

MEETING:	ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND STRATEGIC HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE:	2 OCTOBER 2009
TITLE OF REPORT:	COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
REPORT BY:	DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

County-wide.

Purpose

To consider the Committee's work programme.

Recommendation

THAT subject to any comment or issues raised by the Committee the Committee work programme be approved and reported to the Strategic Monitoring Committee.

Introduction and Background

1. Members were informed in July that the Strategic Monitoring Committee had met informally to consider the findings of the external healthcheck of the scrutiny function, undertaken by the Leadership Centre, some of which related to the content of annual work programmes. As part of this process, all Members of the Scrutiny Committees and the Executive were invited to attend a facilitated scrutiny event on the 8th September. The focus of which was on developing the external focus of the Scrutiny Work programmes whilst taking account of public sector challenges and corporate priorities. After a discussion of two questions: What are the issues that matter to the people of Herefordshire? and What are the issues that we (O&S) should be looking at?, a list of topics was produced. A prioritisation exercise was then undertaken which produced the following top five priorities: Housing Related issues, Youth, Communication, Safeguarding and Transport. Further discussion took place at an informal Strategic Monitoring Committee meeting on the 21st September in order to refine the focus of work on these topics.
2. Proposals will be brought forward to Members for consideration, and Work Programmes of all the Scrutiny Committees will need to be reconsidered in the light of these discussions. The Committee should have the opportunity to consider a revised work programme at its next meeting
3. Pending the outcome of the above work, a report on the Committee's current work programme will be made to each scheduled meeting of this Scrutiny Committee. A copy of the work programme is attached as an appendix.

4. The programme may be modified by the Chairman following consultation with the Vice-Chairman and the Directors in response to changing circumstances.
5. Should any urgent, prominent or high profile issue arise, the Chairman may consider calling an additional meeting to consider that issue.
6. A number of other possible issues for consideration have been logged and depending on the Committee's further instructions may be added to the programme as it is further developed. The issues are listed at the foot of the programme.
7. Should Members become aware of any issues they consider may be added to the scrutiny programme they should contact the Democratic Services Officer to log the issue so that it may be taken into consideration when planning future agendas or when revising the work programme.

Background Papers

- None identified.