

## **OVERALL WORK PROGRAMME**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report details those topics already identified for detailed consideration by this Committee, with a view to Committee agreeing its priorities for the work programme and timetable for carrying out this work. The report also seeks Committee's views as to the organisations/individuals the Committee might like to invite to give their input into the topics being considered.

### **2 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS**

- 2.1 The work of this Committee will need to be conducted in accordance with the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure rules outlined in the Constitution (refer to pages 4.26 – 4.32 of the Constitution)
- 2.2 On this evening's agenda is an item on further policies concerning the emerging Local Plan and rural and urban bus initiatives. This will be one of the key areas of work for this Committee in the coming months, until the Plan is finally published.
- 2.3 In addition, the Committee will have a valuable role in monitoring the performance of Essex County Council Highways and their contractor. It is proposed that they should be asked twice yearly to formally report to this Committee on progress and any issues arising. It is suggested that this take place prior to the summer recess and then in November/December. The Environment Policy Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> March is specifically considering a report in relation to outstanding highway matters in respect of Rayleigh Town Centre and this may result in other proposals coming forward as to how the monitoring of such projects should be carried out. Members will be updated on this at the meeting.
- 2.4 It is also proposed that twice yearly the Council's contractor, Serviceteam, be asked to formally report on progress and issues arising relating to the refuse collection and street cleansing contracts. Here, reporting cycles in September/October and February/March are suggested.
- 2.5 Issues arising out of the problems at Stambridge Sewage Treatment Plan should be brought to this Committee as and when they arise. With a frequency of meeting at four weekly intervals, it should be

possible to consider any matters arising in a speedy and responsive fashion. Appropriate outside agencies and individuals, including Anglian Water, could be invited to attend.

- 2.6 The Committee will need to look at Hackney Carriage Licensing under the new political structures, and make recommendations to full Council in respect of consultation arrangements with both the operators and drivers. This should be programmed for completion by the summer recess at the latest.
- 2.7 The Committee will also need to programme in a report back on the effectiveness of the roll-out of the kerbside recycling initiative and consider any amendments to the current scheme and the way forward. Given that this could have budgetary ramifications, this work should be timetabled so that it is completed by October/November 2002. It should naturally follow on from the workload around the Local Plan being completed.

### **3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 All research, investigations and data collection has a resource implication for the Authority. Where this is significant it may have budget implications beyond the provisions contained within existing estimates.
- 3.2 In some cases workload may have to be spread throughout the year depending on the subjects identified by the various Overview and Scrutiny Committees and how they relate to particular staff resources.

### **4 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES** its work programme in terms of priorities, timetabling and potential invitees to each of the matters under review.

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