

## **Communities and Partnership Scrutiny Committee**

### **Work programme debate outcomes for 2012/2013**

#### **General Principles**

After consultation with councillors the committee has decided this year to run its programme through a series of themes. Each theme 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 Housing Standing Panel has been set to bring together all housing issues and therefore mirror the organisation of the Council. Tenants will be asked to express their interest in joining this Panel and the most suitable candidate will be appointed for the year.

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.

## Communities and Partnership Scrutiny Committee

### Work Programme 2012/2013

#### Standing Panels

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Progress	Nominated councillors
Housing	<p>All strategic and landlord issues previously contained within the remit of Communities and Partnership and Value and Performance Scrutiny Committees. A separate programme will be agreed for these debates. Current suggestions from Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tenancy Strategy.</li> <li>• Homelessness Strategy.</li> <li>• Rent arrears and debt advice. Support and outreach.</li> <li>• Operation of Governance arrangements in the HRA Business Plan.</li> <li>• Housing Strategy – Delivery of year 1 action plan</li> <li>• Monitoring of the effects of housing and benefit policy changes in the City</li> <li>• Support for the independent Tenant Scrutiny Panel</li> </ul>	<p>Panel to meet in July to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elect a lead member</li> <li>• Set programme of debate</li> <li>• Take advice on a tenant representative</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel has now met twice and agreed their outline programme which is at the end of this document.</b></p> <p><b>The Panel has also appointed Linda Hill to be a tenant representative on the Panel. Linda will serve until 2014.</b></p>	<p><b>No substitutions allowed.</b></p> <p>Cllrs. Sanders, McCready, Humberstone and Campbell. Linda Hill (Tenant representative)</p>
Education	To work with and scrutinise the focus and outcomes	Panel to meet in July to:	<b>No substitutions</b>

	<p>from the City Council's investment in primary education.</p> <p>A separate programme will be agreed for these debates after discussions with the Council's Education Advisor.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elect a lead member</li> <li>• Take Advice from the Council's Education Advisor</li> </ul> <p>A launch conference is planned for this initiative. Provisional date 19<sup>th</sup>. July 2013 places have been requested for scrutiny members at this conference.</p> <p><b>Panel have agreed to monitor the progress of 1 participating school through a first hand relationship with staff at that school. This will begin early in the new year.</b></p> <p><b>Other paper based data will also be monitored.</b></p> <p><b>Further focus to challenge the County Council on poor attendance at some schools. Information gathering underway.</b></p>	<p><b>allowed.</b></p> <p>Cllrs. Campbell, Clack, Kennedy, Khan and Jones</p>
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**Short Term Panels**

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Progress	Nominated councillors
Customer	To be involved in the development and next steps of	Panel to meet with Head of Service and	<b>No substitutions</b>

Contact	the Customer Contact Strategy towards the Customer Excellence Award	<p>Board Member as soon as possible to be briefed on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current position</li> <li>• Ambitions for the future (customer excellence)</li> <li>• Challenges and change</li> </ul> <p>To agree how best to engage with process to achieve understanding and influence.</p> <p><b>Information requested on the current performance position.</b></p> <p><b>Panel to meet in January to consider next steps.</b></p>	<p><b>allowed.</b></p> <p>Cllrs. Wilkinson and Haines</p>
Public Health Select Committee.	To work with the Board Member and Head of Service to produce an implementation plan for the agreed recommendations from the committee Public Health Select Committee	<p>Meeting to be arranged with the Board Member as soon as possible.</p> <p><b>Panel Members have met with the Board Member and recommendation on the Tweenager project and activity taster sessions are planned for implementation</b></p> <p><b>We are still looking for a community group to engage in a community health project.</b></p>	<p><b>No substitutions allowed.</b></p> <p>Cllrs. Jones and Sinclair</p>

### Detailed Review Topic

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Progress	Nominated councillors
Supporting young people into education, training and work.	Select Committee run during the 2012 programme which suggested a review engaging young people to decide if initiatives and services offered in support of this theme are focused and directed towards best outcomes. Within this to be particularly mindful of any practical and cultural differences that may affect take up and success by young people.	Outline of consultation with young people agreed by members. This needs to be progressed and agreed with the aim of beginning the consultation in September.  <b>No progress</b>	<b>No substitutions allowed.</b>  Cllrs. Lloyd-Shogbesan, Khan and Kennedy.

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### Committee Inquires

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Progress	Nominated councillors
Community Cohesion	To consider how effectively community centres are run to engage and empower communities. In particular to look at processes underway to improve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management arrangements.</li> <li>• Governance.</li> <li>• Training.</li> <li>• Contribution to community co-hesion</li> </ul>	Work is already underway in the organisation to support and improve outcomes from community associations.  To ask officers working in this area to outline to the committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements made</li> </ul>	All

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus for on going work</li> <li>• How they see and encourage a link between community centres and community cohesion.</li> </ul> <p><b>This item was taken at the November meeting and members asked for further information on the maintenance programme and condition survey.</b></p>	
What the City Council and its partners do to support local business and the local high street.	<p>The health of local high streets and shopping centres is important to the diversity of the City.</p> <p>National economic difficulties have their part to play in the survival of local businesses that make up local centres but what is or can the City and its partners do to support and encourage diversity.</p>	<p>Councillors to meet to scope the information required.</p> <p><b>Information from the Panel considered at the November meeting. Panel to bring forward a scope at the January meeting.</b></p>	Cllrs. Clack, Wilkinson and Wolff .
Enfranchisement and Empowerment	<p>The first report on the census is due shortly this will show the proportion of people who did not complete the form without at least 1 reminder. Alongside this there are a number of households with no one registered to vote.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do we have a good understanding of the varied and complex reasons for this?</li> <li>• Do we understand the extent of the demographic deficit created by this?</li> <li>• What does it mean for services, funding and</li> </ul>	<p>Select committee debate on this item.</p> <p>Councillors to meet to scope and decide on witnesses.</p> <p><b>Data from the census and electoral register is being bought together to give a starting point for discussion.</b></p> <p><b>Panel has met and continue to</b></p>	Cllrs. Jones, Darke and O'Hara.

	<p>the understanding of our communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What effects does this have on community cohesion and engagement?</li> </ul> <p>What can we reasonably do to understand and improve the situation?</p>	<p><b>consider data. Waiting for further census data available in January.</b></p> <p><b>Update to committee at January meeting</b></p>	
What is the role of the Council in local celebratory events?	<p>A number of local celebratory events are held in the City each year. These play an important role in community cohesion and add to the vibrancy and diversity of the City.</p> <p>The City Council uses a number of these events in its literature and promotional work as examples of the community and the Council working together to produce valued events that support and promote cohesion.</p> <p>The role of the Council in the staging and funding of these events has changed over the last few years.</p> <p>How does the Council see its role now? Are the events better or worse because of this change?</p>	<p>Select committee debate on this item.</p> <p>Councillors to meet to scope and decide on witnesses.</p> <p><b>No progress</b></p>	Cllrs. Wolff and Lloyd-Shogbesen.
Economic Development and Growth Strategy refresh (former regeneration strategy)	<p>Pre-scrutiny. Consultation period ends at February CEB.</p> <p>Called from the Forward Plan by the committee Chair.</p>	Listed for the January committee meeting	All
Community	Pre-scrutiny. Consultation period ends at February	Listed for the January committee	All

Infrastructure levy – draft charging schedule	Council. Called from the Forward Plan by the committee Chair.	meeting.	
Green Spaces Strategy	Called from the Forward plan by the committee. Will be considered at CEB 13 <sup>th</sup> . February	Listed for the January meeting	All

### Ongoing Work

The committee decide to:

- Complete the on-going work on Area Forums. – **Report agreed at CEB on the 5<sup>th</sup>. December.**



## Communities and Partnership 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.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Slots and Items</b>
28 <sup>th</sup> . November 2012	1. Report on the review of Area Forums in the first year. 2. Community Centres/Community Co-hesion. 3. Support for local business and the local high street.  <b>Meeting full</b>
30 <sup>th</sup> . January 2012	1. High Street Panel - scope 2. Economic Development and Growth Strategy refresh (former regeneration strategy) – pre-scrutiny. 3. Community Infrastructure levy – draft charging schedule – pre-scrutiny. 4. Green Spaces Strategy – Pre-scrutiny 5. Community Centres – Maintenance programme and condition survey 6. Enfranchisement and Empowerment - update  <b>Meeting full</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> . April 2012	1. Select committee – local celebratory events. 2. Report of the review on supporting young people into education, training and employment. 3. Educational Attainment Panel update. 4. Enfranchisement and Empowerment 5. Customer Contact Panel report 6. High Street Panel report  <b>Meeting full</b>

**N.B.**

One meeting in December dropped from the original programme.

## Housing Standing Panel

### Agenda Schedules 2012/13

#### Housing Panel Agenda Schedules

Date	Item
23 <sup>rd</sup> November – 3.30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Housing Strategy Action Plan.</li><li>2. Performance against the Local Housing Offer.</li></ol>
4 <sup>th</sup> . February 2013 – 4.00pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. HRA Business Plan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Governance</li><li>• Finance</li><li>• Operational arrangements</li></ul></li><li>2. Homelessness Strategy Action Plan. Including updates on:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting people Funding reductions and the effects on homeless provision in the City – options</li><li>• Temporary accommodation review – options</li></ul></li><li>3. Work programme:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Items suggested by co-opted tenant Linda Hill.</li><li>• New lines of inquiry.</li><li>• Dates</li></ul></li></ol>
March?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Debt Advice and managements arrangements. Rent arrears levels and trends. To include written submissions from Advice agencies in the City.</li></ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Empty Holmes Strategy</li> <li>3. Fundamental Service Review – Repairs and Maintenance.</li> <li>4. Performance against local offer plus developments.</li> </ol>
April?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Effects of Government Housing Policies in Oxford</li> </ol>