

TO: ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 23 MARCH 2005

**SUBJECT: END OF TERM REPORT FOR 2004/05 &
WORK PLAN FOR 2005/06**

FROM: STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (ENVIRONMENT)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report the matters considered during the municipal year 2004/05 by this Committee
- 1.2 To agree an initial work plan for 2005/06
- 1.3 To review the effectiveness of the Committee and the ways of working

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is constitutionally bound to “report annually to full Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amend working methods if appropriate”
- 2.2 Appendix 1 outlines the matters considered by this Committee during the course of the current municipal year, along with a copy of its current work plan. At the beginning of the year we had a number of discussions on how to make Scrutiny more effective. We agreed to classify our work into two categories
 - Select committee style
 - Task and finish group
- 2.3 There is one Portfolio holder areas that come within the area of the Committee, which is set out below: -

Portfolio for:	Services Covered	Principal Service Areas	Community Plan Themes	WDC Strategy/Plan
Environmental Services	Planning/Conservation, Environmental Health, Flooding, Sewerage, Waste Collection, Street Cleansing, Licensing and Registration, Environmental Policy, Recycling and Action 21	Environmental Health Planning & Engineering	Environment; Health; and Community Safety	Food Safety, travel plan, local plan, crime reduction, contaminated land, air quality and sustainability.

- 2.4 This committee has completed four areas of review this municipal year, as detailed below with three other areas being carried forward into next year, as part of ongoing reviews.

Creating a Safer Environment
Review of Flood Alleviation Methods
Scrutiny of Health Promotion
Scrutiny of Food Safety

- 2.5 Appendix 2 sets out the Environmental Services portfolio holder statement for as the Committee may wish to link these into their work programme for the forth coming year to see if the key action point are achieved.
- 2.6 Appendix 3 sets out a proposed work plan for 2005/2006. Whilst there is some work already programmed in, the Committee needs to consider what further areas it wishes to scrutinise.

3. **POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK**

These reviews all contribute to the objective of managing our services openly, effectively and efficiently, and have to be carried out within available staffing resources. No sections have budgets or a dedicated resource so all work has to be worked around the day-to-day operational responsibilities.

4. **OUTCOMES REQUIRED**

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to note the items considered during the current municipal year at Appendix 1.
- 4.2 The Committee is asked to agree the content of the recommended draft work plan for 2005/06 at Appendix 2 and identify any additional items they would like to see included, specifying the type of work to be undertaken.
- 4.3 The Committee considers and comments on the effectiveness of its work and action it wishes to take to improve this.

Craig Anderson
Strategic Director, Environment

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

Areas in District Affected: All
Executive Portfolio Area and Holder: Councillor Mrs Begg,
Environmental Services

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