

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Work Programme Report

30th April 2014

Report of Chief Officer (Governance)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with an update of the Committee's 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

i. Older People's issues

Since the last meeting of the Committee quite a bit of progress has been made.

Work has begun on the Dementia Friendly pilot in Bare and Torrisholme. A meeting of the Bare Village Business Association took place in March where several businesses attended and undertook the Dementia Awareness session to become Dementia Friends. This is the first step for the businesses to be awarded a window sticker to promote the village as Dementia Friendly.

ii. Beyond the Castle

An update on the Beyond the Castle project was recently circulated to Members of the Committee. The project has been successful in securing £59,000 from the Heritage Lottery 'Our Heritage' Fund (HLF) for an 18 month programme of learning and engagement activities.

A geophysical survey has been scheduled for May which will use a combination of magnetometry, ground penetrating radar and resistivity techniques to provide new information on the presence and location of roman and medieval archaeology.

The main focus of the survey will be the Scheduled Ancient Monument Site/ Vicarage Fields with samples also taken from Priory Churchyard, Quay Meadow and Lancaster Castle surrounds.

Some Members have requested an update to be provided on this survey at a future meeting. This item is already included on the Committee's Work Programme and now the project is underway a suitable date will be arranged.

iii. Public Realm Complaints Informal Task Group

Members will recall that an informal Task Group was set up to investigate complaints over untidy land from Councillors and members of the public. Information has been gathered from customer services and Members on the most common complaints received. Officers are producing a list of contacts and references to help Councillors deal with these complaints and signpost people to the correct place.

iv. Update on Property Repairs

A report on this issue has been requested for the meeting and a briefing note is being prepared. This will be circulated to the Committee once it is ready.

A copy of the Committee's Work Programme is appended to this report.

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