

		AGENDA ITEM 8
		PSEG/39/14
Committee:	Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	18 December 2014	
WORK PROGRAMME (Minute 9/November 2014)		
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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).

As the last meeting was on 27 November there is little to report by way of progress in moving the work programme forward, and therefore an oral update will be given at the meeting.

Nevertheless the following is a summary of work underway:

- **Task and Finish Group Activity**

Further evidence gathering meetings of the Committee's Third Party Responsibilities and Flood Management; and Jobs, Welfare and Skills Task and Finish Groups have taken place.

It is hoped that early in the New Year the proposed Task and Finish Groups investigating (a) a recommendation on a Communications Protocol arising from the original COMAH Scrutiny Report, and (b) a new Recycling Centres for Household Waste Service will hold their first meetings.

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

Following the seminar on 27 November, a report has been written and is set out elsewhere on this agenda.

- **Parking Partnerships**

At the last meeting the Chairman drew attention to a request he had received about a proposed decision of the North Essex Parking Partnerships, which gave rise to a brief discussion on some Members' concerns. Consequently proposals will be developed in due course for a review on the two Parking Partnerships.

- **Fuel Poverty**

At the 14 October meeting of Full Council, Councillor Young proposed a motion on the topic of fuel poverty. The motion was defeated but Council agreed to refer the matter to Scrutiny through Councillor Walsh. Accordingly, the Scrutiny Board considered the matter at its meeting on 2 December and decided that the first step should be to commission some research to pull together existing findings from work, which has been done on the subject by other local authorities (including their Scrutiny functions), national government and in academia.

The first step will be to engage with Essex's 'Why Not?' group. They are a group of over-50s trained as social researchers by Anglia Ruskin University and Essex County Council in 2007, aligned to ECC's Planning Groups. More information is available at www.whynot1.org.uk. Councillor Walsh and the Scrutiny Officer will liaise with them to develop a research specification, with a view to the group feeding back to the Scrutiny Board in the first instance.

- **Work Programme**

Although it has not been possible to complete a review and update of the schedule of proposed committee activity over the next few months for the purposes of this particular report, an updated version will be sent to the Committee under separate cover once sufficient information has been collated to complete that task.

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.
