

Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee Scrutiny

Work programme debate outcomes for 2012/2013

General Principles

After consultation with councillors the committee has agreed its programme. Topics will be considered both inside and outside of “formal committee” meetings and each topic will be led by a small group of councillors.

The focus will be on more detailed Panel work rather than formal committee meetings. The “Select Committee” principles will continue to be developed by councillors for at least one of the available committee meetings. Co-option around themes and issues for debate will be considered to enhance the expertise and views of the committee.

A Finance and Performance Panel has been set to bring together and encourage focus and expertise within the member group.

The programme remains flexible and open to reorganisation by committee. A complete review will be undertaken by the Chair and Vice-Chair in January 2013

The information that follows shows the programme divided between:

- Standing Panels
- Short Term Panels
- Detailed Review Topics
- Inquiries to be conducted at committee meetings including “select committee” style topics.

Each item is supported by interested members of the committee with one of this number taking a lead role.

Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2012/2013

Standing Panels

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Progress	Nominated councillors
Finance and Performance Panel	Corporate performance against target Service performance against target Budget spending and achievement of savings Medium Term Financial Strategy Treasury Management – strategy and delivery Business rate changes The Panel will become the budget Review Group	Agreed meeting dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28th August at 6.00pm • 26th. November at 6.00pm • 31st. January at 6.00pm 	No substitutions allowed. Cllrs. Mills, Rowley, Simmons and Kennedy.

2

Short Term Panels

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Progress	Nominated councillors
Investment in	To consider the City's investment in youth services:	Panel to meet to agree their focus within	No substitutions

Youth Services – focus and outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spending plans • Opportunities to increase investment through grants and partnership working • Targeted groups, areas and outcomes. • Measures and performance against these 	<p>the guide given by the committee.</p> <p>Panel report to CEB 12th. September on the programme start up proposals. Recommendations agreed.</p> <p>Panel need to meet to decide if they wish to take the scrutiny work further.</p>	<p>allowed.</p> <p>Cllrs. Mills, Rowley and Canning</p>
ω Recycling rates - ambition	<p>The Council’s ambition is to increase recycling rates to 52% by 2015/16. Is this ambitious enough. What would be needed to improve on this.</p>	<p>Look at rates and services in other urban authorities and decide if our ambition is the right one for a “great Council”.</p> <p>Panel to meet on the 23rd. November to consider proposed policy changes for domestic recycling. Supported proposals</p> <p>To move on to consider Commercial waste collection and recycling.</p>	<p>No substitutions allowed.</p> <p>Councillors Fry, Simmons and Jones.</p>

Detailed Review Topic

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Progress	Nominated councillors
-------	-------------------	----------	-----------------------

Budget Review	To review the proposals and principles within the Medium Term Financial Strategy and budget for robustness and deliverability.	Review to begin in December. Officer and Board Member interview dates set as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9th. January 6.00pm • 14th. January 6.00pm • 15th. January 6.00pm Budget review underway. Update at January committee	No substitutions allowed. All members of the Finance and Performance Panel plus Cllrs. Fry and Fooks.
---------------	--	--	---

Committee Inquires

4

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Progress	Nominated councillors
Transition to Universal Credit	Transition begins in October 2013. How are we planning for this in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working assumptions and current plans. • Funding draw down and budgetary affects. • Customer Service provision – face to face inquiries and “sign posting”. • Partnerships with City Advice Agencies 	September meeting initial discussion. Information on the effect on rent arrears and tenancy management requested for the January meeting.	All committee

Council Tax Benefit scheme development	<p>What will our local scheme look like. Who are the winners and losers. What effects will this have on our budgets and what are the administration costs likely to be. What are our neighbours proposals.</p>	<p>September meeting initial discussion.</p> <p>Financial modelling for exemptions and information from other authorities considered at the November meeting. Scheme now agreed by Council.</p>	All committee
Covered Market – economic health and development	<p>Select committee debate. To consider the “economic health” of the covered market and in particular the effects of rents on the diversity of traders.</p>	<p>Select committee scheduled for January meeting.</p> <p>Briefing paper produced by the Panel at the November meeting. Scope agreed and work underway. Verbal update at January meeting. Committee agreed to extend Panel membership.</p>	Cllrs. Fooks, Van Nooijen, Clarkeson and Campbell.
HMO registration progress. Effects of the scheme on the supply of rented accommodation	<p>Progress on the implementation of the licensing scheme. Committee are particularly interested in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any effects on the availability or cost of rented accommodation. • Improvements within the privately rented stock. 	<p>Report considered at the November meeting. Results of landlord and tenant survey requested by the Committee. Landlord survey available at January meeting. Tenant survey not yet happened.</p>	All committee
City Council's procurement process and	<p>To consider the Council's Procurement Strategy and its outcomes for spending with local companies.</p>	<p>September meeting initial discussion.</p> <p>Pre-scrutiny of Procurement</p>	All committee

9

their effects locally		Strategy at the November meeting. Recommendations made to CEB in December.	
Work force	How representative is our work force across the equality strands and as a match to the local population. How do we train and promote employees across the equality strands. The committee is particularly interested in the current position, areas for improvement and plans to produce better outcomes.	Report containing current data at the January meeting	All committee
Complaints monitoring report	Called from the Forward Plan by the Chair for pre-scrutiny	Item delayed in the Forward Plan. Now scheduled for the April meeting.	All committee
Parking in Parking Areas Adjacent to Parks	Call in of decision at 12 th . September CEB Reasons given for call in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact on neighbouring areas • The balance between revenue from charges and penalties • Whether there are other factors in play which might be distorting the comparison of user numbers 	Additional meeting 5 th . November. Call in not supported but related recommendation to CEB on the 5th. December.	All committee

Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee Agenda Schedules

In addition to the items listed below each committee will have 3 standing items:

1. The work programme.
2. Report back on recommendations made.
3. Update by lead members on the work of their panels and reviews.

Dates	Slots and Items
19 th . September 2012	1. Local Council Tax Benefit Scheme development. 2. Transition to Universal Credit. 3. Procurement policies and practices and the effects on the local economy. Meeting full
5 th . November 2012	1. Parking in parking areas adjacent to parks – call in
27 th . November 2012	1. HMO registration and effects 2. Procurement Strategy. 3. Covered Market Briefing Paper. 4. Financial Modelling for Council Tax exemptions including what other authorities are doing. Meeting full
28 th . January 2013	1. Finance and Performance Panel Budget Review Update. 2. Covered Market Panel update. 3. Progress on Direct Payment pilot project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effect on rent arrears and tenancy management • Support and Debt Advice 4. Workforce data and representation. 5. HMO licensing – results of landlord survey. Meeting full
3 rd . April 2013	1. Panel Report – Investment in Youth Services 2. Recycling ambitions

	3. Pre-scrutiny of the Complaints monitoring report
	4. Vacant slot

Finance and Performance Panel Agenda Schedules

Dates	Slots and Items
28 th . August 2012	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Qtr. 1 Performance against Service Targets. 2. Qtr. 1 Performance against Corporate Targets. 3. Qtr. 1 Treasury Management Performance. 5. Qtr. 1 Spending and savings 6. Business Rate Changes – likely budgetary effects
26 th . November 2012	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Combined Qtr. 2 Performance, Risk and spending report. 2. Qtr. 2 Treasury Management Performance. 3. Corporate Measures 2013/2014 4. Budget Review Planning
31 st January 2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Combined Qtr. 3 Performance, Risk and spending report.. 2. Qtr. 3 Treasury Management Performance. 3. Draft Treasury Management Strategy 13/14. 4. Final CEB budget proposals – consultation result.

This page is intentionally left blank