Select Commission n is to carry out overview and scrutiny of issues as directed by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. These issues shall relate to:

- scrutinising the Council's self-assessment processes as part of the self-regulation framework;
- scrutinising issues and actions emerging from external assessments (peer review, inspection etc);
- monitoring and holding to account the performance of service delivery within the Council and its partners etc with particular reference to the Corporate Plan and Community Strategy;
- scrutinising and monitoring whether efficiency savings are achieved or exceeded;
- co-ordinating the carrying out of value for money reviews;
- scrutinising the annual budget setting process; and
- monitoring the Council's budget and medium term financial strategy.

7.2 The Council's Constitution Part II (8) outlines the role of Overview and Scrutiny. In summary its purpose is to:

- Challenge the Council's performance to raise standards and check if Council's services meet people's needs;
- Hold Cabinet Members to account by examining their decisions and proposals outlined In the Forward Plan of Key Decisions;
- Question members of the Cabinet and committees and chief officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the Borough;
- Ask for information on matters of concern or interest referred to them from individual councillors, Area Assemblies or members of the public;
- Hold detailed investigations or reviews and make recommendations to the Cabinet or full Council on issues which affect the wellbeing of the Borough or community;
- Consider and scrutinise the work of outside bodies;
- Make proposals for new policies as a result of detailed investigations or examining how current policies work.

7.3 The year ahead

At its meeting on May 8th, 2014, 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 1). These have been informed by comments from Commission Members and discussion with Cabinet Members and the Senior Leadership Team.

The commission has agreed to focus its work around the theme of budget and performance. This is reflected in the issues identified by the Commission to be scheduled as part of the 2014/15 work programme. These include:

- Revenue and capital budget monitoring
- Corporate risk register
- Complaints and compliments
- Corporate Plan outcomes

Additional areas identified include:

- Workforce planning
- Equality implications of budget decisions
- 2015/16 budget setting process
- Business rates administration, reliefs and support for micro-businesses (request from Cllr Beck) [possible joint work with Improving Places]

Members should note that arrangements for the timetable to accommodate scrutiny of the budget setting process are yet to be finalised. This will be factored into the scheduled meetings (with additional meetings scheduled as appropriate) on confirmation.

Members' views are sought on whether the areas identified in Appendix A remain a priority for consideration in the work programme for 2014/15 and determine if there are other areas they wish to scrutinise.

8. Finance

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report..

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.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Self-Regulation Select Commission – May 8, 2014.

12. Contact

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SUBJECT	SUGGESTED TIMING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue budget outturn and Capital Programme • Performance Framework 	27 th June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints and compliments annual report (tbc) • Corporate risk register • Maximising support to the local economy through procurement/commissioning processes: findings of scrutiny review 	24 th July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce planning • Budget monitoring (tbc) • Corporate Plan Outcomes 	18 th September
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget monitoring (tbc) • Corporate Risk Register 	23 ^h October
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget monitoring (tbc) 	27 th November
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing rents • Corporate Plan Outcomes 	8 th January 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget monitoring (tbc) • Corporate Risk Register 	19 th February
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Plan Outcomes 	26 th March
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget monitoring (tbc) 	23 rd April
TO SCHEDULE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter pressures and impact on revenue budget • Equality implications of budget decisions • Housing Revenue Account developments • Business rates administration, reliefs and support for micro-businesses (request from Cllr Beck) • Scrutiny of 2015/16 Budget setting process • 12months update: district heating scrutiny review 	