

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Report to Scrutiny Board

**Date**                    **22 January 2015**

**Report of:**            **Director of Finance and Resources**

**Subject:**              **PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF 2014/15 WORK PROGRAMME AND  
DRAFT FOR 2015/16**

#### **SUMMARY**

At the meeting of the Board on 19 March 2015, members will be asked to review the outcome of the work programme for the current year 2014/15. Also at that meeting, the Board will be asked to finalise the draft work programme for 2015/16.

This report contains details of the position of the Board's existing work programme for the current year, in order to allow an early assessment of progress. It also gives some background information to assist members in drawing up the work programme for next year.

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The outcomes from the work programme for the current year (2014/15) will be reviewed at the Board's meeting on 19 March 2015. At the same time, it will be necessary for the Panel to finalise its work programme for the next year.
2. In order to assist the process, members are invited to start to consider both issues at this meeting.

## **WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15**

3. The work programme for the current year is attached as Appendix A.
4. A further document, outlining progress on previously agreed actions, is attached as Appendix C.

## **WORK PROGRAMME – NEXT YEAR 2015/16**

5. Members are reminded that the Scrutiny Board is generally responsible for:-
  - maintaining an overview of the discharge of the Council's Executive functions;
  - exercising the right to call-in, for reconsideration, any decisions made but not yet implemented by the Executive (and individual Executive Members) or key decisions made by officers in exercise of their delegated powers;
  - reviewing and/or scrutinising any decisions made or actions taken in connection with the performance of any of the Council's functions;
  - reviewing and/or scrutinising any matters affecting the strategic plans and financial affairs of the Council; and
  - considering matters affecting the area or local people and, in so doing, reviewing and scrutinising the performance of other public bodies in the area.
6. There are six planned meetings of the Scrutiny Board in the next municipal year, to deal with ordinary business.
7. Members are invited to consider the items for the work programme for 2015/16. It has previously been suggested that a few items of major significance are chosen.
8. It is particularly important that, in the future, the Scrutiny Board also builds on its programme of external reviews. The list of public organisations working in the Borough is attached as Appendix B for members' information.
9. It is suggested that members indicate which organisations from the list should be the subject of a detailed review during 2015/16.
10. At this stage, particular items which are known to be coming before the Board during the next year are shown below. In addition, the unassigned items on the current years' work programme will be rolled over and allocated to an appropriate meeting:-

21 May 2015:

- review of the work programme 2015/16
- Scoping Report on question and answer session with Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (proposed)

25 June 2015:

- review of the work programme 2015/16
- Presentation by, and questioning of, an Executive member
- Annual Report on the Performance of the Fareham Community Safety Partnership

17 September 2015:

- Review of draft Medium Term Finance Strategy
- review of the work programme 2015/16
- Question and answer session with Solent Local Enterprise Partnership

19 November 2015:

- Presentation by, and questioning of, an Executive member
- review of the work programme 2015/16
- Review of the implementation of the universal credit system and its impact on the residents of Fareham

14 January 2016:

- Preliminary overall review of work programme 2015/16 and draft 2016/17
- Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2016/17
- Housing Revenue Account Budget and Capital Plans 2016/17

17 March 2016:

- Presentation by, and questioning of, an Executive member
- final review of work programme for 2015/16 and draft for 2016/17.

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

11. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report.

**CONCLUSION**

12. This report invites members to review the current work programme for 2014/15 and to start to consider the work programme for the next municipal year. The Board is also requested to give early consideration to any external reviews that it might wish to carry out during 2015/16

Appendix A - Scrutiny Board Work Programme 2014/15

Appendix B – List of public organisations working in the Borough; and

Appendix C - Progress on Actions since last meeting

**Background Papers:**

None.

**Reference Papers:**

None.

**Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Andrew Wannell (Ext 4620).

**SCRUTINY BOARD –WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SCRUTINY BOARD ITEM</b>
5 June 2014	Meeting cancelled.
3 July 2014	Presentation by, and Questioning of, the Executive Member for Leisure and Community  Annual Report on the Performance of the Community Safety Partnership  Review of the work programme 2014/15
25 September 2014	Review of Draft Medium Term Finance Strategy  Review of the work programme 2014/15  Progress of Vanguard Programme
20 November 2014	Review of the work programme 2014/15  Review of Portchester Crematorium Operational Activity  Community Action Team (CAT) Review
22 January 2015	Presentation by, and Questioning of, the Executive Member for Planning and Development  Preliminary overall review of work programme 2014/15 and draft programme for 2015/16  Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2015/16  Housing Revenue Account Budget and Capital Plans 2015/16
19 March 2015	Final review of work programme for 2014/15 and draft for 2015/16  Presentation by, and Questioning of, the Executive Member for Policy and Resources

Items to be assigned:

- Scoping Report on question and answer session with Solent Local Enterprise Partnership
- Question and answer session with Solent Local Enterprise Partnership
- Review of the implementation of the universal credit system and its impact on the residents of Fareham
- Minutes of meetings of the Portchester Crematorium Joint Committee (as appropriate)

**LIST OF ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING DELIVERY OF PUBLIC SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>FBC funding</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>FBC funding</b>
<b>'Blue Light' Services</b>		<b>Voluntary Sector</b>	
Hampshire Police		Community Action Fareham	#
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service		Dial a Ride	#
South Central Ambulance Service		Citizens Advice Bureau	#
		RELATE	#
<b>Hampshire County Council</b>		Fareham Churches Together	
Hampshire County Council – Youth Service			
Hampshire County Council – Ashcroft Centre		<b>Partnerships</b>	
Hampshire County Council - Libraries		Portchester Crematorium	
Hampshire County Council – Secondary Schools		CCTV Partnership	#
Hampshire County Council – Primary Schools		Building Control Partnership	#
Hampshire Highways		Community Safety Partnership	#
Westbury Manor Museum	#	Environmental Health Partnership	#
Hampshire Children Services		Legal Services Partnership	#
Hampshire Adult Services		Project Integra	#
Supporting People		PUSH	#
Social Loan Fund (transfers from DWP on 1/4/2013)		PUSH Overview and Scrutiny Committee	#
		Solent LEP	
		Hampshire Children's Safeguarding Board	#
<b>Housing</b>		Fareham & Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group	
First Wessex Housing		<b>Other</b>	
Radian Housing		Hampshire Primary Care Trust	
Hyde Housing		Dept. for Work and Pensions / Job Centre Plus	
United Savings and Loans (Credit Union)	#	Young People's Learning Agency (formerly Learning & Skills Council)	
Two Saints	#	Skills Funding Agency formerly Learning & Skills Council)	
Southern Focus Trust		Audit Commission	

Fareham & Gosport Family Aid		Tourist Information Centre	#
Abbeyfield Housing Society		Youth Centres - Genesis, Xperience, Crofton	
		Fareham Enterprise Centre	
		Business Link (Hants & IOW)	
		<b>Other Continued</b>	
		Segensworth Business Forum	
		Homes & Communities Agency - Daedalus	
		Health protection Agency	
		Southern Water	
		Portsmouth Water	
		Health and Safety Executive	
		Food Standards Agency	
		DEFRA	
		Environment Agency	
		Pubwatch	



<b><u>SCRUTINY BOARD WORK PROGRAMME - PROGRESS SINCE LAST MEETING</u></b>				<b>APPENDIX A</b>	
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Type of Item</b>	<b>Action by Board</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Link Officer</b>
20 November 2014	Review of Portchester Crematorium Operational Activity	monitoring	<p>The Board considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on Portchester Crematorium operational activity. The Chairman welcomed James Clark, the Manager and Registrar of Portchester Crematorium and John Haskell, the Clerk to the Portchester Crematorium Joint Committee, to the meeting, who, together with the Director of Finance and Resources, presented the report and answered members' questions thereon.</p> <p>It was AGREED that:-</p> <p>(a) the Manager and Registrar and the Clerk to the Joint Committee be thanked for the report and for attending and answering members' questions; and</p> <p>(b) the report be noted.</p>	Complete.	Andrew Wannell

	Community Action Team (CAT) Review	monitoring	<p>The Board considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on the proposed Community Action Team (CAT) Review.</p> <p>At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor N R Gregory addressed the Board during the consideration of this item.</p> <p>The Head of Corporate Services presented the report and answered members' questions thereon.</p> <p>It was AGREED that the Executive be advised of the Board's views on the proposed community action team review, as shown in Appendix B to the report, as follows:-</p> <p>(a) the role of the Chairmen of Community Action Teams should be consistent, with a local connection, as is observed with the existing arrangements;</p> <p>(b) the role of chairing Community Action Team meetings should be separated from the role of Councillors answering questions related to policy, or officers answering technical questions;</p>	<p>The Executive considered the matter at its meeting on 1 December 2014.</p> <p>(3) Community Action Team (CAT) Review The comments of the Scrutiny Board were taken into account when considering this item - see minute 7(4) and at the invitation of the Executive Leader, the Chairman of the Scrutiny Board joined the Executive for this item. At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillors A Mandry, C J Wood, Mrs K K Trott and P J Davies addressed the Executive on this item. RESOLVED that the Executive agrees that:</p> <p>(a) the five CAT areas be replaced with ten smaller neighbourhood areas;</p> <p>(b) the majority of CAT meetings be replaced with single agenda item meetings, that take place</p>	Lindsey Ansell
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			<p>(c) the principle of 'hot topic' meetings was supported;</p> <p>(d) there should be a cyclical meeting for general business raised by residents and residents' associations in the year that the CAT was not due to receive the Leader of the Council's biennial presentation;</p> <p>(e) the principle of not continuing the police presence at meetings, unless for a specific police-related hot topic, be supported;</p> <p>(f) the principle of the biennial 'Meet the Leader' sessions be supported;</p> <p>(g) the principle of ten CAT areas be supported, but meetings should be publicised to wider areas when relevant to the topic for discussion;</p> <p>(h) publicity should be wide and broad enough to encourage wider attendance, particularly for Meet the Leader meetings so residents have the opportunity to attend these meetings more frequently;</p> <p>(i) the idea of multiple meetings in a</p>	<p>only when there is a 'hot topic' occurring in a neighbourhood at a relevant critical time;</p> <p>(c) "Meet the Leader" summer meetings be arranged for all of the new CAT neighbourhood areas each year, combining as appropriate, with senior representatives from the Police invited to be in attendance; and</p> <p>(d) the most appropriate experienced Chairman for individual meetings be nominated by the Executive Leader on a meeting by meeting basis.</p>	
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			<p>community for a single topic, to maximise the opportunity to engage with local residents, be supported;</p> <p>(j) the Special Responsibility Allowance payable to members for being CAT Chairmen should be removed.</p>		
	Review of the Board's Work Programme	programming	<p>The Board considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on the Board's work programme for 2014/15.</p> <p>It was AGREED that:-</p> <p>(a) the decision to move 'Presentation by, and questioning of, the Executive Member for Planning and Development' from 20 November 2014 to 22 January 2015 be endorsed;</p> <p>(b) the programme items as set out in Appendix A to the report be confirmed;</p> <p>(c) the progress on actions since the last meeting, as set out in Appendix B to the report, be noted; and</p>	Complete.	Andrew Wannell

			(d) the Chairman of the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel be requested to consider whether the Panel should investigate with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire the issue of the under recording of crime by the police as reported in recent articles in the national press.		
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