

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Corporate Director for Corporate Services to Place, People and Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committees

On 11th, 12th and 14th July 2016

Report prepared by:
Fiona Abbott

Agenda
Item No.

In depth Scrutiny projects – 2016 / 17 A Part 1 Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For each Scrutiny Committee to agree the in depth scrutiny project to be undertaken in the 2016 / 17 Municipal Year.
- 1.2 The report also attaches some information about the work carried out by each of the Scrutiny Committees in the 2015 / 16 Municipal Year.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That each Scrutiny Committee select the topic it wishes to undertake for in-depth study in 2016/17.
- 2.2 To note the information attached at **Appendix 3**, the summary of work of the 3 Scrutiny Committees during 2015 / 2016.

3. In depth scrutiny projects

- 3.1 Involvement with in-depth studies enables Members to 'get their teeth into' a particular topic and also to influence and shape proposals before they are implemented.
- 3.2 Each of the studies are led by a Member project team / programme working party and the appointments were agreed at Council on 19th May 2016 (refer to **Appendix 1**).
- 3.3 Members should always aim to select a topic which can identify real service improvements and results in benefits / outcomes. To assist the Committees in selected a topic for this Municipal Year, a list of previous topics undertaken for in depth study since 2010 is attached at **Appendix 2**.
- 3.4 Each Scrutiny Committee is now requested to select the topic it wishes to undertake for in depth study in 2016/17.
- 3.5 Work undertaken by each of the Scrutiny Committees in the 2015 / 16 - attached at **Appendix 3** is a summary of the work undertaken by each of the Scrutiny Committees in the 15/16 Municipal Year.

4. Corporate Implications

- 4.1 Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.
- 4.2 Financial Implications – there are costs associated with organising in depth projects relating to officer time but this will all be contained within existing resources.
- 4.3 Legal Implications – none.
- 4.4 People Implications – none.
- 4.5 Property Implications – none.
- 4.6 Consultation – as described in report.
- 4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment – none.
- 4.8 Risk Assessment – none.

5. Background Papers

None

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – membership of project teams / programme working parties

Appendix 2 – list of previous in depth topics since 2010

Appendix 3 – summary of work of the 3 Scrutiny Cttees 2015 / 2016

Membership of project teams (Programme Working Parties)

PEOPLE SCRUTINY PROGRAMME WORKING PARTY

Party	Members	Total 8	Substitutes
CON	Helen Boyd Steve Buckley Maureen Butler Chris Waker	4	All
LAB	Margaret Borton Cheryl Nevin	2	All
IND	Caroline Endersby	1	All
SIG	James Moyies	1	

PLACE SCRUTINY PROGRAMME WORKING PARTY

Party	Members	Total 8	Substitutes
CON	Alex Bright Meg Davidson Nigel Folkard Jonathan Garston	4	All
LAB	Helen McDonald Kevin Robinson	2	All
IND	Derek Kenyon	1	All
SIG	Tino Callaghan	1	

POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY PROGRAMME WORKING PARTY

Party	Members	Total 8	Substitutes
CON	Bernard Arscott David Burzotta Maureen Butler David Garston	4	All
LAB	Ian Gilbert David Norman	2	All
IND	Mike Stafford	1	All
SIG	Lawrence Davies	1	All

Scrutiny project list

Members should always aim to select a topic which can identify real service improvements.

The Council has undertaken a number of in depth scrutiny projects and since 2010 has looked at the following areas:

- Transition arrangements from children's to adult life – 2015/16 (People Scrutiny Cttee)
- Control of personal debt and the advantages of employment – 2015/16 (Policy & Resources Scrutiny Cttee)
- 20mph speed limits in residential streets - 2015/16 (Place Scrutiny Cttee)
- How the Council assists and excites individuals and community groups to achieve healthier lifestyles – 2014/15 (People Scrutiny Committee)
- The Council's Community Leadership role in promoting safer communities – 2014/15 (Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee)
- Understanding erosion taking place on the Foreshore – 2014/15 (Place Scrutiny Committee)
- Southend primary schools' falling grammar school entry figures - 2013/14 (People Scrutiny Committee)
- Impact of welfare changes - 2013/14 (Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee)
- Promoting a positive image for the town - 2013/14 (Place Scrutiny Committee)
- Housing – how we plan to meet the growing demand for social rented housing in the current poor national economic climate – 2012 / 13 (Economic & Environmental Scrutiny Committee)
- To identify improvements so that looked after children are given the best chances in life and that they do not become NEET statistics (not in education, employment or training – 2012 / 13 (Children & Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee)
- Developing strong partnership links to encourage investment in the town and the supply of employment opportunity – 2012 / 13 (Economic & Environmental Scrutiny Committee)
- Child poverty – 2011/12 (Children & Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee)
- Volunteering in Cultural Services - 2011/12 (Community Services & Culture Scrutiny Committee)
- Youth anti social behaviour – perception & reality – 2011/12 (Economic & Environmental Scrutiny Committee)
- End of life care for adults – 2010/11 (Community Services Scrutiny Committee)
- Young Carers – 2010/11 (Children & Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee)

For further information please go to www.southend.gov.uk and then to the Council & [Democracy](#) pages