

Resources & Performance Scrutiny Board

Resources & Performance Scrutiny Board Work Programme 2012/13

10 July 2012

Report of Head of Law and Governance

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents the Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board work programme 2012/13 for consideration.

This report is public

Recommendations

The Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board is recommended:

- (1) To consider the Resources & Performance Scrutiny Board work programme 2012/13 as set out at Appendix 1 of the attached report.
- (2) To consider the update on the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership.
- (3) To consider the update of the Landscape Maintenance Contract.
- (4) To consider any comments arising from the meeting of the Finance Scrutiny Work Group.

Details

- 1 Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board Work Programme 2012/13**
 - 1.1 The Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board Work Programme 2012/13 is attached at appendix 1.
 - 1.2 Each future agenda item includes an overview of the item and reason for consideration by the Board.

Work Programme Items

- 1.3 Board Members may wish to suggest other items for inclusion on the work programme during 2012/13. Members are reminded that in considering the suggestions for the work programme and prioritising topics, it is important to consider the resources available to support the work and the timescales. The Board should also reflect on the demands that scrutiny reviews place on the resources in the individual service areas.
- 1.4 The Board will also wish to consider the priority checklist. The current, informal criteria applied to all suggestions for a scrutiny review are that it must:
 - be of concern to a group of people living within the Cherwell District;
 - relate to a service, event or issue in which the Council has a significant stake or over which the Council has an influence;
 - not be an issue which scrutiny has considered during the last 12 months;
 - not relate to an individual service complaint;
 - not relate to an individual planning or licensing application.

2 Partnership Scrutiny: Oxfordshire Waste Partnership

- 2.1 In 2010/11 the Board scrutinised the Council's role in Oxfordshire Waste Partnership. The Board agreed to retain the item on the work programme to monitor.
- 2.2 The financial arrangements of the Partnership are included on the Council's Risk Register which is reported to the Executive and Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee for monitoring purposes. The Oxfordshire Waste Partnership has been rated as "amber" (net rating) in Quarters 2 and 3. Financial arrangements exist to regulate funds flowing between the collection authorities in Oxfordshire and the disposal authority (Oxfordshire County Council). These are legally binding, however Oxfordshire County Council has indicated that it is not prepared to continue all of the payments in the future which could threaten the partnership.
- 2.3 Discussions regarding the financial arrangements have commenced involving strategic directors and finance officers.
- 2.4 An update briefing note on the Partnership is attached at Appendix 2. The Head of Environmental Services will to present at the meeting for this item.

3 Contract Scrutiny: Landscape Maintenance Contract

- 3.1 In January 2011 the Board nominated officers to work with officers on the procurement of a revised landscape maintenance contract. The Board requested to receive an update on the performance of service in light of the award of contract.
- 3.2 An update briefing note on the contract is attached at Appendix 3. The Head of Environmental Services will to present at the meeting for this item.

4 Performance Scrutiny Working Group (PSWG)

- 4.1 The PSWG meeting scheduled for 10 July 2012 has been replaced by a full meeting of the Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board.
- 4.2 The PSWG would have considered the 2011/12 year end performance monitoring report. This has been circulated to Members for their information.

5 Finance Scrutiny Working Group (FSWG)

- 5.1 The FSWG met on 3 July 2012 and reviewed the 2011/12 year end finance monitoring report.
- 5.2 Members of the FSWG will advise the Board of any issues that may require further consideration.

6 Future Meetings Schedule

Resources & Performance Scrutiny Board	17 July 2012, 6.30pm 4 September 2012, 6.30pm 9 October 2012, 6.30pm 20 November 2012, 6.30pm 15 January 2013, 6.30pm 5 March 2013, 6.30pm 16 April 2013, 6.30pm
Finance Scrutiny Working Group	18 September 2012, 6.30pm 4 December 2012, 6.30pm 19 February 2013, 6.30pm
Performance Scrutiny Working Group	25 September 2012, 6.30pm 1 December 2012, 6.30pm 26 February 2013, 6.30pm
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	24 July 2012, 6.30pm 11 September 2012, 6.30pm

	16 October 2012, 6.30pm 27 November 2012, 6.30pm 22 January 2013, 6.30pm 12 March 2013, 6.30pm 23 April 2013, 6.30pm
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Implications

Financial: There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The report of the individual scrutiny reviews will address any specific financial issues.

Comments checked by Sarah Best, Service Accountant, 01295 221982

Legal: There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. The report of the individual scrutiny reviews will address any specific financial issues.

Comments checked by Paul Manning, Solicitor Advocate 01295 221691

Risk Management: If too many items are included on the work programme there is a risk that scrutiny agendas become overloaded. This undermines effective scrutiny because Members are unable to concentrate on the key issues and officer resources are over-stretched. It may be necessary to hold further meetings during the year if the risk of not achieving the work programme becomes apparent. The report of the individual scrutiny reviews will address any specific risk issues.

Comments checked by James Doble, Democratic and Elections Manager, 01295 221587

Wards Affected

Each scrutiny review will identify the wards affected

Corporate Plan Themes

Each scrutiny review will identify the relevant corporate plan themes

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board Work Programme 2012/13
Appendix 2	Briefing Note – Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Update
Appendix 3	Briefing Note – Landscape Maintenance Contract Update

Background Papers	
None	
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