

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee			
Title	Select Committee work programme		
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item	5
Class	Part 1 (Open)	03 December 2014	

## 1. Purpose

To advise Members of the proposed work programme for the municipal year 2014/15, and to decide on the agenda items for the next meeting.

## 2. Summary

2.1 At the beginning of the new administration, each select committee drew up a draft work programme for submission to the Business Panel for consideration.

2.2 The Business Panel considered the proposed work programmes of each of the select committees on 29 July 2014 and agreed a co-ordinated overview and scrutiny work programme. However, the work programme can be reviewed at each Select Committee meeting so that Members are able to include urgent, high priority items and remove items that are no longer a priority.

## 3. Recommendations

3.1 The Committee is asked to:

- note the work plan attached at **Appendix B** and discuss any issues arising from the programme;
- specify the information and analysis required in the report for each item on the agenda for the next meeting, based on desired outcomes, so that officers are clear about what they need to provide;
- review all forthcoming key decisions, attached at **Appendix C**, and consider any items for further scrutiny.

## 4. The work programme

4.1 The work programme for 2014/15 was agreed at the Committee's meeting on 15 July 2014.

4.2 The Committee is asked to consider if any urgent issues have arisen that require scrutiny and if any existing items are no longer a priority and can be removed from the work programme. Before adding additional items, each item should be considered against agreed criteria. The flow chart attached at **Appendix A** may help Members decide if proposed additional items should be added to the work programme. The Committee's work programme needs to be achievable in terms of the amount of meeting time available. If the Committee agrees to add additional item(s) because they are urgent and high priority, Members will need to consider

which medium/low priority item(s) should be removed in order to create sufficient capacity for the new item(s).

## 5. The next meeting

5.1 The following reports are scheduled for the meeting on 03 February 2015:

Agenda item	Review type	Link to Corporate Priority	Priority
<b>Violence against women and girls: evidence session</b>	In-depth review	Safety, security and a visible presence	High
<b>Probation service update</b>	Standard review	Safety, security and a visible presence	Medium
<b>Local assemblies report</b>	Performance monitoring	Community leadership	Medium
<b>Invitation to borough police and fire commanders</b>	Performance monitoring	Community leadership; safety, security and a visible presence	High

5.2 The Committee is asked to specify the information and analysis it would like to see in the reports for these items, based on the outcomes the Committee would like to achieve, so that officers are clear about what they need to provide for the next meeting.

### Invitation to the borough police and fire commanders

5.3 In 2013-14 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee tasked its select committees with carrying out a coordinated review of Lewisham's emergency services. Each select committee considered information from a range of sources and invited witnesses to provide details about changes to emergency services being implemented in the borough. The final report can be viewed online here: <http://tinyurl.com/oj8d3hz>

5.4 The Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee invited representatives of the London Fire Brigade and the Metropolitan Police Service to attend its meetings. A record of those meetings is available online here:

8 May 2013:

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=189&MId=2921&Ver=4>

29 July 2013:

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=189&MId=2922&Ver=4>

3 September 2013:

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=189&MId=2923&Ver=4>

5.5 In its final report, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee made a series of recommendations to the Council and to partner organisations. The Committee asked that the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee revisit a number of the recommendations, as follows:

- The decision to close Downham Fire Station leaves some residents, schools and businesses in Lewisham subject to unacceptable average attendance times, and at greater risk. An annual update should be provided by the borough commander on London Fire Brigade targets and performance in the borough.
- The Safer Lewisham Partnership and the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee should annually review if the MPS is on target to achieve the objective of providing 647 police officers in Lewisham by 2015.
- The work of Safer Neighbourhood Teams should be reported to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee annually, as part of the Safer Lewisham Partnership update.
- Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee should continue to annually review performance information from the Metropolitan Police Service in Lewisham. The information provided to the Committee should include response time performance.

5.5 Members are asked to consider if there is additional information or analysis they would like in advance of the meeting.

## **6. Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **7. Legal implications**

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, all scrutiny select committees must devise and submit a work programme to the Business Panel at the start of each municipal year.

## **8. Equalities implications**

8.1 The Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

8.2 The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act

- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

8.3 There may be equalities implications arising from items on the work programme and all activities undertaken by the Select Committee will need to give due consideration to this.

**9. Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 3 February 2015

**Background Documents**

Lewisham Council's Constitution

Centre for Public Scrutiny: the Good Scrutiny Guide

## Scrutiny work programme – prioritisation process

