

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## Work Programme Report

6<sup>th</sup> June 2012

## Report of Head of Governance

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with an update of the Work Programme.

**This report is public.**

### RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) That the Committee consider the updated Work Programme.

#### 1. Introduction

Members are requested to consider the updated Work Programme.

#### 2. Updates

##### Lancaster Bus Station

Costs are currently being sought for a replacement system for the redundant bus information signs at Lancaster, Nelson and Burnley bus stations.

Meetings have taken place with Stagecoach and Lancaster University to discuss the new information boards that have been installed at the University and if these could be replicated at the bus station.

Meanwhile costings are being sought on a replacement system for the 3 local authorities, Lancaster, Pendle and Burnley. These may be available at the time of the meeting.

Once all this information has been collated, a report will be prepared for consideration.

##### Rural Broadband

Officers are in consultation with the County Council and BT to arrange a special meeting to consider Rural Broadband. This meeting is likely to take place in Hornby or Caton.

### **Commissioning Plan Informal Task Group**

The final meeting of the Informal Task Group set up by the Committee to consider the County Council's Commissioning Plan took place 15<sup>th</sup> May. The report will be presented to the Committee at its July meeting.

### **Updates on Agenda**

Officers have met with the new Overview and Scrutiny Chairman and discussed ways to streamline Committee meetings and allow Members to concentrate on the major agenda items. One suggestion is to remove the standing agenda item – 'Updates from Overview and Scrutiny Members' from the agenda. Members of the Committee would then provide a 6 monthly update and produce a short annual report in April each year of their work on their outside body as appropriate.

With regard to Shadow Cabinet Members, it is suggested that Overview and Scrutiny Members could continue to meet with their respective Cabinet Members and highlight to the Committee any work areas or issues that may arise. This could include an area of work requiring policy development by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and/or more in depth work requiring the creation of a Task Group.

The Shadow Members would also work with their Cabinet Member before they attended the Overview and Scrutiny meeting on at least, an annual basis.

To allow more involvement and awareness of Cabinet's decisions, the Chairman has agreed that both the Chairman of Budget and Performance Panel and Overview and Scrutiny Committee meet monthly with the Pre-Scrutiny Champion and officers to consider the Forward Plan and Cabinet agendas. Any issues or concerns could then be highlighted to the Committee from this meeting by email rather than elongating the Committee meeting.

### **Requests for suggestions for Work Programme**

At the beginning of each Municipal Year, suggestions are invited from Members and officers on ideas for this year's work programme. The views of the public are also sought through a press release.

A further report on any suggestions submitted will be provided at the July meeting.

<b>SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS</b>	
As there are no financial implications arising from this report the S151 officer has no comments to make.	
<b>MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS</b>	
The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.	
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Jenny Kay <b>Telephone:</b> 01524 582065 <b>E-mail:</b> jkay@lancaster.gov.uk
None.	