

STRONG AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 6
6 JUNE 2012	Public Report

Report of the Solicitor to the Council

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REVIEW OF 2011/2012 AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2012/13

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with a review of the work undertaken during 2011/12 and to develop a work programme for 2012/13.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee considers the 2011/2012 year in review and makes recommendations on the future monitoring of these items where necessary.
- 2.2 That the Committee determines its priorities, and develops a work programme for the forthcoming year.

3. REVIEW OF 2011/12

- 3.1 The Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee was established by Council at its annual meeting on 18 May 2009. During the year 2011 -2012, the Committee considered the following issues:

- Neighbourhood Committee – Progress Report on recommendations made by Neighbourhood Council Review Group to Cabinet
- Trees in Bridge Street
- Neighbourhood Committee Review Group – New Terms of Reference
- Citizen Power Programme – outcome of review
- Commercial Operations
- Establishment of the Citizens Power Task and Finish Group
- Housing Allocations Policy, Homelessness Strategy, Empty Homes Strategy
- Tackling Poverty
- Budget 2012/13 and Medium Term Financial Plan
- Vivacity Cultural and Leisure Trust Annual Progress
- Neighbourhood Committee Implementation Group Interim Report

As the Council's designated Crime and Disorder Committee the Committee considered the following issues:

- Empowering people and creating cohesive communities
- Reducing crime and tackling anti-social behaviour
- Integrated Offender Management
- Designated Public Places Order
- Dog Control Orders
- Safer Peterborough Partnership Plan
- Community Cohesion Strategy

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

4. WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13

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

4.2 The Committee's remit is:

To review and scrutinise the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy priority of creating strong and supportive communities. This will include reviewing and scrutinising the performance of other public bodies in their activities and performance in the delivery of the Single Delivery Plan targets.

Hold the Executive to account for the discharge of functions in the following ways:

- by exercising the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Executive or key decisions which have been delegated to an officer.
- by scrutinising Key Decisions which the Executive is planning to take, as set out in the Forward Plan
- by scrutinising Executive decisions after they have been implemented, as part of a wider policy review.

To review and scrutinise the planning, decisions, policy development, service provision and performance relating to the following service areas:

- Cohesion
- Cultural Services
- Neighbourhood Services
- City Centre

To assist and advise the Council and the Executive in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues in relation to the terms of reference of the committee.

Make recommendations to the Executive and/or Council arising from overview and scrutiny activity.

Establish ad-hoc Task and Finish Groups to investigate specific topics on behalf of the Committee on a time-limited basis.

To undertake all of the Council's statutory functions in accordance with Sections 19 & 20 and associated regulations of the Police and Justice Act 2006, relating to scrutiny of crime and disorder matters, including acting as the Council's crime and disorder committee.

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 Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 15 June, 20 July, 14 September, 9 November 2011 and 18 January, 30 January, and 7 March 2012.

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 - Responses to recommendations made during 2011/2012
Appendix 2 – Draft Work Programme 2012/13