

	<b>AGENDA ITEM 6</b>
	<b>CSC/08/14</b>
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Corporate Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>25 February 2014</b>
<b><u>FORWARD LOOK/ WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14</u></b>	
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### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to set out the Committee's current work programme for consideration.

Meeting	Topic	Approach	Current status
November 2013, then February 2014, and May 2014	Transformation II	Full Committee	Standing item (quarterly reports). Next report will be in February 2014.
November 2013	Absence Management	Full Committee	To receive data on staff absences throughout ECC. Update will be received in April 2014.
December 2014	Engaging with Essex (Your Say)	Task and Finish Group	T&F Group established at the July 2013 meeting of the Committee. There have been difficulties establishing membership and meetings. A report on Public Participation and Webcasting will be received by the full Committee in March 2014.
Winter 2013/14 (and ongoing)	Broadband Coverage in Essex	Full Committee	To receive a report on Superfast Essex Broadband in March 2014, potentially leading to a wider review.
January, April and July 2014	Budget Outturn Reports	Full Committee	Standing item (quarterly reports)
January, April and July 2014	Performance Management	Full Committee	Standing item (quarterly reports)
Winter 2013/14	Social Impact Bonds	Full Committee	
Winter 2013/14 (anticipated)	Health and Safety: John Ray Infant School	Full Committee	Ongoing Essex Fire Service investigation. Once complete the report will be presented to the Committee (Min. 4(iv) o

			Executive Scrutiny Committee 26 February 2012)
Winter 2013/14	Investment Strategy	Full Committee	Correspondence with Chairman of the Pension Board ongoing.
Suspended	External & Internal Communications	Task and Finish Group	In hiatus due to Transformation II
Ongoing	Procurement Strategy	Task and Finish Group	Scrutiny Board referred item to Executive Scrutiny following the initial presentation late 2012. T & F Group commenced activity in September 2013. Three sessions have taken place. Interim report received November 2013. Final report and recommendations to Committee in February 2014.

**Corporate Scrutiny Committee:  
Schedule 2013/2014 (provisional)**

Meeting	Topic	Approach	Current status
<b>2012/13</b>			
<b>January and February 2013 and ongoing.</b>	Transformation Programme Scrutiny Review: Beyond 2012/13	Full Committee	<p>To understand the overall vision for the Transformation II Programme and the methodology for its delivery. Also to ensure the governance arrangements are appropriate for a project of this importance and that the maximum benefit to the Council and to public services in Essex is derived from the Programme.</p> <p>Commissioned Services are key in terms of checking the arrangements and scrutiny adding value to the commissioned services.</p> <p>Quarterly updates received by the Full Committee.</p>
<b>TBA</b>	Health and Safety at Work	Full Committee	<p>The Committee agreed at its 30 May 2012 meeting that as assessment of whether ECC fulfils its H&amp;S legislative requirements in a scrutiny review which will look at the approach the Authority takes to H&amp;S; and to ensure the Authority is fully compliant with relevant H&amp;S legislation. A scoping document was agreed in January 2013. Presentation received in February 2013 – further update in due course. Given the fire at John Ray Infant School, Braintree and the subsequent investigation into the cause the Chairman of this Committee has requested that the final investigation report is received by the Committee as the issue of fire sprinklers in schools was raised at the Executive Scrutiny Committee meeting in February 2013 (Executive Scrutiny minute 4(vi)).</p>

<b>Ongoing via T&amp;F Group</b>	External and Internal Communications	Task and Finish Group	The Committee considered a scoping document (ES-SCR-01/12) and agreed that a Task and Finish Group be convened. This Group has met twice to date, and it is anticipated there will be at least two further meetings. The Committee received an interim report in September 2012. This is currently in hiatus due to the Transformation II programme.
<b>From May 2013 via T&amp;F Group</b>	Procurement Strategy	Task and Finish Group	<p>The Committee agreed at its 30 May 2012 meeting that the Deputy Leader be invited to attend the Committee to present on the strategy which is to be revised in September 2013 to ensure the strategy, as it exists and in future, ensures the procurement of cost-effective, high quality services for the residents of Essex. The report was received in November 2012. It was agreed to refer to the Scrutiny Board for further instruction. The Scrutiny Board in January 2013 referred back to Executive Scrutiny to conduct a review via Task and Finish Group with the caveat this commences post-May 2013.</p> <p>Task and Finish Group established and met on five occasions. An interim report received in November 2013. The final report and recommendations received for ratification by the Full Committee in February 2014, and presented to the Cabinet Member..</p>
<b>December 2013</b>	Engaging with Essex (Your Say)	Task and Finish Group	Task and Finish Group established initially with the same membership as the External & Internal Communications Task and Finish Group. First meeting in September 2013. It was difficult to establish membership and a paper will be received by Committee in March 2014 on public engagement and

			webcasting.
<b>March 2014</b>	Broadband Coverage in Essex	Full Committee	A report will be received on Superfast Essex Broadband in March 2014, potentially leading to a wider review..
<b>TBA</b>	Investment Strategy	Full Committee	
<b>Standing Items</b>			
<b>Ongoing</b>	Quarterly Budget Reports	The Committee will receive quarterly financial reviews.	The 2013/14 reports will continue to be reported to the Committee on an ongoing quarterly basis.
<b>Ongoing</b>	Performance Management		The Corporate Scrutiny Committee takes an overview of the performance scorecard and referrals to other Policy and Scrutiny Committees.
<b>October 2013</b>	Capita Resourcing		The final report prepared by a Task and Finish Group convened from the Central Services Policy and Scrutiny Committee was presented for consideration on 25 January 2011. Report ES/024/11 containing an update from the Task and Finish Group was presented on 26 April 2011 where it was subsequently agreed that the topic would be brought to the 1 May 2012 meeting for continued monitoring. This report was received in July 2012. Committee requested a further update to monitor improvement in 2013 which was received in October 2013. An update will be requested for <b>October 2014</b> .
<b>November 2013</b>	Absence Management	Task and Finish Group	The Community Wellbeing and Older Persons Policy and Scrutiny Committee undertook a review into Absence Management for its' relevant Directorate. The Executive Scrutiny

			<p>Committee awaited the outcome of this scrutiny before continuing with their review. The final scrutiny review report was agreed at the Community Wellbeing and Older Persons Policy and Scrutiny Committee on 9 December. A copy of this report was presented at the 25 January 2011 meeting of the Executive Scrutiny Committee, along with absence figures for all service areas. The Committee agreed (25 January, minute 6) that the topic would be referred to the Scrutiny Board, with a view to discussing each Policy and Scrutiny Committee reviewing their respective directorate absence statistics. The Scrutiny Board subsequently agreed that the Community and Older People P &amp; SC undertakes this task on behalf of all P &amp; SC's and established a Task and Finish Group which would report to Executive Scrutiny. The Committee agreed in September 2012 that this review was now complete given that absence rates within ECC are lower than comparable public sector organisations. A final report was presented to the 5 November 2012 Committee. The Committee will receive updated data in November 2013. An update will be received in <b>April 2014</b>.</p>
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