Essex County Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee Review Scoping Document

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.

Review Topic (Name of review)	Welfare Reform
Committee	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
Relevant Corporate Links	Within the ECC Outcomes Framework this review would link to the following outcomes: Children in Essex get the best start in life; People in Essex enjoy good health and wellbeing; and People in Essex can live independently and exercise control over their lives.
Timescales	The Committee to receive a briefing on Welfare Reform and its impacts on the County Council. It is anticipated that the briefing would be at a single Committee meeting.
Rationale for the Review	Scrutiny should understand and contribute to the impact of welfare reform. The largest impact, as a result of welfare reform, will be on District/Borough/City Councils, as well as Health partners. Despite this the Committee should request a briefing from officers on the impact of welfare reform, and the impact it will have on the daily lives of individuals in receipt of welfare (maybe to include anonymised casestudies).
Key Lines of Enquiry	How is the County Council responding to the changes in welfare? Has the County Council done everything it needs to in order to prepare for the changes? How is the County Council working with District/Borough/City Councils to ensure welfare transition is managed? How is the County Council working with Health partners to ensure welfare transition is managed? How have key messages about the reforms to welfare been communicated by ECC?
Other Work Being Undertaken	Essex County Council have published a booklet entitled Welfare Reform which outlines the changes to the welfare system since April 2013.
What resources are required for this review?	There are no anticipated additional resource requirements for this item.