

## Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee Work Plan 2012-13

Meeting Date	Work Programme
25 June 2012 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Presentation on Welfare Reforms &amp; Likely Impacts on Vulnerable Residents (David Walker)</li> <li>2. Staff Sickness Review – Interim Report</li> <li>3. Annual Overview &amp; Scrutiny Report for 2011/12</li> <li>4. Draft Workplan for 2012/13 (see list of scrutiny topics &amp; suggested briefings below)</li> </ol>
16 July 2012 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Briefing on Workforce Strategy 2012-15 &amp; Update on iTrent. (PS)</li> <li>2. Briefing on Procurement Strategy &amp; Suggested Topic on Procurement &amp; Commissioning (TC)</li> <li>3. Report on Annual Scrutiny Budget for 2012-13</li> <li>4. Implementation Update on Outstanding Recommendations Arising from Previously Completed Scrutiny Reviews (PS)</li> </ol>
10 September 2012 @ 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Briefing on the work of the Financial Inclusion Board &amp; forthcoming Inclusion Strategy</li> <li>2. Briefing on Community Engagement Strategy (Kate Bowers)</li> <li>3. Briefing on Customer Strategy (Pauline Stuchfield)</li> <li>4. Further Briefing on Procurement Strategy inc. information on previous Procurement Review</li> <li>5. Workplan &amp; Consideration of suggested scrutiny topics (see list below)</li> </ol>
12 November 2012 @ 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staff Sickness Absence Final Report (MC)</li> <li>2. Briefing on Innovation Strategy (IG)</li> <li>3. Welfare Reforms Update (PS)</li> <li>4. Workplan</li> </ol>
14 January 2013 @ 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Workforce Strategy 2012-15 Monitoring Report (PS)</li> <li>2. Scrutiny Review (topic still to be agreed) – Interim Report</li> <li>3. Scrutiny Support Budget Monitoring Report</li> <li>4. Workplan</li> </ol>
11 March 2013 @ 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scrutiny Review – Draft Final Report</li> <li>2. 2012/13 Workplan</li> <li>3. Draft Workplan for 2013/14 - Discussion re Possible Topics for Scrutiny Review in Coming Municipal Year</li> </ol>
8 April 2013 @ 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attendance of Deputy Leader &amp; Cabinet Mbr for Corporate Services – End of Year Update</li> <li>2. Review 2 – Draft Final Report</li> <li>3. Workplan 2012/13</li> </ol>

13 May 2013 @ 5pm	
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### **Topics Put Forward by Previous Effective Organisation Overview & Scrutiny Committee at Scrutiny Work Planning Event in May 2012**

- i. **Customer Services – Provision of Information** - The Customer Strategy 2012-15 is due to go to Cabinet in July 2012, the current version of the draft strategy has a single aim 'To deliver the right services, at the right time, in the right way, at the right cost for you' and one of its priorities is 'we will improve the ways and choices of ways you can access our services that suits your lifestyle, preferences and needs.' There is also a developing strategy for access to information relating to the new Customer Centre which will open in West Offices in 2013.
  
- ii. **Procurement & Commissioning** – A revised procurement strategy was approved by the Cabinet in April 2012. Along with a new procurement team, structured to operate on a 'Hub & Spoke' basis focussed on high value strategic procurements (leaving the more tactical and routine procurements to officers based within directorates), the new strategy aims to increase the proportion of spend with local businesses, supported by a revamped procurement toolkit to reduce the amount of duplication and bureaucracy within the procurement process, and revisions to the evaluation process to ensure social value criteria were being taken into consideration.

In July 2012, CSMC received an overview of the transformation programme currently being undertaken by Procurement, shifting from a governance focussed transactional role to one delivering strategic value. Information was also provided on the challenges and obstacles facing the Council in local procurement i.e.:

- The governance of complying with procurement regulations
- The inappropriate use of frameworks

- The lack of planning which had led to the higher use of frameworks due to the reduction in procurement time
- Approved supplier lists

- iii. **Financial & Economic Inclusion** - Addressing financial inclusion in the City forms an essential component of improving prospects and opportunities for local people - a commitment clearly articulated in the Council Plan. Definitions of Financial Inclusion are broad and far reaching, but there are essentially four key themes or areas of focus that would ensure all residents of York become financially included:
- *Worklessness and Skills (including job creation and retention)* - Tackle financial and social exclusion by helping disadvantaged individuals move from benefits into sustainable employment and a living wage.
  - *Debt and Credit* - Develop sustainable solutions to improve the financial capacity and capability of individuals and communities within the City, and reduce levels of debt.
  - *Benefits Advice and Access to Finance* - Maximise financial entitlement - ensuring vulnerable residents are fully aware of welfare reform implications, and also have greater access to, and awareness of a range of financial services, tools and products.
  - *Housing and Health* - Create financial support packages which enable individuals to access and maintain decent, affordable homes and enjoy good physical and mental health.

There are at present a plethora of agencies across the City offering advice and support around the above. By bringing partners and service providers together, it is imperative that CYC takes the lead in addressing the barriers to financial inclusion faced by residents across the City - effectively co-ordinating existing services and developing new ones to address gaps in provision. This will be undertaken in partnership with a cross-section of public, private and voluntary sector bodies, but will be firmly led and driven forward by City of York Council. It is also imperative that CYC aligns and co-ordinates its own approach to addressing financial inclusion in-house to ensure maximum impact on a Citywide scale.

## **Additional Topics Proposed At Scrutiny Work Planning Event in May 2012**

- i. How to engage those who are disaffected from accessing Council services and don't know how to  
- Proposed by Cllr Barnes (topic registration form attached)
- ii. Web casting council meetings - Proposed by Cllr Alexander  
In response to her new responsibilities for Civic & Democratic Services, the Deputy Leader has already asked Democratic Services to look at a range of improvements to ICT facilities in the Council Chamber. These include reviewing the options for webcasting Council meetings given the stated intent to continue to hold Full Council meetings in the Guildhall Chamber, after the move to West Offices. Arrangements have already been made to discuss options with two suppliers. Discussions are still ongoing in regard to the refurbishment of audio and voting system with the council chamber. Enquiries have also been made about future options for webcasting Council meetings from the chamber. The Committee may wish to request a fuller briefing once the outcome of these discussions is known.