

SCRUTINY ACTIVITY REPORT

Report By: Director of Corporate and Customer Services

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To consider the work being undertaken by the Scrutiny Committees.

Financial Implications

2. None

Background

3. This report summarises the matters considered by the Scrutiny Committees since the last report by this Committee to Council. It is intended to help keep Council aware of the work being undertaken.
4. The work of the Committees is analysed below as far as practicable under the following five roles for overview and scrutiny: holding the executive to account, best value reviews, policy development and review, external scrutiny, and improvement (performance management and review).

Summary

5. The Adult Social Care and Strategic Housing Scrutiny Committee met on 1st December, 2006 and considered the following issues:

Theme	Reports
Holding the Executive to Account	Scrutiny Review of Services for People with a Learning Disability – Cabinet's Response
Best Value Reviews	
Policy Development and Review	Future Social Care Needs for Older People and Adults with Learning Disabilities in Herefordshire Local Authority Responsibility for Provision of Care in Registered Settings Accessing Minor Adaptations
External Scrutiny	
Improvement (Performance Management and Review)	Budget 2006/07 Performance Monitoring
Other	Work Programme

6. The Committee has carefully considered the substantial review of future social care needs of older people and people with learning disabilities and the services needed

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Tim Brown, Committee Manager (Scrutiny) on 01432 260239

to meet them. The Committee has expressed concern to Cabinet about the current ICT systems for data collection and analysis and emphasised the importance of developing appropriate, effective and compatible ICT systems, including with the Primary Care Trust, as part of the development of the proposed Public Service Trust, should be emphasised to Cabinet. Recognising the importance and complexity of the issues raised by the review and that these will require careful consideration the Committee has also advised Cabinet that every Councillor needs to be made aware of these issues and kept informed.

7. The Committee has also welcomed the Executive's response to its review of services for people with a learning disability.
8. The Children's Services Scrutiny Committee met on 15th December, 2006 and considered the following issues:

Theme	Reports
Holding the Executive to Account	
Best Value Reviews	
Policy Development and Review	Change for Children in Herefordshire Behaviour and Discipline Management in Schools Scrutiny Review
External Scrutiny	
Improvement (Performance Management and Review)	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report Improvement and Annual Assessment of Performance
Other	Work Programme

7. The Community Services Scrutiny Committee met on 20th December, 2006 and is considered the following issues:

Theme	Reports
Holding the Executive to Account	Annual Report by Cabinet member (Rural Regeneration and Strategy)
Best Value Reviews	
Policy Development and Review	Review of the Support for Museums and Heritage Centres
External Scrutiny	
Improvement (Performance Management and Review)	Performance Monitoring
Other	Work Programme

8. The Committee considered the final report of the 'Review of the Support for Museums and Heritage Centres' in Herefordshire. After receiving the report and asking questions the Committee approved the report and all its recommendations to Cabinet.
9. The Committee has also called in Cabinet's decision in relation to the relocation of the Hereford Livestock Market and is considering this matter on 8th and 15th January.

9. The Environment Scrutiny Committee met on 4th December, 2006 and considered the following issues:

Theme	Reports
Holding the Executive to Account	-
Best Value Reviews	
Policy Development and Review	Policy Statement for the Use of the Rivers Wye and Lugg Draft Travellers Policy Scrutiny Review of Household Waste Recycling in Herefordshire
External Scrutiny	
Improvement (Performance Management and Review)	Capital Programme Revenue Budget Good Environmental Management Review Performance Indicators
Other	Work Programme

10. The Health Scrutiny Committee met on 7th December, 2006 and considered the following issues:

Theme	Reports
Holding the Executive to Account	
Best Value Reviews	
Policy Development and Review	Specialist Children's services Development Update on the Development of Stroke Services in Herefordshire Palliative Care Public Service Trust
External Scrutiny	
Improvement (Performance Management and Review)	
Other	Work Programme

The Committee has responded to the formal consultation exercise conducted by the primary Care Trust, supporting the development of a central building for specialist community services for children with developmental problems/disabilities.

The Committee has also discussed the proposals being developed by the Council and the Primary Care Trust for the development of a Public Services Trust for Herefordshire enabling closer strategic management and co-ordination for the delivery of key public services in Herefordshire.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None identified