

Eden District Council
Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee

2 July 2015

Scrutiny Work Plan
Report of the Chairman

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report is a standing item and sets out the current and potential future agenda items for the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee. The report invites suggestions for possible agenda items from all non-Executive Members.

2 Recommendation:

That any future agenda items at the next or future meetings be agreed.
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3 Report Details

- 3.1 The work plan allows all non-Executive Members the opportunity to suggest possible agenda items for Scrutiny meetings. The agenda items for each committee meeting will ultimately be determined by the Chairman. The work plan is attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- 3.2 The work plan outlines known agenda items and items suggested by non-Executive Members. Members are invited to discuss the work plan and agree any items that they would like to receive at their next meeting and agree any agenda items which they may wish to receive at future meetings. The scheduling of agenda items will be undertaken in consultation with the Chairman and relevant service areas.
- 3.3 Any agenda item suggested should be within the remit of the Board or Committee considering the report.
- 3.4 The following topics were suggested as part of the Scrutiny Work Programme Consultation, carried out between January and March this year. These topics were considered by officers to be more suitable as agenda items or briefings:

Three suggestions about littering – suggesting scrutiny review into how best to improve the situation in Eden	To assess the extent of littering within Eden, how this compares with similar local authority areas and investigate methods of deterring and educating people.	Briefing: Officer or Portfolio Holder briefing to assess work being undertaken presently
A review into fly tipping / rubbish clearing in Eden.	To assess the extent of fly tipping/rubbish clearing within Eden in order to identify the scale, compare with similar local authorities and identify possible methods of deterrents and education.	Briefing: Officer or Portfolio Holder briefing to assess work being undertaken presently
Review of business rates	To feed into a national review of Business Rates that is presently being undertaken.	Briefing- initially to find out status of national review to ensure scrutiny involvement would be timely

3.5 It is for the members of the Committee to decide if any of the items above should be added to the Work Plan in the form suggested ie as briefings.

3.6 The Committee can also consider the refreshed Portfolio Roles and Responsibilities as attached at **Appendix B** to this report when considering additional agenda items for the Committee's Work Plan.

4 Policy Framework

4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:

Decent Homes for All
Strong Economy, Rich Environment
Thriving Communities
Quality Council

4.2 This report meets the Quality Council corporate priority by ensuring that the Council has good governance arrangements in place and is operating in an open and transparent way, with Members who are kept informed and motivated.

5 Implications

5.1 Legal

- 5.1.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

5.2 Financial

- 5.2.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2015-19 as agreed at Council on the 16 April 2015.

There are no proposals in this report that would reduce or increase resources.

5.3 Equality and Diversity

- 5.3.1 The Council has to have regard to the elimination of unlawful discrimination and harassment and the promotion of equality under the Equality Act 2010 and related statutes.

- 5.3.2 None arising from this report.

5.4 Environmental

- 5.4.1 The Council has to have due regard to conserving bio-diversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

- 5.4.2 None arising from this report.

5.5 Crime and Disorder

- 5.5.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 the Council has to have regard to the need to reduce crime and disorder in exercising any of its functions.

- 5.5.2 None arising from this report.

5.6 Children

- 5.6.1 Under the Children Act 2004 the Council has to have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the exercise of any of its functions.

- 5.6.2 None arising from this report.

5.7 Risk Management

- 5.7.1 The work plan helps to maintain clear and transparent decision making which assists in maintaining the reputation of the Council.

6 Reasons for decision/recommendation

- 6.1 The inclusion of the work plan allows Scrutiny members to have a greater sense of ownership over their meetings, which assists with maintaining member engagement in the decision making process.

P G Foote
Director of Corporate and Legal Services

Governance Checks:

Checked by or on behalf of the Chief Finance Officer	✓
Checked by or on behalf of the Monitoring Officer	✓

Background Papers:

None

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