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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 8</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>20TH OCTOBER 2009</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>PAUL SPENCER (01283 595722) paul.spencer@south-derbys.gov.uk</b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: N/A</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agrees its work programme for 2009/10, including the review area(s) to be considered at the next meeting.
- 1.2 That the Committee agrees arrangements for further consultation on the work programme and that feedback following this consultation is reported to the Committee in due course.

## **2.0 Purpose of Report**

- 2.1 Following the Overview and Scrutiny Focus session, the Committee is asked to give formal consideration to its work programme and any further consultation arrangements, to seek input on areas of scrutiny work for 2009/10.

## **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee agrees an annual work programme, which is reviewed at each meeting. A focus session has been arranged prior to this meeting, to give Members and Officers the opportunity to discuss areas for scrutiny review work during 2009/10.
- 3.2 Attached at Annexe 'A' is a schedule showing potential areas for scrutiny reviews. This comprises a review to be completed from the last Municipal year, known commitments and other areas of scrutiny work suggested previously.
- 3.3 At the Focus Session and earlier in this meeting, Members may have considered other potential review areas, and will have considered the scoping of reviews and the adoption of a matrix to compare the relative priority of review areas against the Council's Corporate priorities. The Committee is now asked to agree its work programme and the review areas to be considered at the next meeting.
- 3.4 In the Peer Review report, page 11, it states:

*“greater use could be made of the Council’s community links in establishing the Overview and Scrutiny work programme. It is suggested that an annual scrutiny work programme canvas could take place including stakeholders such as parish councils, area committees, community and voluntary sector groups, all councillors and officers, county councillors and MP’s.”*

- 3.5 The Committee is asked to consider the arrangements for further consultation on its work programme. The feedback from consultation processes could then be reported back to the Committee, with a view to scoping potential reviews, comparing these reviews against the Corporate Priority matrix and then adjusting the overall work programme as required.
- 3.6 Dependent on the number of review areas identified, the depth of work required for each review and capacity, there may be a need to arrange additional meetings of the Committee, or as previously used, the nomination of lead Members to work with Officers, to progress reviews between meetings. The review report also suggests the option of task group working. The Committee is asked to consider these options in formulating its work programme.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

#### **5.0 Corporate Implications**

- 5.1 The scoping document for each review will include a reference to the relevant theme and priority actions within the Corporate Plan. There are no legal or employment implications associated with this work programme report. Any communication aspects will be identified in the scoping document for each review area.

#### **6.0 Background Papers**

- 6.1 Scoping documents for each review.

## Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.

In the paragraphs that follow, details are provided of an ongoing review, known commitments and other potential areas of scrutiny activity for 2009/10.

### **Ongoing Review Work**

There is one review area from the last year that is still to be completed on Community Transport. This review topic flowed from earlier work on public transport and was considered at two meetings during the latter part of the 2008/09 municipal year. It included a discussion with an Officer from Derbyshire County Council on their review of Community Transport and an on-site meeting with the Swadlincote Community Transport Scheme.

### **Known Commitments**

Members will be aware of the Constitutional requirement for some budget scrutiny activity and there is the new requirement on Crime and Disorder Scrutiny. It is suggested that this latter area of work is programmed for later in the municipal year and suggestions are sought from Members on how this topic should be addressed.

### **Review Areas Suggested by Members**

There have been suggestions from Members for reviews of:

- Etwall Leisure Centre – Community Use (Raised at the 18<sup>th</sup> May meeting)
- Swine Flu - Risk Management Strategy and Business Continuity Plans. Literature was circulated to Members entitled 'Prepared for a Pandemic' Swine Flu. On page 2 the publication encourages Overview and Scrutiny to play a role, for example by reviewing the plans to ensure that they are up-to-date and effective.

### **Review Areas identified through 2008/09 Budget Scrutiny Process**

The following areas were suggested for inclusion in the work programme:

- Swadlincote Woodlands Scheme - to examine the potential costs associated with future maintenance.
- Community Partnership funding - a review of the arrangements in place to look to find additional funding, based on the likelihood of further parish plans and schemes in the future.
- Etwall Leisure Centre - the potential withdrawal of County Council funding would have an impact for remaining partners.

### Update on Previous Reviews:

- Broadband – the potential for other related review areas has been raised and there is the opportunity to update on progress following the review completed last year.
- Rosliston Forestry Centre – It was agreed that a further update of the Vision / Strategic Plan and Business Plan to be brought to Overview and Scrutiny Committee at the start of the 2009/10 Municipal Year.
- Flooding (Household Drainage) - This review arose from the previous year's work on flooding. It was agreed to lobby the Government. Defra responded, explaining the plans from 2011, for all existing private sewers and lateral drains to transfer to the nine English water and sewerage companies. Design and construction standards are also proposed. The Committee agreed to consider this review area again when the draft regulations were issued for consultation.

Members are asked to consider the work areas above, to discuss other potential review areas and consider consultation arrangements, to gain wider input from others to the work programme. Consultation could take place with policy committees and other stakeholders. Raising Scrutiny's profile at area forums, at the Parish Liaison Meeting and seeking public input via the media are other opportunities. A press release was issued in June this year, but has not resulted in any public feedback. A further press release may be appropriate to seek public feedback. The County-wide Liaison Group also provides an opportunity to look at scrutiny work elsewhere in Derbyshire and if appropriate to contribute to other Council's reviews and/or have joint reviews on issues of common concern.