

		AGENDA ITEM
		PSEG/35/14
Committee:	Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	27 November 2014	
WORK PROGRAMME (Minute 6/October 2014)		
Enquiries to:	Christine Sharland, Scrutiny Officer 01245 430450 Christine.sharland@essex.gov.uk	

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of planned committee activity set out in its work programme originally agreed in June 2014 (Minute 5).

- **Summary of Task and Finish Group Activity**

In summary reviews by the Committee's Third Party Responsibilities and Flood Management; and Jobs, Welfare and Skills Task and Finish Groups are now underway, and progress reports on their activities is set out elsewhere on this agenda.

It had been intended that the proposed Task and Finish Group investigating a recommendation on a Communications Protocol arising from the original COMAH Scrutiny Report would meet this month. However, that work has been delayed due to other priorities. This will also affect the timing of the review Recycling Centres for Household Waste Service.

- **Bus and Passenger Transport Strategy 'Getting around in Essex'**

Following discussion at the last meeting, Councillor Walsh has initiated arrangements for the Committee to meet informally this afternoon to focus upon passenger transport matters.

In July the Committee took part in a briefing on the theme of developing a better public transport network for Essex. Since then work has been underway on developing a Bus and Passenger Transport Strategy. A Strategy has now been produced setting out aspirations for improving services in Essex. Proposals to consult on the Strategy are scheduled to be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 20 November for its approval. The Chairman advised the Committee about the Cabinet Member's proposals on 5 November.

- **Petition 'Save Dovercourt Tip'**

At the full Council meeting in October Councillor Henderson handed Councillor Bentley, as Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Infrastructure and Waste and Recycling, a petition with 3000 signatories relating to a press report and current speculation about the closure of the Recycling Sites in Dovercourt and Kirby.

At that meeting Councillor Bentley confirmed that there is no intention to close any recycling sites.

In the meantime Councillor Bentley has written to Councillor Henderson confirming the situation, and providing assurance that the views of local residents and service users are carefully considered prior to any decisions being taken regarding changes to the recycling centre for household waste (RCHW) service provided by the County Council.

It is also notable that the Committee itself has included in its work programme the establishment of a task and finish group to review in depth the RCHW Service.

Under the circumstances the petition is not referred to this Committee for further action.

- **Work Programme**

A schedule of proposed committee activity over the next few months was included as part of last month's report on the Work Programme, which highlighted how the Committee's resources are being allocated. A revised schedule has not been attached to this report as various work is currently being organised, which cannot be confirmed at the time of writing this report. An oral update will be provided at the meeting.

Scrutiny Committee activity is set out in the tracker facility that is part of the Council's Scrutiny webpage via the following link: <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Your-Council/Committees-Decision-Making/Scrutiny/Pages/Default.aspx>

Action required by the Committee at this meeting:

To note the content of this report.
