



Report to Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Thursday 21st July 2016

Report of: Policy & Improvement Officer

Subject: Work Programme 2016/17

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A draft work programme is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and discussion.

The work programme aims to focus on a small number of issues, in depth. This means that the Committee will need to prioritise the issues which will be included on formal meeting agendas. In doing this, the Committee may wish to reflect on the prioritisation principles attached at Appendix 3 to ensure that scrutiny activity is focussed where it can add most value. Appendix 2 provides a log of the issues looked at in 2015-16.

Where an issue is not appropriate for inclusion on a meeting agenda, but there is significant interest from members, the Committee can choose to request a written briefing.

The draft work programme includes the following topics that the Committee have previously considered and recommended there be a future update on and also items that were identified, but not considered in 2015-16:

- Challenge for Change (C4C): Community Engagement Report
- Challenge for Change (C4C): Vacant Property Management Report
- Welfare Reform
- Housing & Planning Bill 2016
- Local Area Partnerships
- Housing+ Model

The work programme remains a live document and will be shared / discussed at each committee meeting.

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17
- Provide comment / feedback on the draft work programme
- Identify priority topics for inclusion in the work programme

Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee
Draft Work Programme 2016-17

Chair: Cllr Tony Damms

Vice Chair: Cllr Richard Shaw

[Meeting Papers on SCC Website](#)

Meeting day/ time: Thursday 4-7pm

Please note: the work programme is a live document and so is subject to change.

Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Lead Officer/s
Thursday 21st July 4-7pm		
Challenge for Change (C4C) - Community Engagement Report Page 30	<p>The customer scrutiny panel known as Challenge for Change (C4C) was set up in 2011 to perform an independent review of services delivered by the Council Housing Service. Their review of Community Engagement was undertaken in 2013/14.</p> <p>In April 2016 the Committee received a written update on this piece of work and requested a further update regarding the reports' recommendations and progress.</p>	<p>Tina Gilbert, Assistant Manager, Communities</p> <p>Catherine Hill, Assistant Manager, Communities - Council Housing Service</p> <p>Naz Koriba, Communications Account Manager</p> <p>Tenants involved in the Challenge for Change customer scrutiny panel have also been invited to attend the meeting.</p>
An overview of the role and remit of the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee	To provide the committee with an overview of the role and remit of this committee, including areas of responsibility and legislative powers.	Diane Owens, Policy & Improvement Officer
Draft Work Programme 2016-17	To consider the committees work programme for 2016/17.	Diane Owens, Policy & Improvement Officer

The implications of the Housing and Planning Act 2016

Following agreement by both Houses on the text of the Bill it received Royal Assent on 12th May 2016 and is now an Act of Parliament.

The Act contains provisions on new homes (including starter homes), landlords and property agents, abandoned premises, social housing (including extending the Right to Buy to housing association tenants; sale of local authority assets; 'pay-to-stay'; secure tenancies), planning, compulsory purchase, and public land (duty to dispose).

This report will provide an outline of the implications of the bill and how we plan to respond in Sheffield.

Peter Brown, Project Manager - Future of Council Housing

Louise Cassin, Housing Revenue Account (HRA), Business Plan Team Officer

Other officers tbc

Thursday 20th October 4-7pm

Neighbourhood / Locality Working - Draft Report

Following previous discussions including the raising of a public question around Local Area Partnerships (in December 2015) the committee agreed to request an update on the broader piece of work which is looking at neighbourhood / locality working once complete.

The Cabinet Member and Lead Officers will attend scrutiny to present the draft report. The Committee will be able to provide comment / suggestions.

Cllr Jack Scott, Cabinet Member for Community Services and Libraries

James Henderson, Director Policy, Performance & Communications

Other officers tbd.

Sheffields' Cohesion Framework - Draft

The Cabinet Member and Lead Officers will attend to present Sheffield's draft cohesion framework.

The Committee will be able to provide comment / suggestions.

Cllr Jack Scott, Cabinet Member for Community Services and Libraries

Dawn Shaw, Head of Libraries and Community Services

Thursday 15th December 4-7pm		
Welfare Reform	To receive an update on welfare reform, with a specific focus on the two key areas of Universal Credit (UC) and Personal Independence Payments (PIPS).	James Henderson, Director Policy, Performance & Communications Other Officers tbc.
<p>Panel Briefing Paper Challenge for Change - Report on Council Housing Services preparation for the implementation of Universal Credit “</p>	<p>The customer scrutiny panel known as Challenge for Change (C4C) was set up in 2011 to perform an independent review of services delivered by the Council Housing Service.</p> <p>This report covers the group’s piece of work which looked at "Council Housing Services preparation for the implementation of universal credit". The Panel have produced a concise report and recommendations.</p>	<p>Tina Gilbert, Assistant Manager, Communities</p> <p>Other officers tbc.</p>

Thursday 6th April 4-7pm

Housing + Model and Implementation

To receive an update on the Housing + model and plans for implementation, for scrutiny to provide comment / suggestions.

Janet Sharpe, Director of Housing and Neighbourhoods Service

Maxine Stavrianakos, Head of Neighbourhood Intervention & Tenant Support

Challenge for Change (C4C): Vacant Property Management (update on progress)

The customer scrutiny panel known as Challenge for Change (C4C) was set up in 2011 to perform an independent review of services delivered by the Council Housing Service.

This report covers their project on Vacant property management. The overall purpose of the project was to examine the "Vacant Properties Service" to look at ways of improving the time it takes to turnaround vacant properties for the Council to save it money and improve the service from a customer's point of view.

This report would provide an update on progress in implementing the report's recommendations.

Tina Gilbert, Assistant Manager, Communities

Other Officers tbd.

Other possible topics		
Community Safety / Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership	The committee could request an update on the work of the Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership or focus on a specific topic / issue.	tbd
Briefing Paper Homelessness & rough sleeping (briefing paper)	<p>At its January 2016 meeting Full Council requested that a report on the issue of support for rough sleepers in the city be submitted to the relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee for consideration.</p> <p>This Committee received an update on homelessness & rough sleeping in April 2016, officers and Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Housing) were in attendance to present the report and respond to questions. The Committee agreed to add this topic to its 2016-17 Work Programme as a possible briefing paper item.</p>	Suzanne Allen, Head of Citywide Neighbourhood Services Zoe Young, Housing Options and Advice Service Manager

Log of the issues looked at by Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny in 2015-16

Topic	Municipal Year	Month
Overview of the Committee's Role and Remit	2015/16	July
Customer Engagement in the Housing Repairs Insourcing Project	2015/16	July
The Private Rented Sector in Sheffield	2015/16	July
Police and Crime Panel Update	2015/16	July
Work Programme 2016/16	2015/16	July
Welfare Reform - July 2015 - Update - Briefing Paper	2015/16	July
Right to Buy - Update - Briefing Paper	2015/16	July
Implications of the National "Summer Budget" for Housing	2015/16	September
Police and Crime Panel Update	2015/16	September
Right to Buy Update - Briefing Paper	2015/16	September
Housing Revenue Account Business Plan - Annual Review	2015/16	October
Police and Crime Panel Update	2015/16	October
Right to Buy Update - Briefing Paper	2015/16	October
Private Rented Sector - Briefing Paper	2015/16	October
Community Engagement Review	2015/16	December
Housing and Planning Bill Update	2015/16	December
Police and Crime Panel Update	2015/16	December
Right to Buy Update - Briefing Paper	2015/16	December
Sheffield Money - Briefing Paper	2015/16	December
Community Safety	2015/16	February
Police and Crime Panel Update	2015/16	February
Right to Buy - Briefing Paper	2015/16	February
Private Rented Sector - Briefing Paper	2015/16	February
Challenge for Change: Vacant Property Management	2015/16	February
Rough Sleeping in Sheffield	2015/16	April
S&S Communities Annual Report (draft) & work programme	2015/16	April
Police and Crime Panel Update	2015/16	April
Challenge for Change: Community Engagement Report: Progress - Briefing Paper	2015/16	April
Right to Buy - Briefing Paper	2015/16	April

Selecting Scrutiny topics

This tool is designed to assist the Scrutiny Committees focus on the topics most appropriate for their scrutiny.

- **P**ublic Interest
The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;
- **A**bility to Change / Impact
Priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically have an impact on, and that will influence decision makers;
- **P**erformance
Priority should be given to the areas in which the Council, and other organisations (public or private) are not performing well;
- **E**xtent
Priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the city (geographical or communities of interest);
- **R**eplication / other approaches
Work programmes must take account of what else is happening (or has happened) in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort. Alternatively, could another body, agency, or approach (e.g. briefing paper) more appropriately deal with the topic

Other influencing factors

- **Cross-party** - There is the potential to reach cross-party agreement on a report and recommendations.
- **Resources**. Members with the Policy & Improvement Officer can complete the work needed in a reasonable time to achieve the required outcome