

		<b>AGENDA ITEM 7</b>
		<b>EDEH/28/12</b>
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Economic Development, Environment and Highways Policy &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>15 November 2012</b>	
<b>FORWARD LOOK</b> (Minute 13/ August 2012)		
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The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Committee's Forward Look.

### **Highways Briefing**

On 20 September the Committee received updates from the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation upon various matters that fall within his highways portfolio including the Pothole Programme, Local Highway Panels, Speed Policy Review, and Winter Service.

### **Task and Finish Group Activity**

A brief update on activity being undertaken by individual Task and Finish Groups (TFGs) is set out below:

- **Financial Inclusion**

At the Committee's last meeting it endorsed the Group's interim scrutiny report arising from its review of financial inclusion (Minute 5/August 2012). The Group has received a response from the Cabinet, which it will take into consideration together with other ongoing lines of investigation. It is hoped that the Group will be in a position to submit its final report to the Committee early in the New Year.

- **Future of the Recycling Centres**

The Group has nearly completed its review. However, it is proposed that further consideration will be given to its draft scrutiny report on the Recycling Centres for Household Waste Service in Essex and development of longer term vision for the Service before it is submitted to the Committee.

- **Scrutiny Review of the Off Site Emergency Planning Requirements around Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) Sites in Essex**

Arrangements are in the process of being made for the final scrutiny report of the Safer and Stronger Communities Committee to be submitted to this Committee for its endorsement.

- **Review of Country Parks**

Arrangements will be made in due course for the Group to reconvene to consider some preliminary matters relating to the second phase of the review of country parks.

### **Motion from Council Passenger Transport Concessionary Fares**

At the last full Council meeting in October a motion was referred to this Committee on Passenger Transport Concessionary Fares, and is the subject of a separate report elsewhere on this agenda.

### **Economic Growth Strategy**

Members will be aware that in September 2012 the Cabinet approved the Economic Growth Strategy for Essex, and the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Waste and Recycling, has extended various opportunities to all County Councillors to attend sessions on the Strategy and take part in a Member Reference Group.

It is proposed that in the New Year this Committee will consider issues associated with the implementation of the Strategy.

Given the ongoing work taking place in relation to the Strategy, it is important that the Committee has a clear framework with objectives for any scrutiny related work it undertakes, and no duplication of effort with other Member bodies such as the Member Reference Group. The Chairman and Vice Chairmen will take forward the planning of a review on the Strategy and liaise with Committee Members as necessary.

The Forward Look has not been attached to this report as a schedule itemising what issues will be considered at particular meetings as arrangements could not be confirmed at the time of writing.

### **ACTION REQUIRED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**The Committee is requested to note this report.**

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*Please could Committee Members note that the Management Information Scorecards for August 2012 have been published on the intranet site under 'Our Council' / 'Our Performance' / 'Directorate MI Scorecards'. It was agreed at the Committee's*

*workshop in November 2011 that issues from the scorecards would not automatically be referred to a formal meeting unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so.*