
Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee

21st June 2011

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance & ITT

Report – Work plan for the Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee 2011/2012

Summary

1. This report presents the Committee's draft work plan for the forthcoming year for consideration. It asks Members to consider any additions and/or amendments they may wish to make to it. The draft work plan is attached at Annex A to this report.

Background

2. The work plan is an ongoing and fluid document that will aid the Committee to undertake a programme of work in the forthcoming year. The Scrutiny Officer will be in attendance at the meeting and will be happy to answer any questions Members may have on any of the items currently on the work plan. However, some of the ongoing work is briefly explained in the paragraphs below:

Ongoing Work

Year End Outturn Reports and Quarterly Monitoring Reports

3. Members receive these at regular intervals throughout the municipal year. They allow Members to monitor the financial performance of the Council throughout the year and can also be used to identify potential areas for review.

Reports from the Leader and the Executive Member for City Strategy

4. Once a year the relevant Executive Members and/or Leader are invited to present a report to the Committee on their forthcoming priorities and challenges for the year ahead. This usually takes the form of a verbal report but some Executive Members also like to submit a written report. The Committee can choose to invite the Executive Member to attend more frequently should they wish to do so.

Recommendations Arising from Previous Scrutiny Reviews

5. Once a scrutiny review is complete the final report is presented to the Executive. They then choose whether to support the recommendations arising from the review. All those recommendations that are supported should then be

implemented as soon as possible. Scrutiny Committees monitor the implementation of the recommendations arising from reviews that fall within their remit on a six-monthly rolling basis. Once the Committee is satisfied that all recommendations have been adequately achieved they need not receive any more updates. There are currently two updates scheduled in the draft work plan.

Six Monthly Reports on Major Developments within the City and Six Monthly Reports on Major Transport Issues within the City

6. These reports were introduced last municipal year and have proved to be a useful insight for Members in relation to two of the key service areas within this Committee's remit. These have been scheduled into the draft work plan on a 6 monthly basis.

Updates on Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPS)

7. Several reports on the progress with the setting up of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) have been discussed at the Economic and City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC). LEPs are seen as the new drivers of strategic economic development. This OSC has expressed a view that it wishes to influence and monitor progress with LEPs, particularly since the City of York Council is a member of both the York/ North Yorkshire LEP and the Leeds City Region LEP. It has previously been agreed that this OSC would take a view on whether continued membership of the York/ North Yorkshire LEP would be appropriate after the LEP has set its priorities. A further progress report has been scheduled for September, although it might be possible to provide this earlier if the LEP makes progress in identifying its strategy/ priorities.

Identifying Suitable Topics for Future Scrutiny Reviews

8. In order to highlight to this Committee possible scrutiny topics for scrutiny review in this coming municipal year the relevant Cabinet Members have been invited to attend future meetings to discuss their priorities for the year. At this meeting you will also hear from Senior Officers about ongoing and planned work within Directorates relevant to the remit of this Committee.
9. In addition, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) recommendations relevant to the remit of this Committee have been provided at Annex B for your information. The JSNA is a process that identifies current and future health and well being needs of a local population, informing the priorities and targets and leading to shared commissioning priorities that will improve outcomes and reduce health inequalities.
10. The Scrutiny Services team have also been informed of a possible number of topics, which Councillors are considering submitting. Once received, any relevant to the remit of this Committee will need to be considered alongside the information provided by the Cabinet Members and/or senior officers when agreeing priorities for this year's annual workplan.

11. Outside of this forward planning, other issues received throughout the year will need to be considered as and when they arise and where appropriate the Committee may be asked to revise their workplan accordingly.

Consultation

12. The Scrutiny Officer will be in attendance at the meeting and will be happy to answer any questions Members may have on the any of the items currently shown on the draft workplan. Members will also have the opportunity to discuss potential items for the work plan and potential topics for review with those senior officers present at this meeting; the Lead Officer allocated to this Committee and the Scrutiny Officer.

Options

13. Members are asked to consider the draft work plan and make any amendments/additions they feel necessary. They may also choose at this stage to identify any possible topics for in depth consideration at a future meeting in order to agree the Committee's work plan for 2011/2012.

Analysis

14. At this stage the Committee are asked only to identify a number of broad subjects for possible scrutiny review. The scrutiny officer, together with relevant officers will then carry out some research and gather evidence in order to provide detailed information on each topic at a future meeting. The Committee will then be asked to identify resulting specific problems and issues or areas of associated policy development, which they would like to focus any scrutiny review on and to prioritise their work on any agreed topics. These will then form the basis of the work plan for 2011/12.

Corporate Strategy 2009/2012

15. This report relates to the 'Thriving City' theme of the Corporate Strategy 2009/2012.

Implications

16. There are no known financial, human resources, legal or other implications associated with the recommendations within this report. Any implications arising from reviews will be addressed within reports associated with the individual review.

Risk Management

17. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no known risks associated with the recommendations within this report.

Recommendations

18. Members are requested to consider the draft work plan for 2011/2012 and identify any broad topic areas they would like detailed information on.

Reason: In order to provide the Committee with a work programme for future meetings.

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Report Approved

Date 18.05.2011

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

Annex A Work plan

Annex B Recommendations arising from the JSNA