

ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To set the provisional future work programme for the Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee for the next 12-15 months.

2 Recommendation

The Committee is asked to:-

- 2.1 Consider the issues raised at the recent Work Programme planning meeting and agree whether or not any of the 18 issues identified should be prioritised for inclusion within the work programme from February 2014.
- 2.2 Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and the Senior Scrutiny and Democratic Services Officer, in consultation with the Committee Chairman, to prepare a work programme after taking account of the issues raised at the meeting.

3. Executive summary

- 3.1 The Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee was formed in July 2012 and initially set a work programme in September 2012 covering the period until the end of 2013.
- 3.2 A work programme planning meeting was held on 28 November 2013, which was attended by Councillors Fealey, Mrs Brandis, Foster and Stuchbury, at which Members were asked to identify issues that were within the Committee's terms of reference and would be suitable to look at as either a single report to the whole Committee or as a more "in-depth" review over a number of meetings. Members who were not able to attend the meeting were also free to suggest future topics and these were also included within the identified issues below.
- 3.3 During an interactive planning session, 18 issues were identified for possible inclusion onto the work programme. Information on these issues is detailed at Appendix 1. Officers have given an undertaking to provide a brief commentary on the issues, which will be circulated at the meeting on 16 December 2013.
- 3.4 As further background information, Appendix 2 also details the range of issues discussed over the last two years by the Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.5 Members are requested to consider all of the information submitted to this meeting and agree a provisional work programme for the next 12-15 months. To assist in this process a prioritisation guide is attached at Appendix 4, which asks Members to assess whether the issues put forward are strategic, add value to the work of the Council, or impact on section(s) of the community.

4. Resource Implications

- 4.1 Members will no doubt bear in mind that the Work Programme needs to be manageable both from the Committee's perspective and resourcing work by Officers including representatives from partner organisations.

5. Response to Key Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 The work of overview and scrutiny, particularly on making recommendations on matters which affect the area or its residents all support the key aims and objectives that Aylesbury Vale District Council is striving to achieve.

Contact Officer
Background Documents

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None

Issue	Priority
<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Developments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ how can standards of excellent design be achieved, for example, through incentivising developers to follow good design principles as part of new developments. Could be looked at through DM policies covering design? ○ Councillor Cashman – explore ways in which Development Control Committee can proactively inform planning applications and the planning process generally with robust design principles ○ DM Policies – allow for the layout of larger schemes and major developments to be seen and commented on at an earlier stage by the Council? ○ what is being done to connect new developments with older development, and larger urban areas with bordering villages? • Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What more could be provided to help to bring communities together? ○ Assessing how the sum of a number of smaller developments have a greater impact than their whole on infrastructure, e.g. traffic • District Valuer (raised by Councillor Vick) – review to get a better understanding of the determination process done to assess the viability of providing affordable housing and infrastructure with developments. (The profit on a development is still considerable despite land, building and marketing costs etc. Whilst some developments built to our preferred standards and specification may not achieve the normal levels of profit for a traditional developer, they should still hold very significant profit margins. I believe therefore that they are viable, and we should look at whether the current business model for the developers, or their level of profit, is perhaps becoming out of date with the modern requirements for truly sustainable communities) 	
<p>Licensing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing a licensing scheme for Houses in Multiple Occupancy (HMOs) – scrutiny would like to comment on this when it is considered by Cabinet. • Betting shops 	

Issue	Priority
<p>Housing Delivering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (raised by Councillor Vick) – reviewing the possibility of AVDC becoming the housing developer of choice for communities, whether small scale or MDA, as the Council will be able to implement the standards and infrastructure that communities rightly demand and deserve. <p>(AVDC could, with a department of sourced or existing staff, be completely capable of sourcing land, procuring and developing homes and infrastructure, to the specification that can be classed as truly sustainable, innovative, and a flagship example for other councils to follow)</p> <p>What have other Councils done? Business models?</p>	
<p>Environmental Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 	
<p>Crime and Disorder / Community Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Safety Partnership Plan (outcomes in Aylesbury Vale against the targets within the Plan) Report from AVDC's representative (Cllr Mrs Pearce) on the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel Drug and Alcohol Action and Management 	
<p>Leisure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play Areas – review of the good work that has been done in a number of local areas, including encouraging volunteering Bernwood Project update Parks / Open Spaces – management of them and on recent work done, e.g. re-accreditation for Green Flags. Open spaces- on how these will be provided for in the future and how they will managed (Management Models) Review what is being done to meet the changing needs of the aging population. At the other end of the spectrum, what is being done to provide facilities for young people and, to encourage increased levels of activity of young people, e.g. discounts for activity. What is happening with Youth Clubs Review of use of Council controlled Community Centres Review how Council provides support to groups to access funding (specifically non-Council funding) for local projects, might include talking with Community Impact Bucks. 	

Agenda Items for the period 2012-13

6 November 2013

1. Cycle and Pedestrian Safety
2. Housing and Homelessness Strategy
3. Aylesbury Vale Community Cohesion and Integration Strategy – progress report

18 September 2013

1. Audit of Leisure facilities
2. Farming and wildlife report
3. Vale of Aylesbury Plan – Development Management policies – update report

12 June 2013

1. Quarterly Performance Report
2. Vale of Aylesbury Plan – Development Management policies
3. Public Health (with BCC Cabinet Member + Director of Public Health)

26 March 2013

1. Enforcement in The Vale (focus on Environmental Health & Planning)
2. Wind Energy update
3. Quarterly Performance Digest

13 February 2013

1. Bucks Home Choice – Review of Housing Allocations Policy
2. Task and Finish Group Scoping forms (Renewables AVDC Business, Local Building List)

12 December 2012

1. Aylesbury Vale Infrastructure Delivery Plan
2. The Volunteering Legacy of 2012 in Aylesbury Vale
3. Quarterly Performance Digest

20 November 2012

1. London Luton Airport Development
2. Bucks Home Choice – Review of Housing Allocations Policy

3 October 2012

1. Vale of Aylesbury Plan (Strategy document)

19 September 2012

1. Draft Buckinghamshire Tenancy Strategy
2. Quarterly Performance Digest
3. Corporate Plan indicators

3 July 2012

1. Procurement of a Bio-Waste facility
2. Update of Aylesbury Town Centre Public Realm & Urban Design Guides
3. Sustainable Construction report
4. Quarterly Performance Digest

6 June 2012

1. Corporate Delivery Plans – Vale of Aylesbury Plan

Review topic – outline scope of issue

Appendix 3

Purpose of the review	
Review membership	
Background	1-2 short paragraphs of the background, leading up to the Scrutiny Committee wishing to review this issue
Key questions for the review to ask	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ? • ? • ? • ?
Resources	Both in terms of Officer time, Member time, and of witnesses / public who might be asked to participate in the review
Out of scope	What the review IS NOT looking at, although this might be of interest.
Anticipated outcomes	What are Members hoping to achieve during the review (it might also be helpful to identify the people to whom any recommendations might be presented.
Outline timetable	Of meeting dates and Officers / witnesses that the review would like to speak to, or evidence that Members would like to consider

WORK PROGRAMME PRIORITISATION GUIDE

Appendix 4

