REPORT TO: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY AGENDA ITEM: 10

**COMMITTEE** 

DATE OF 8TH FEBRUARY 2012 CATEGORY: MEETING: DELEGATED

REPORT FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OPEN

PARAGRAPH NO: N/A

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SUBJECT: WORK PROGRAMME REF:

WARD(S) ALL TERMS OF

AFFECTED: REFERENCE: N/A

# 1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers its work programme and agrees the review area(s) for the next meeting.

# 2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To enable the Committee to review and update its work programme.

#### 3.0 Detail

3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee agrees an annual work programme, which is reviewed at each meeting. Attached at Annexe 'A' is the updated work programme for 2011/12. Members are asked to consider the work programme for future meetings and particularly the review areas to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

# Crime and Disorder Scrutiny

- 3.2 An area of the work programme still to be considered in the current municipal year is crime and disorder scrutiny. It was anticipated that the requirement to undertake such scrutiny would be removed through the Localism Act, but where a council operating under a committee system has a scrutiny function, then the requirement for crime and disorder scrutiny remains. The work programme provides for this to be undertaken on 21st March, and Members are asked to confirm the same arrangements as previously, for a dedicated meeting, held just prior to the ordinary meeting on that date.
- 3.3 This will be the third year the Council has undertaken such scrutiny. In 2010, following consultation, it was agreed to undertake a review of how the safer neighbourhood project funding was allocated. Last year, the scrutiny work focussed on the police 'have your say day' results and specifically local awareness of the Safer Neighbourhood policing team for each area.
- 3.4 Consultation has again taken place with the Chair of the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership and the Safer Communities Manager with a view to identifying potential

areas for review. A verbal update will be provided on potential review areas and Members suggestions are also welcomed.

### Focus Session

- 3.5 At the Committee's meeting on 18th January, Members approved the proposal to bring forward the Annual Focus Session, as part of implementing a revised approach to formulating the work programme. Arrangements have been made for the Focus Session to take place on the afternoon of 21st March, to be followed by the meeting on crime and disorder and then the ordinary committee meeting.
- 3.6 The main purpose of this year's event is work programming. Members are invited to propose potential review areas and to complete scoping documents, which can be obtained from Democratic Services. As part of the new approach, consultation will take place between this meeting and the focus session, to formulate a 'long list' of potential reviews for consideration by Members. The Committee is asked to consider the stakeholders it would like to consult as part of this process.
- 3.7 It is also anticipated that the Secretary of State will publish regulations in March/April on how the Localism Act will be applied, in terms of scrutiny, to committee system authorities like South Derbyshire. If these regulations have been received in time, a briefing will be provided to Members as part of the focus session.

#### Annual Report

3.8 The Committee's Annual Report will also be submitted in draft form to the March Meeting with the final report being presented in May, to enable its submission to the Annual Council meeting.

# 4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### 5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 None arising directly from this report.

#### 6.0 Background Papers

6.1 Scoping documents for reviews and previous Committee reports.