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| <b>AGENDA ITEM 6</b> |  |
| <b>SSC/08/11</b>     |  |
| <b>Committee:</b>    | <b>Safer and Stronger Communities Policy &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>                              |
| <b>Date:</b>         | <b>18 March 2011</b>   |
| <b>FORWARD LOOK</b>  |  |
| <b>Enquiries to:</b> | <b>Christine Sharland, Governance Officer<br/>01245 430450<br/>christine.sharland@essex.gov.uk</b> |

A copy of the Committee's latest work programme showing scheduled meetings is set out at the Appendix to this report, and updates on reviews are set out below.

- **Scrutiny Review on COMAH**

An interim draft report is being prepared for the Committee's consideration in due course.

- **Scrutiny Review on A Board Policy**

To assist the Committee in taking this review forward, further information is being sought from the Cabinet for Highways and Transportation to clarify the County Council's position on the variety of practice that exists across the different districts in Essex. A questionnaire was sent to the District Council seeking their initial views on the management of A Boards, and the six responses received have highlighted a number of issues where further information would support Members in identifying what additional evidence may be required before any conclusions may be reached.

- **Review outcomes of the scrutiny review on Two Wheeler Road Safety**

In February 2009 (Minute 11) the Committee approved its Scrutiny Report on Two Wheeler Road Safety, and twenty four recommendations were subsequently sent to all the stakeholders identified in the report.

Action is now being taken to enable the Committee to monitor the outcomes of its recommendations at a forthcoming scheduled meeting.

- **Road Safety in the vicinity of schools**

At the last meeting Councillor Knapman proposed this as a potential topic for consideration. Members are encouraged to put forward the types of question that they would wish to raise as part of such a review so that they may be taken into account as part of the planning of a review.

- **Credit Unions, and Debt Advice and Citizens Advice Bureau**

These issues were identified by Councillor Kendall as potential topics for scrutiny at the last Economic Development and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee. However, they are issues that fall within the remit of this Committee, and therefore will be investigated so that Members may consider whether or not to include the topics in the Committee's Forward Look.

### **ACTION REQUIRED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**The Committee is requested to consider as appropriate the information set out above.**

**Safer and Stronger Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee:  
Forward Look for 2011 (as at 7 March 2011)**

| Meeting   | Topic                                       | Approach  | Current status                               |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>2011</b><br><i>Where dates are identified they refer to scheduled meetings of the Committee. (SSC- SCR-??) refers to the scoping document reference for the item</i> |   |   |  |
| 11 February   | Review of COMAH Sites (SSC-SCR-13)          | Full Committee to consider evidence submitted by witnesses.   | Ongoing                                      |
|   | Essex Heritage Scrutiny (SSC-SCR-12)        | Full Committee undertook review in 2010.  | Final scrutiny report approved               |
| 18 March  | Flood Management                            | Briefing on new arrangements in Essex arising from the Flood and Water Management Act 2010  |  |
|   | Local Transport Plan Task and Finish Group  | Joint Task and Finish Group with Economic Development and Environment PSC to consider the new draft LTP.  | Report on outcomes of Group's consideration. |
| Spring (tbc)  | Review of COMAH Sites (SSC-SCR-13)          | Full Committee to consider evidence obtained so far and, if necessary, identify any further activity that may be necessary. Sites visits to be arranged | To be agreed in due course                   |
| Spring (tbc)  | A-Board Policy on the Publicly Maintainable | Full Committee investigating management of A Boards.  | To be agreed in due course                   |

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|  | Highway<br>(SSC-SCR-14)                  |  |  |
| Spring (tbc)   | Two Wheeler Safety<br>Ref SSC-SCR-08     | Monitoring outcomes of<br>original scrutiny review<br>approved by the Committee  | Minute 9/ 12<br>February 2010  |
| 10 May<br>following Full<br>Council  | Review of COMAH<br>Sites<br>(SSC-SCR-13) | Ongoing review: As part of<br>the Member Development<br>Programme there is an<br>Emergency Planning<br>Exercise that will be relevant<br>to the Committee's<br>understanding of issues that<br>are relevant to its<br>consideration COMAH<br>review. | Emergency<br>Planning Exercise<br>(being organised<br>as part of Member<br>Development<br>Programme) |
| <p>Scheduled Committee Activity Days:</p> <p>2011: 15 April, 13 May, 17 June, 15 July, 9 September, 14 October, 18 November, and 9 December.</p> <p>2012: 13 January, 10 February, and 9 March</p> |  |  |  |

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|-------------------------------|----------------------|---|---------|
| <b>Task and Finish Groups</b> |                      |   |         |
| November<br>2010 Start        | Local Transport Plan | Joint Group with EDEPSC to<br>consider proposed new Plan. | Ongoing |

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|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Completed Reviews Awaiting Monitoring</b> |                                      |                           |                              |
| March 2011                                   | Two Wheeler Safety<br>Ref SSC-SCR-08 | Scrutiny Review completed | Minute 9/12 February<br>2010 |

*Other issues to be kept under review for inclusion in the Forward Look are Partnership Working, Strategic issues to be addressed by the Fire and Police Services as a result of Government Spending Cuts, and Victoria History of Essex*