

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Essex County Council</b>  <b>Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>  <b>Review Scoping Document</b></p>
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*This form is a tool that should be compiled at the start of each inquiry to set out clearly the aims and objectives of the committee's involvement in a particular matter, and will be completed at the end of the inquiry to confirm what has been achieved. The form also provides an audit trail for a review.*

<b>Review Topic</b> (Name of review)	<b>The Capital Programme</b>
<b>Committee</b>	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
<b>Relevant Corporate Links</b>	All seven outcomes, plus all the associated indicators, in the ECC Outcomes Framework.
<b>Timescales</b>	A review of the Capital Programme is likely to be a long-term review taking place at several Committee meetings throughout the year. The Committee might wish to establish a Task and Finish Group to report back to the Committee its findings and recommendations to the Leader of the Council.
<b>Rationale for the Review</b>	<p>The Leader of the Council, in his presentation to the Scrutiny Board on 7 January 2014, suggested the Capital Programme as an issue Scrutiny might wish to review.</p> <p>The Scrutiny by the People &amp; Families Scrutiny Committee of The Deanes School decision raised issues about the governance and audit trail of decisions made on the original decision relating to the rebuild of the school and co-location with the Glenwood School. Several Members have raised queries at Scrutiny related to the decision-making process for the Capital Programme.</p> <p>How does the Capital programme link up with commissioning strategies?</p> <p>Are there robust mechanisms in place to mitigate against risk?</p>
<b>Key Lines of Enquiry</b>	<p>How are decisions on the capital programme agreed?</p> <p>What criteria are used for allocating money to capital projects?</p> <p>Do such criteria link to corporate priorities?</p> <p>How is the capital programme managed?</p> <p>What documentation is available to show a clear and detailed audit trail of all decisions related to the capital programme?</p> <p>Is there a long-term view of the Council's potential capital programme?</p> <p>What slippage is there on the capital programme?</p> <p>How much political ownership of the capital programme is there?</p> <p>How, and are local Members informed of capital projects in their divisions?</p> <p>What are the main sources of funding for the capital programme?</p> <p>How much slippage is there on the capital programme?</p>

<b>Other Work Being Undertaken</b>	The 2014/15 Internal Audit Plan indicates there are 20 days of Audit set aside for the Capital Programme with the scope being: "There are reported problems with the timely delivery of the capital programme and associated slippage on schemes. There is activity to remedy this. This review will focus on the effectiveness of revised arrangements".
<b>What resources are required for this review?</b>	In planning the review it is necessary to identify what resources are required to undertake the review, and any costs associated with the committee's activity. Given that the resource available is finite, it will be necessary to consider carefully the timing of the review within the Committee's overall work programme.
<b>Notes</b>	