

SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES	Agenda Item No. 5
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Report of the Solicitor to the Council

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PRIORITIES AND WORK PLAN FOR THE 2010-2011 YEAR

1. PURPOSE

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

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Commission determines its priorities, and prepares a work programme, for the 2010-2011 municipal year.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 In preparing the work programme, the Commission is requested to consider its functions as set out in the terms of reference:
- a) 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.
 - b) To scrutinise the agencies, mechanisms and processes involved in delivering services to rural communities.
 - c) To contribute to the development of policies, strategies and plans in relation to the delivery of services to rural areas.
 - d) To advise on and monitor crime and disorder in rural areas.
 - e) To establish time limited working groups to undertake specific enquiries.
- 3.2 In accordance with the constitution, the Commission is reminded that the following items are designated as 'excluded matters' and may not be included on any agenda:
- a) Any matter relating to a licensing or planning decision;
 - b) Any matter relating to an individual body where there is already a statutory right to a review or appeal (other than the right to complain to the Local government Ombudsman); and
 - c) Any matter which is vexatious, discriminatory or not reasonable to be included on the agenda for, or to be discussed at, a meeting of the Commission.
- 3.3 From time to time, members may request reports for 'information only'. 'Information only' items will be addressed through the 'Scrutiny Bulletin' system. From this process, any items identified by the Commission as suitable for further scrutiny may be added to the work programme as necessary.

4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

4.1 None.

5. APPENDICES

5.1 Appendix 1 – Peterborough’s Local Area Agreement 2008-11