

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Scrutiny Board

Date **23 January 2014**

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

Subject: **PRELIMINARY OVERALL REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAMME
FOR 2013/14 AND DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15**

SUMMARY

At the meeting of the Board on 20 March 2014, members will be asked to review the outcome of the work programme for the current year 2013/14. Also at that meeting, the Board will be asked to finalise the draft work programme for 2014/15.

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 (2013/14) will be reviewed at the Board's meeting on 20 March 2014. 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 2013/14

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 2014/15

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 2014/15. 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 2014/15.
10. At this stage, particular items which are known to be coming before the Board during the next year are:-

5 June 2014:

- review of the work programme 2014/15

3 July 2014:

- review of the work programme 2014/15
- Presentation by, and questioning of, an Executive member
- Annual Report on the Performance of the Fareham Community Safety Partnership

25 September 2014:

- Review of draft Medium Term Finance Strategy
- review of the work programme 2014/15

20 November 2014:

- Presentation by, and questioning of, an Executive member
- review of the work programme 2014/15

22 January 2015:

- Preliminary overall review of work programme 2014/15 and draft 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:

- Presentation by, and questioning of, an Executive member
- final review of work programme for 2014/15 and draft for 2015/16.

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 2013/14 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 2014/15

Appendix A - Scrutiny Board Work Programme 2013/14

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 2013/14

DATE	SCRUTINY BOARD ITEM
30 May 2013	Review of the work programme 2013/14 Question and answer session with representatives of the Environment Agency
4 July 2013	Presentation by, and Questioning of, the Executive Member for Streetscene The Disclosure and Barring System Annual Report on the Performance of the Community Safety Partnership Review of the work programme 2013/14
26 September 2013	Medium Term Finance Strategy 2013/14 Review of the work programme 2013/14
21 November 2013	Review of the work programme 2013/14 Presentation by, and Questioning of, the Executive Member for Health and Housing Costs associated with the preparation work for the Welborne development Council Tax Support – Year 2 Updates to the Constitution
23 January 2014	Preliminary overall review of work programme 2013/14 and draft programme for 20413/15 Finance Strategy, Capital Programme, Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2014/15 Housing Revenue Account Budget and Capital Plans 2014/15
20 March 2014	Final review of work programme for 2013/14 and draft for 2014/15 Presentation by, and Questioning of, the Executive Member for Public Protection

Items to be assigned:

- 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 (for 2014/15)

LIST OF ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING DELIVERY OF PUBLIC SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

Agency	FBC funding	Agency	FBC funding
'Blue Light' Services		Voluntary Sector	
Hampshire Police		Community Action Fareham	#
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service		Dial a Ride	#
South Central Ambulance Service		Citizens Advice Bureau	#
		RELATE	#
Hampshire County Council		Fareham Churches Together	
Hampshire County Council – Youth Service			
Hampshire County Council – Ashcroft Centre		Partnerships	
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	#
Housing		Fareham & Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group	
First Wessex Housing		Other	
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)	
		Other Continued	
		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	

<u>SCRUTINY BOARD WORK PROGRAMME - PROGRESS SINCE LAST MEETING</u>				APPENDIX C	
Date of Meeting	Subject	Type of Item	Action by Board	Outcome	Link Officer
21 November 2013	Presentation by, and Questioning of, the Executive Member for Health and Housing	Presentation	<p>The Board received a presentation from the Executive member for Health and Housing, Councillor B Bayford, on the performance of services within the Health and Housing portfolio over the last year and on future plans. The presentation included: details of the portfolio responsibilities, current issues, local priorities and key challenges ahead in respect of Health, Strategic Housing and Council Housing.</p> <p>The Executive member for Health and Housing answered members' questions concerning the presentation.</p> <p>It was AGREED that:-</p> <p>(a) the Executive member for Health and Housing be thanked for his presentation; and</p> <p>(b) it be noted that members were invited to advise Councillor Bayford of any examples of problems with health services so that he could forward them to the appropriate authority.</p>	Matter noted.	Andrew Wannell

	Review of the Board's Work Programme		<p>The Board considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources, which invited members to review the Board's work programme for 2013/14.</p> <p>It was AGREED that:-</p> <p>(a) the programme of items as set out in Appendix A to the report be noted; and</p> <p>(b) the progress on actions since the last meeting, as set out in Appendix B to the report, be noted.</p>	Matter noted.	Andrew Wannell
	Costs Associated with the Preparation Work for the Welborne Development		<p>The Board considered a report by the Director of Planning and Environment on costs associated with the preparation for the Welborne development.</p> <p>It was noted that the first sentence of paragraph 8 of the report had been included in error and should be deleted.</p>	Matter noted.	Richard Jolley

			It was AGREED that the approach taken in respect of the production of the Welborne Plan, together with the cost implications and the external funding attracted to offset these, be noted.		
	Council Tax Support Year 2		<p>The Board considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme.</p> <p>It was AGREED that the report be commended to the Executive for approval.</p>	<p>The Executive considered the matter at its meeting on 2 December 2013 and RESOLVED that the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) approves the final Council Tax Support scheme as set out in the report; (b) recommends the final scheme to Council for final adoption; and (c) approves that the Director of Finance and Resources be given delegated authority to make any necessary minor amendments, and to publish the final scheme prior to 1 April 2014. <p>At the meeting of the Council held on 12</p>	Andrew Wannell

				<p>December 2013, it was RESOLVED that:</p> <p>(a) the Council approves the Council Tax Support scheme 2014-15, as recommended by the Executive at their meeting of 2 December 2013; and</p> <p>(b) delegated authority is given to the Director of Finance and Resources to make any necessary minor amendments and to publish the final scheme prior to 1 April 2014.</p>	
	Updates to the Constitution		<p>The Board considered a report by the Director of Regulatory and Democratic Services on an update to the Constitution.</p> <p>Members were advised that, following further advice from the Solicitor to the Council, the draft Standing Orders with Respect to Meetings had been further</p>	<p>The Executive considered the matter at its meeting on 2 December 2013. At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor P W Whittle, JP addressed the Executive on this item.</p>	Garry White

			<p>updated and copies of the revised version were circulated to those present.</p> <p>It was AGREED that:-</p> <p>(a) the officers be requested to amend the wording of paragraph 6 of Appendix Two to the revised Standing Orders with Respect to Meetings, the Scheme for Deputations to Meetings of the Planning Committee, to make the situation with regard to written deputations and other written material clearer; and</p> <p>(b) subject to (a) above, the revised Standing Orders with Respect to Meetings, as shown in the revised Appendix A to the report as circulated at the meeting, be commended to the Executive.</p>	<p>RESOLVED that the Executive:</p> <p>(a) agrees that future changes to Standing Orders should be considered by the Audit and Governance Committee, as outlined in paragraph 9 of the report; and</p> <p>(b) agrees the updated Standing Orders with Respect to Meetings, as set out in Appendix A to the report and recommends the amendments for consideration by Council.</p> <p>At the meeting of the Council on 12 December 2013 RESOLVED that the revised version of the Standing Orders with Respect to Meetings, as appended to the report, be adopted subject to</p>	
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				<p>the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. the removal of the second paragraph at Standing Order 15.7; andii. the removal of the words “of any member of the Council” at Standing Order 57.1.	
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