

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16**

**PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY,  
COMMUNITIES & PROSPERITY  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**12th OCTOBER 2015**

**AGENDA ITEM. 3**

**PROPOSED SCRUTINY WORK  
PROGRAMME FOR THE  
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee with a draft work programme for the Municipal Year 2015/16 for their consideration.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members of the Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Agree a work programme (a draft work programme is attached at Appendix 1) and the necessary approach for scrutinising each agreed topic; and
- 2.2 Agree that the Work Programme be amended as necessary during the year, to reflect the intended outcomes of the Committee's work and to also reflect the demands of the work.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 There is a requirement to devise and publish a Work Programme for each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution, (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules). Each Committee is responsible for setting and agreeing its own Work Programme; however, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a role in co-ordinating the work of the four thematic Scrutiny Committees and ensuring that the work of each of these committees is effective.
- 3.2 The terms of reference for the Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee is to undertake the overview and scrutiny role in connection with scrutinising Public Service delivery across a range of Council and public sector services. This includes frontline services delivered

by the Council and the corporate functions of the Council. The Committee will consider matters relating to the environment and sustainable development. It will consider areas which contribute to prosperity such as economic development, regeneration and skills. The Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee is also the Council's designated Crime and Disorder Committee with the requirement to meet at least once a year in this capacity to review or scrutinise decisions made or action taken in connection with the discharge of Crime and Disorder functions.

- 3.3 As part of the new scrutiny arrangements, a more rationalised approach has been taken to the development of this year's work programme and during the July and September meetings of the Committee, Members have considered the benefits of scrutinising a range of topics which come within the scope of this committee.

#### **4. PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME**

- 4.1 At the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Members of the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee agreed the following topics for inclusion in its work programme:-

- Recycling (Participation rates in recycling)  
(Review of the new Community Recycling Centres)
- Library Service (Review the mobile library service)

- 4.2 At the last meeting of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee it was agreed that the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee be requested to widen the scope of the Library Service review to include other aspects of the service (in addition to the mobile library provision) and include a 'financial dimension' i.e. to establish whether or not the savings identified as part of the service change implemented from June 2014 have been realised.

- 4.3 As the Council's designated Crime and Disorder Committee (under sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act, 2006) Members of the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee were also asked to give due consideration to the topics relating particularly to the Crime and Disorder Committee as follows:-

- Community Safety and Crime Reduction
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse

- 4.4 Members agreed to receive a review of the above-mentioned topic areas before determining a particular programme of work for the Crime and Disorder Committee (which has been factored into the Work Programme).

- 4.5 Following the views put forward at the last meeting, attached at Appendix 1 is a proposed timetable for the delivery of the Work Programme (to include site

visits to the new Community Recycling Centres and to receive an overview of the service areas within the remit of the Committee as and when considered appropriate by Members).

- 4.6 If Members are minded to agree the proposed work programme consideration should also be given to the preferred method of scrutiny, whether by whole committee approach or by working groups which report back to the Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee, once they have received sufficient background information upon which to make a judgement. It should also be noted that the work programme needs to be flexible to respond to changing priorities.
- 4.7 In addition to the above considerations, the Committee could receive requests from the Executive or other committees e.g. Council or Audit Committee, to consider a particular issue.

**5. CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1 The revised approach has been used to formulate a work programme that aims to demonstrate the rationale for topic selection together with the intended outcome(s) from the Committee's work.
- 5.2 Members are asked to consider and agree a work programme and the approach through which they wish to scrutinise each agreed topic.

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**PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, COMMUNITIES & PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16**

Mon 12th Oct 15 5 pm	Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov 15 5 pm	Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 15 5 pm	Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan 16 5 pm	Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 16 5 pm	Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> March 16 5pm
<p>Participation Rates in Recycling-Nigel Wheeler</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of work already completed in areas of low participation across the County Borough</li> <li>Committee to agree a programme of work to support improvement and report back to Scrutiny Committee in January 2016</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation Rates in Recycling (Ongoing work)</li> <li>To receive an overview of a Service Area which falls within the remit of this Committee (to be determined)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive the Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report 2014/15 – Wendy Edwards</li> </ul>	<p>Participation Rates in Recycling-Nigel Wheeler</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the work - Participation Rates in Recycling</li> </ul> <p>Crime &amp; Disorder Committee-Paul Mee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of topic areas:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Safety &amp; Crime Reduction</li> <li>Anti-Social Behaviour</li> <li>Domestic Abuse</li> <li>Substance Misuse</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Committee to determine which topic areas to consider as part of it's work programme</p>	<p>Library Service – Wendy Edwards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Library Service since the service change in 2014</li> <li>Crime &amp; Disorder Work Programme to commence</li> </ul>	<p>New Community Recycling Centres – Nigel Wheeler</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the progress of the new Community Recycling Centres 6 months on and their impact on the Council's recycling rates</li> </ul>

- Site Visits to New Community Recycling Centres to be arranged when appropriate
- Members to receive an overview of the Service Areas within the remit of the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee as and when considered appropriate

