

25 March 2010		ITEM 8
Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
WORK PROGRAMME		
Portfolio Holder: N/A		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Non-key	
Accountable Head of Service: Tasnim Shawkat, Head of Legal Services		
Accountable Director: Richard Szedziewski, Interim Corporate Finance and Corporate Governance		
This report is public		
Purpose of Report: To allow the Committee the opportunity to manage their work programme.		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report contains the most recent update of the Committee's work programme and outlines other items it may wish to schedule into its programme of meetings.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1.1 To make any changes to the work programme as desired.

2. ISSUES AND/OR OPTIONS:

2.1 Members should bear in mind that the work programme is a living document and it is possible to amend, alter and re-schedule items to suit the needs of the Committee.

2.2 The Capital Strategy was scheduled for February's meeting but officers asked that this report be deferred until the feedback from the Building Schools for the Future consultation is fully completed as this has direct and significant bearing on what can be reported on the Capital Strategy.

3. **IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- 3.1 The work programme should reflect issues that are of community interest and assist the Council in producing well considered policies, as well as ensuring it is performing well. Through the effective completion of items on the work programme the Committee should add value to the priorities of the CEF directorate, including contributing to the Children and Young People’s Plan.
- 3.2 When considering items for inclusion on the work programme, Members should assess the relevance and worth of the item to the community.

4. **IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 **Financial**

Implications verified by: **Sean Clark**
 Telephone and email: **01375 652010**
sclark@thurrock.gov.uk

There may be financial implications arising from items on the work programme. However, these will be included in future reports to the committee and thereafter to Cabinet/ Council as appropriate.

4.2 **Legal**

Implications verified by: **Tasnim Shawkat**
 Telephone and email: **01375 652442**
tshawkat@thurrock.gov.uk

There may be legal implications arising from items on the work programme. However, these will be included in future reports to the committee.

The committee as per rule 9.1 of the Constitution is responsible for setting its own work programme and shall consult the Cabinet and members of any minority political groups.

The content of this report is consistent with the provisions of the Council's Constitution and the Local Government Act 2000. The local authority overview and scrutiny function was introduced under the Local Government Act 2000, giving a clearly defined scrutiny role to non-elected members in holding executives of councils to account and in scrutinising the work of other agencies providing local services. A robust and effective scrutiny process is a vital component in the ethical health and governance of a local authority.

4.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Samson De’Alyn**
 Telephone and email: **01375 652959**

sdealyn@thurrock.gov.uk

All of the items detailed in the work programme have medium to high diversity implications. All responsible officers must seek the appropriate input of the Corporate Diversity Team at the initial development stages, and then continue to consult the Diversity Team during the progression of all their planned areas of work.

4.4 **Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental**

There may be items on the work programme which have implications under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. However these should be made clear within the individual reports to Committee.

There are no direct Section 17 implications to this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT:

- Thurrock Council's Constitution found at:
<http://democracy.Thurrock.gov.uk/cmiswebpublic/>

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