

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13

<b><u>SCRUTINY REVIEWS</u></b>					
	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>TIMESCALE</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>REPORTS TO</b>
1.	Hastings Castle	Kevin Boorman, Head of Marketing and Communications	Due to commence September 2012	Rogers Sinden Webb Wilson	Services
2.	Is Hastings making the most of being a University Town?	TBC	Due to commence September 2012	Howard Rogers Sinden Turner Waite Webb (TBC)	Services
3.	Review of Partnership Working	Mark Horan, Policy and Partnerships Officer	Commenced August 2012	Cartwright Davies Howard Pragnell Turner Webb Wilson	Resources

## FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME IDEAS

The following ideas/suggestions have come from a variety of areas within the organisation. Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees may add to or amend these as they see appropriate throughout the year. However, the final decision on scrutiny reviews rests with the relevant committee.

Suggestion	Reason	Proposer	Source	Reporting Committee
White Rock Theatre	Councillor Westley submitted, "the White Rock Theatre costs the Council an extortionate amount of money and something which really does need, in my opinion, further investigation."	Cllr Westley	Annual O&S Joint Committee 2011	Services
Review of Highway Maintenance Standards	<p>The Highway Maintenance elements of the Highways Agency Agreement between HBC and ESCC transferred back to ESCC in 2010 /11 and the Highway Inspectors and other staff previously employed by HBC transferred to ESCC. ESCC subsequently reorganised their highway maintenance arrangements replacing Highway Inspectors with a significantly reduced number of Highway Stewards and placing greater reliance on the contractor, May Gurney, to inspect and repair potholes and other highway defects. There has been increasing concern expressed by the public, HBC officers and local Members regarding the noticeable increase in numbers of potholes in the town, the delays in repairing these and the poor standard of repair carried out when they are.</p> <p>This is an issue which will become a focus for complaint and whilst we can direct</p>	Richard Homewood	E mail May 2012	Services

	<p>people to ESCC when they complain it inevitably HBC that are blamed for failing to keep the roads and footways maintained. Members may therefore consider this a relevant subject for a scrutiny review. The review could look at the current arrangements and standards compared with those delivered under the previous arrangements and ask ESCC to outline the thinking behind the new arrangements and how effective they have been against the targets.</p>			
Review ESCC Public Realm Policy	<p>Councillors scrutinise the new Public Realm policy that ESCC is drafting for adoption around September. This would encompass paving, street lighting and other County highways assets and their treatment of conservation areas where non-standard, usually 'heritage', paving and lighting occur. ESCC plan to consult on the policy in September.</p>	Virginia Gilbert	E mail May 2012	Services
Review of the Council's Procurement Process	<p>Councillor Davies submitted that a review could measure "to what extent is HBC procurement a) promoting local enterprise and employment b) guaranteeing apprenticeships c) providing opportunities for economically vulnerable groups d) paying the living wage? Are there examples of good practice from within and outside HBC that can be used to inform future policy?"</p>	Cllr Davies	E mail June 2012	Resources
Review of the Council's Privatised Contracts	<p>Councillor Davies submitted "the review should investigate, where services are currently outsourced by HBC, examples of other councils who have successfully returned these to being in-sourced. Such</p>	Cllr Davies	E mail June 2012	Resources

	<p>a review should extend to consider future practice and the benefits of returning public services in-house with regard to: improved efficiency and reduced costs; the ability to integrate range of services; enhanced flexibility; minimised risk; regaining control; reducing cost and time spent managing contracts; boosting local engagement and accountability; greater staff motivation and improved service quality; maintaining expertise and capacity. Exploring how a rigorous process can be implemented whereby in-house options are fully factored in when recommendations are made to Councillors”</p>			
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NB:

- Recommendations from the SROI review (detailed on the front page) imply that one of the Scrutiny reviews for 2012/13 should seek to employ SROI methods.