

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 are items relating to the frail elderly, emergency planning and housing management. The work around frail elderly, its implications and the way forward is likely to occupy this Committee for a number of meetings, along with work around emergency planning. The Committee will also have the role of overseeing the implementation of the agreed action plan in respect of the Best Value Review on Housing Strategy and Housing Management and so issues around these will be brought to Committee for consideration as appropriate. Members will need to consider what bids the Council should ask Housing Associations to make to the Housing Corporation, in line with Council policy, prior to the summer recess.
- 2.3 Council has also asked this Committee to carry out work in respect of:-
- The integration of Sweyne Park and former Park School and the costings involved.
 - The possible extension of the STAR Partnership given the funding commitment to the Community Development Worker.
 - The feasibility of employing a tenant liaison officer.
- 2.4 It is proposed to bring reports on these items forward for consideration at the earliest opportunity and certainly prior to the summer recess,

although the Sweyne Park/former Park School item would benefit from the completion of the new leisure contract and the determination of the current outline planning application in respect of the former Park School site.

- 2.5 This Committee will be responsible for monitoring the progress on the new Crime & Disorder Strategy. It is suggested that this be formally reviewed twice yearly – in September/October and February/March, with all the key partners being invited to attend and give their views as to how the strategy is being implemented. Following on from the County-wide Best Value Review of Community Safety this year, the intention is to carry out a local review, using the conclusions of the County-wide study and focussing on how working between the partners can be improved. It is proposed that this be brought into the Committee arena to progress prior to the summer recess.
- 2.6 The Committee will also need to oversee and input into the Best Value Review relating to Public Regulation, Inspection and Protection which has just commenced and is due for completion by March 2003. The majority of the work in connection with this is likely to enter the Committee arena in the autumn cycle, although the initial views of the Committee will to be sought prior to the summer recess.
- 2.7 Finally, the Committee will also be responsible for monitoring progress on the new Leisure Contract with Holmes Place and the existing grounds maintenance contract with Serviceteam. It is proposed that Holmes Place be invited to the Committee in September/October and again in February/March, to discuss progress, any issues arising, and the way forward. For Serviceteam it is suggested that they be invited twice yearly in June/July and November/December.

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

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers its work programme in terms of priorities, timetabling and potential invitees to each of the matters under review.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

For further information please contact Paul Warren on:-

Tel:- 01702 318199
E-Mail:- paul.warren@rochford.gov.uk