

		AGENDA ITEM 11
		<b>PSEG/16/16</b>
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>26 May 2016</b>	
<div><b>WORK PROGRAMME</b> (Minute 9/ January 2016)</div>		
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This report provides a brief update on the Committee's activities. At its meeting in July 2015 (Minute 5) the Committee agreed a number of issues for inclusion in its work programme for 2015/17 where it could fulfil a useful scrutiny role taking into account the resources available. In the intervening period the programme has been affected by changes in circumstances and new competing priorities for the Committee's attention. It is intended that later in the year a workshop will be organised for the Committee to review what it has achieved over the past two years, and the lessons learned towards developing more effective scrutiny moving forward.

The following is a summary of the main topics where resources are currently being focussed:

- **Call Ins**

Over the past six months there have been three call ins where the Committee has been called upon to consider decisions made by Cabinet Members.

- **Jobs, Welfare and Skills Task and Finish Group**

This scrutiny investigation that has been led by a Task and Finish Group is nearly complete, and will be considered by the Committee as a separate item at this meeting.

- **Third Party Responsibilities and Flood Enforcement in Essex**

The recommendations set out in the Scrutiny Report endorsed in November 2015 (Minute 8) have been forwarded to the relevant Cabinet Members, and a separate report on their interim replies will be considered by the Committee as a separate item at this meeting.

- **Essex Parking Partnerships**

A separate report is set out elsewhere in this agenda on the Committee's conclusions arising from its review of the Executive Review of the Essex Parking Partnerships.

- **Local Highways Panels (LHPs)**

The initial terms of reference for a proposed scrutiny review of the Local Highways Panels and the setting up of a task and finish group were agreed by the Committee in March 2016 (Minute 6). The review has been delayed by the Committee's resources having to be focussed on other priorities that have emerged over past months.

'The overall objective of the review is to consider if the Local Highways Panels (LHPs) have achieved their original objectives, and what lessons have been learned by individual Panels so that good practice may be shared across the Panels:

- To review the purpose of the LHPs,
- to identify the similarities and differences of the twelve LHPs and consider the implications of how localism is being reflected in each district,
- to understand the way that schemes are identified and developed through to completion,
- to consider how individual LHPs identify and prioritise individual projects, and compile a work programme,
- to consider budgetary implications from corporate and individual standpoints,
- to consider how to manage expectations, and
- links to the Essex parking Partnerships.'

As other projects have nearly been completed, it may now be possible for the scrutiny review to go ahead over the summer months.

- **Recycling Centres for Household Waste (RCHW) Service**

It has been envisaged for some time that a task and finish group would be set up with the aim of contributing to the development of a longer term vision for the operation of the RCHW Service in Essex. When the Committee visited the Tovi Eco Park in June 2015, Members were updated on the Waste Strategy including the RCHW Service.

As part of reviewing the current work programme an update on the Service will be sought to enable the Committee to decide whether or not to proceed with this scrutiny review in the light of overall priorities.

- **June Committee Activity Day: 9 June 2016**

Arrangements are being made for the Committee to undertake a site visit to learn more about surface highway dressing on Thursday 9 June 2016 (Minute 9/ March 2016 refers).

- **July Committee Activity Day: 21 July 2016**

As part of the committee activity day scheduled for 21 July, there will be a formal meeting.

**Action required by the Committee:**

**This report has been produced as an update for the Committee on its work programme.**

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