

		AGENDA ITEM 9
		PSEG/10/15
Committee:	Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	28 May 2015	
WORK PROGRAMME (Minute 7/March 2015)		
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, and to provide an update on the development of the work programme going forward.

- **Current Task and Finish Group Activity**

Oral updates will be given at the meeting on ongoing work being undertaken by the Third Party Responsibilities and Flood Management; and Jobs, Welfare and Skills Task and Finish Groups. It is intended that those Groups will submit scrutiny reports to the Committee in the summer.

- **Roll Forward of the Committee's Work Programme**

At the last meeting an outline was provided on work being undertaken to investigate topics for potential inclusion in the roll forward of the Committee's work programme, and consider how scrutiny resources may be allocated to maximum effect. An important aim of planning committee activity is to provide scrutiny councillors with a greater sense of purpose and an opportunity to influence what happens in Essex, and they will be engaged in that process so that consensus may be reached for managing the Committee's priorities. A draft work programme will be submitted to the Committee in June.

In the meantime the following matters are drawn to the Committee's attention:

Additional meeting

- **Highways Maintenance**

Members who took part in last year's site visit on potholes and highways maintenance, indicated that they would be interested in another site visit to learn more about the practical application of surface dressing and micro surfacing. Both these treatments are referred to in the Committee's scrutiny report that was published in November 2014. Officers have been liaising to identify a date for that visit and it is expected that arrangements will be finalised shortly.

- **Visit to the Waste Facility at Tovi Eco Park (formerly known as Courtauld Road), Basildon**

Arrangements are being made for the Committee to visit the waste facility on 23 July, which is a scheduled committee activity day. It will be a full day visit that will be focussed on a range of issues relating to the Waste Strategy including the Recycling Centres for Household Waste Service.

- **Ringway Jacobs Contract**

A seminar on the Ringway Jacobs Contract is being planned for 24 September. The seminar will be designed along the lines proposed last year when the topic was included in the Committee's work programme. Its purpose will be to develop a better understanding of the Contract, and its management and operation. In turn, it will assist the Committee planning any further reviews and contribute to Members' general highways knowledge. In the summer the Committee will be asked to input into the planning of the review.

- **Bus and Passenger Transport Strategy**

At the last meeting the Committee received an update from the Cabinet Member on the Bus and Passenger Transport Strategy: Getting Around Consultation. As part of the topic selection process the Strategy will be considered for inclusion in the work programme.

In the meantime the Project Team is progressing work on analysing responses to the Consultation, and the setting up of the Bus Strategy Commissioning Board. While details of the new Board are not yet available, there is an opportunity for the Scrutiny Committee to be represented on that Board. An update will be given at today's meeting.

- **Local Highways Panels**

There is a separate item elsewhere in this agenda regarding a briefing to be given on the Panels to this meeting.

**Action required by the Committee at this meeting:**

**To note the content of this report.**

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