



A Borough to be proud of

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

**Overview and Scrutiny
Work Programme
2011/2012**

ISSUE 2011/05: FEBRUARY 2012

Welcome to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, which sets out the work to be carried out by the Council's Overview & Scrutiny function during 2011/2012.

A structured, focussed and supported scrutiny process, which dovetails into the Council's wider democratic, performance and financial management processes, provides for an evidence based approach to challenging and developing the Council's long term vision and priorities and ensuring that the needs of the Borough's Citizens are met.

This is the seventh year that we have managed the work of scrutiny through a work programme. Following a review of progress in November 2005, it was proposed that future work programmes be configured into the following categories to better represent all the roles and responsibilities of the Overview and Scrutiny Function:

- **Scrutiny Topics** – This includes items of particular interest to overview and scrutiny that can be classified as 'scrutiny topics' to investigate in particular detail.
- **Performance Management Information** – Information provided by the council identifying current performance levels against performance indicators, progress with implementation of business delivery plans, best value reviews and service improvement projects. This is in accordance with the Council's Performance Management Framework.
- **Participation in Policy Development Issues** – These are issues being revised or introduced by the Council or other external organisations. The Overview and Scrutiny Function should be engaged in the development of such matters so that the decision-making body (Executive, Council or external organisation) are informed of all possible views before taking a decision / agreeing a new policy.
- **Tracking of implementation with previous recommendations** – The scrutiny commission will review progress with the implementation of previously agreed recommendations.
- **Committee Management Issues** – These include the minutes of previous meetings, progress reports on actions, overview and scrutiny work programmes and development issues for the overview and scrutiny function.

The Work Programme ensures that Scrutiny's work is:

- outcome focussed;
- prioritised accordingly;
- resourced properly; and
- project planned properly.

The Work Programme has been designed to ensure it is a living document and it will be reviewed at each meeting of the Scrutiny Commission, and the Finance, Audit & Performance Committee will also review its section at each of its meetings, to ensure it remains focussed and relevant.

*Councillor Matthew Lay
Chairman of Scrutiny Commission*

SCRUTINY COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME 2011/2012

1. Performance Improvement

- How the Council proactively manages performance to ensure that issues are addressed in a timely fashion and that there is continuous improvement; and
- Monitor the quarterly Performance Reports to Executive and the decisions they take.
- Risk Management.

2. Implementation of Rural Areas Review

- Annual progress report on implementation of outcomes.

3. Community Safety Partnership

- Six-monthly report on progress of Partnership

4. Planning methodology

- Review the methodology used in planning regarding travellers sites;
- Review planning methodology in order to protect the countryside and consider the impact of development on green wedge.

5. New Homes Bonus

- Understand the process and implications regarding the New Homes Bonus.

6. Sales of cars on the roadside

- Analysis of the problem, implications and possible solutions.

7. Health care

- Care for the elderly
- Specific focus on Alzheimer's support
- 3rd sector role
- GP services.

8. Reviewing performance (frontline services)

- Housing repairs

9. Fuel Poverty

- Internally focussed review
- Numbers in fuel poverty
- How local authorities can help
- Private sector housing – advice and support provision

10. Youth provision

- What do / can parishes do?
- Look at support for volunteers / community groups;
- How can we support & increase the number of volunteers.

SCRUTINY COMMISSION

TIMETABLE

Scrutiny Commission - Thursday 1 March 2012						
Function	Activity/ Objective	Reason	Desired Outcome	Vision, Values and Aims	Responsible (member/officer)	External Involvement
Scrutiny Topics	Fuel Poverty review: interview of witnesses	Internally focussed review to support residents experiencing fuel poverty	Sufficient information to formulate recommendations and agree final report	All Corporate Aims	Chief Officers for Scrutiny & Housing	
	Health Review: care of people with dementia: interview of witnesses(2)	Externally focussed review	To recommend improvements to healthcare	Safer & Healthier Borough	Chief Officer for Scrutiny	County Council, GPs, PCT
Performance Management Information	Value for money – street scene services	Update	Ensure value for money and improved service provision	Cleaner & Greener neighbourhoods	Chief Officer Business, Contract & Street Scene Services	
Participation in Policy Development Issues	Review of Forward Plan to identify items	Scrutiny of Executive decisions	Identification of reports for review ahead of decision making	All Corporate Aims	Executive member for Corporate Services/ Head of Corporate & Scrutiny Services	
Tracking of implementation with previous recommendations						
Committee Management Issues	Work Programme	Review work load for the year	Agreed forward work programme	All Corporate Aims		

Scrutiny Commission - Thursday 19 April 2012

Function	Activity/ Objective	Reason	Desired Outcome	Vision, Values and Aims	Responsible (member/officer)	External Involvement
Scrutiny Topics	Planning Appeal Decisions	6-monthly review	Ensure high performance of Planning Committee		Director of Community & Planning Services	
	Fuel Poverty review: interview of witnesses	Internally focussed review to support those experiencing fuel poverty	Final report and recommendations	All Corporate Aims	Chief Officers for Scrutiny & Housing	Fuel Poverty review: interview of witnesses
	Health Review: care of people with dementia: interview of witnesses (3)	Externally focussed review	To recommend improvements to healthcare	Safer & Healthier Borough	Chief Officer for Scrutiny	County Council, GPs, PCT
Performance Management Information						
Participation in Policy Development Issues	Review of Forward Plan to identify items	Scrutiny of Executive decisions	Identification of reports for review ahead of decision making	All Corporate Aims	Executive member for Corporate Services/ Head of Corporate & Scrutiny Services	
	Parish & Community Initiative Fund	Consider proposed distribution of funding	Recommendations to Executive	Strong & Distinctive Communities	Executive Member for Rural Areas / Deputy Chief Executive	
Tracking of implementation with previous recommendations	Rural areas review	Review progress against previous recommendations		Strong and distinctive communities	Executive Member for Rural Affairs	
	Community Safety Partnership Review	6-monthly update	Reduction in crime	Safer and Healthier Borough	Executive member for Community safety	
Committee Management Issues	Work Programme	Review work load for the year	Agreed forward work programme	All Corporate Aims		

Scrutiny Commission - Thursday 24 May 2012

Function	Activity/ Objective	Reason	Desired Outcome	Vision, Values and Aims	Responsible (member/officer)	External Involvement
Scrutiny topics	Health Review: care of people with dementia: final report	Externally focussed review	To recommend improvements to healthcare	Safer & Healthier Borough	Chief Officer for Scrutiny	County Council, GPs, PCT
Performance Management Information						
Participation in Policy Development Issues	Review of Forward Plan to identify items	Scrutiny of Executive decisions	Identification of reports for review ahead of decision making	All Corporate Aims	Executive member for Corporate Services/ Head of Corporate & Scrutiny Services	
Tracking of implementation with previous recommendations	Rural areas review	Review progress against previous recommendations		Strong and distinctive communities	Executive Member for Rural Affairs	
Committee Management Issues	Work Programme	Review work load for the year	Agreed forward work programme	All Corporate Aims		