

SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES	Agenda Item No. 7
17 JUNE 2012	Public Report

Report of the Solicitor to the Council

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REVIEW OF 2012/2013 AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2013/14

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Commission with a review of the work undertaken during 2012/13 and to develop a work programme for 2013/14.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Commission considers the 2012/2013 year in review and makes recommendations on the future monitoring of these items where necessary.
- 2.2 That the Commission determines its priorities, and develops a work programme for the forthcoming year.

3. REVIEW OF 2011/12

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities was established by Council at its annual meeting on 18 May 2009. During the year 2012/2013, the Commission considered the following issues:

Information / Update

- Review of 2011/12 and Future Work Programme
- Superfast Broadband – Update
- Making Villages Energy Sustainable

Monitoring / Calling to Account

- Funding For Rural Areas
- Overview of Emerging Changes to Planning Obligations (S106/POIS) and Details About a Proposed New Development Levy for Peterborough (Community Infrastructure Levy – CIL)
- Community Action Plans – Update
- Housing Allocation in Rural Areas
- New Street Lighting in Rural Areas
- Flood Management
- Community Safety
- Bus Services in Rural Areas
- Disability Issues in Rural Areas
- Primary The Provision of Carers in Rural Areas
- Care in Rural Areas

Policy / Plans / Consultation

- Budget 2013/14 and Medium Term Financial Plan

- 3.2 For the information of the Commission, copies of the recommendations made during the year are attached at Appendix 1.

4. WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14

4.1 In accordance with the Constitution, the Commission is responsible for setting its own work programme in line with the Council's key priorities and the Commission's remit.

4.2 The Commission's remit is:

- a) The Commission shall comprise 7 members and not more than 4 non-voting co-opted members.
- b) A member of the Cabinet shall not be appointed to the Commission.
- c) The quorum shall be 4 voting members.
- d) To discharge overview and scrutiny functions, excluding call-in, in relation to any area within the remit of the Scrutiny Committees which has potential for significant impact on the rural communities of Peterborough.
- e) To scrutinise the agencies, mechanisms and processes involved in delivering services to rural communities.
- f) To contribute to the development of policies, strategies and plans in relation to the delivery of services to rural areas.
- g) To advise on and monitor crime and disorder issues in rural areas.
- h) To establish time limited working groups to undertake specific enquiries.
- i) To consider any appeals from petition organisers who are not satisfied with the outcome of the Council's consideration of their petition.

4.3 A draft work programme which shows the items which are currently scheduled along with items carried over from last year is attached at Appendix 2.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

5.1 Minutes of the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities held on 18 June, 16 July, 17 September, 19 November 2012 and 14 January, 6 February and 26 March 2013.

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 - Recommendations made during 2012/2013
Appendix 2 – Draft Work Programme 2013/14