

# **Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

**Grand Jury Room, Town Hall  
11 January 2011 at 6.00pm**

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel deals with reviewing corporate strategies within the Council's Strategic Plan, the Council's budgetary guidelines for the forthcoming year, scrutinising the Forward Plan, the performance of Portfolio Holders and scrutiny of Cabinet decisions or Cabinet Member decisions (with delegated power) which have been called in.

# Information for Members of the Public

## Access to information and meetings

You have the right to attend all meetings of the Council, its Committees and Cabinet. You also have the right to see the agenda, which is usually published 5 working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published. Dates of the meetings are available at [www.colchester.gov.uk](http://www.colchester.gov.uk) or from Democratic Services.

## Have Your Say!

The Council values contributions from members of the public. Under the Council's Have Your Say! policy you can ask questions or express a view to meetings, with the exception of Standards Committee meetings. If you wish to speak at a meeting or wish to find out more, please pick up the leaflet called "Have Your Say" at Council offices and at [www.colchester.gov.uk](http://www.colchester.gov.uk)

## Private Sessions

Occasionally meetings will need to discuss issues in private. This can only happen on a limited range of issues, which are set by law. When a committee does so, you will be asked to leave the meeting.

## Mobile phones, pagers, cameras, audio recorders

Please ensure that all mobile phones and pagers are turned off before the meeting begins and note that photography or audio recording is not permitted.

## Access

There is wheelchair access to the Town Hall from St Runwald Street. There is an induction loop in all the meeting rooms. If you need help with reading or understanding this document please take it to Angel Court Council offices, High Street, Colchester or telephone (01206) 282222 or textphone 18001 followed by the full number that you wish to call and we will try to provide a reading service, translation or other formats you may need.

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# Terms of Reference

## Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

- To review corporate strategies.
- To ensure the actions of the Cabinet accord with the policies and budget of the Council.
- To monitor and scrutinise the financial performance of the Council, and make recommendations to the Cabinet particularly in relation to annual revenue and capital guidelines, bids and submissions.
- To link the Council's spending proposals to the policy priorities and review progress towards achieving those priorities against the Strategic / Action Plans.
- To scrutinise executive decisions made by Cabinet, the East Essex Area Waste Management Joint Committee, the Colchester and Ipswich Joint Museums Committee and Cabinet Member decisions (with delegated authority taking a corporate / strategic decision) which have been made but not implemented, and referred to the Panel through call-in.
- To monitor the Council's operational performance in relation to the Strategic Plan, Local Area Agreement targets and National Indicators.
- To scrutinise the Cabinet's performance in relation to the Forward Plan and to scrutinise the performance of Portfolio Holders.
- At the request of the Cabinet, make decisions about the priority of referrals made in the event of the volume of reports to the Cabinet or creating difficulty for the running of Cabinet business or jeopardising the efficient running of Council business.
- The panel will be the appropriate route for any member to refer a 'local government matter' in the context of Councillor Call for Action.

## **Process for Councillor Call for Action**

- Councillors have the ability to call for debate and discussion a topic of neighbourhood concern, limited to issues affecting a single ward, in an attempt to bring about specific solutions for local problems. This enables members to get things done without going through the Council's executive decision making process.
- Members may bring an action on any issue they choose, with exceptions, for example, if the issue is vexatious or deals with an individual complaint. Local Government matters specifically excluded from the regime are namely matters relating to a planning decision, a licensing decision or where a right of recourse to a review or right of appeal is already provided for in law.
- Poor service performance or increased anti-social behaviour are examples of where a member will bring an action to the panel's attention.
- The scrutiny panel may reject a request as not within the guidance, or the usual channels have not been exhausted, or accept that an investigation is the appropriate action.
- The panel may conduct an investigation in the usual scrutiny manner, seeking information from the Council and/or partners and inviting them to attend meetings.
- A report with recommendations will be compiled and brought to the Council and/or partners attention, with the Council and/or partners having a duty to respond.
- The panel will consider and publish the responses to their recommendations and feed back this information to the Councillor calling for the action.

# COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 11 January 2011 at 6:00pm

## **Members**

Chairman : Councillor Christopher Arnold.  
Deputy Chairman : Councillor Dennis Willetts.  
Councillors Nigel Offen, Gerard Oxford, Julie Young,  
Nigel Chapman, Mark Cory, Andrew Ellis, Bill Frame and  
Theresa Higgins.

**Substitute Members** : All members of the Council who are not Cabinet members or members of this Panel.

## **Agenda - Part A**

(open to the public including the media)

Members of the public may wish to note that agenda items 1 to 5 are normally brief and agenda items 6 to 9 are standard items for which there may be no business to consider.

## **Pages**

### **1. Welcome and Announcements**

(a) The Chairman to welcome members of the public and Councillors and to remind all speakers of the requirement for microphones to be used at all times.

(b) At the Chairman's discretion, to announce information on:

- action in the event of an emergency;
- mobile phones switched off or to silent;
- location of toilets;
- introduction of members of the meeting.

### **2. Substitutions**

Members may arrange for a substitute councillor to attend a meeting on their behalf, subject to prior notice being given. The attendance of substitute councillors must be recorded.

### **3. Urgent Items**

To announce any items not on the agenda which the Chairman has agreed to consider because they are urgent and to give reasons for the urgency.

### **4. Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman to invite Councillors to declare individually any personal interests they may have in the items on the agenda.

If the personal interest arises because of a Councillor's membership of or position of control or management on:

- any body to which the Councillor has been appointed or nominated by the Council; or
- another public body

then the interest need only be declared if the Councillor intends to speak on that item.

If a Councillor declares a personal interest they must also consider whether they have a prejudicial interest. If they have a prejudicial interest they must leave the room for that item.

If a Councillor wishes to make representations on an item on which they have a prejudicial interest they may do so if members of the public are allowed to make representations. In such circumstances a Councillor must leave the room immediately once they have finished speaking.

An interest is considered to be prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest.

Councillors should consult paragraph 7 of the Meetings General Procedure Rules for further guidance.

## **5. Minutes**

**1 - 5**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2010.

## **6. Have Your Say!**

(a) The Chairman to invite members of the public to indicate if they wish to speak or present a petition at this meeting – either on an item on the agenda or on a general matter not on this agenda. You should indicate your wish to speak at this point if your name has not been noted by Council staff.

(b) The Chairman to invite contributions from members of the public who wish to Have Your Say! on a general matter not on this agenda.

## **7. Items requested by members of the Panel and other Members**

(a) To evaluate requests by members of the Panel for an item relevant to the Panel's functions to be considered.

(b) To evaluate requests by other members of the Council for an item relevant to the Panel's functions to be considered.

***Members of the panel may use agenda item 'a' (all other members will use agenda item 'b') as the appropriate route for referring a 'local government matter' in the context of the Councillor Call for Action to the panel. Please refer to the panel's terms of reference for further procedural arrangements.***

## **8. Referred items under the Call in Procedure**

To consider any Portfolio Holder decisions, taken under the Call in Procedure.

*The panel may a) confirm the decision, which may then be implemented immediately, b) confirm the decision back to the decision taker for further consideration setting out in writing the nature of its concerns, or c) refer the matter to full Council in the event that the panel considers the decision to be contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council or contrary to, or not wholly in accordance with the Budget.*

## **9. Decisions taken under special urgency provisions**

To consider any Portfolio Holder decisions taken under the special urgency provisions.

## **10. North East Essex Children's Commissioning and Delivery Board 6 - 16**

See scoping report from the Scrutiny Officer and covering report from the Head of Life Opportunities.

## **11. Review of the work of the Portfolio Holder for Communities. 17 - 19**

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

## **12. Work Programme 20 - 21**

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

## **13. Exclusion of the public**

In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) to exclude the public, including the press, from the meeting so that any items containing exempt information (for example confidential personal, financial or legal advice), in Part B of this agenda (printed on yellow paper) can be decided. (Exempt information is defined in Section 100I and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).



# STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

## 14 DECEMBER 2010

*Present :-* Councillor Dennis Willetts (Chairman)  
Councillors Nigel Chapman, Mark Cory, Andrew Ellis,  
Bill Frame, Theresa Higgins and Nigel Offen

*Substitute Member :-* Councillor Philip Oxford for Councillor Gerard Oxford

*Also in Attendance :-* Councillor Anne Turrell  
Councillor Paul Smith

### 24. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2010 were confirmed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment. The first resolution to minute 20, Street Services Fundamental Services Review to read "That the Cabinet agree for all future FSR that effect all or most of the residents of the Borough, all members of the Council are involved from the outset of the review, and in a way that does not impede progress, together with the other relevant stakeholders".

### 25. Have Your Say!

Mrs. Paula Whitney addressed the Panel to speak about recycling waste. Mrs. Whitney said that due to the Council's original Fame vehicles being replaced, collected glass was now mashed and therefore sold on at a reduced price. Mrs. Whitney asked that the Council revert to the original more environmentally friendly method of glass collection that would also increase income.

In regards to garden waste collection, Mrs. Whitney said the lower garden waste tonnage collected during this year was in the main due to more residents taking green waste directly to the County run waste collection sites.

Mrs. Whitney concluded by asking Colchester to consider adopting the methods of food waste collection as done by Chelmsford, the methods that came as part of Chelmsford's successful food waste trials.

Councillor Offen, in response to Mrs Whitney said the action as mentioned in the Strategic Plan Action Plan was about trade glass collection and Members had been informed at the recent Street Services Fundamental Service Review that there are plans to increase revenue by outsourcing this work.

### 26. 2011-12 Budget - Update

As a preface to this item Councillor Willetts said that it was the job of the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Panel to look at budgets and finance reports in detail, and the role of this

Panel was to attempt to track budget changes within the Strategic Plan, that is, what are the implications of the Budget on the Council's Strategic programme.

Mr. Sean Plummer, Finance Manager, gave a brief presentation of the 2011-12 Budget report update, explaining that this was an opportunity to review the report as presented to Cabinet on 1 December 2010, prior to the final Budget report being presented to the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Panel and the Cabinet on 25 January 2011 and 26 January 2011 respectively. Mr. Plummer said the report gave a revised 2011/12 budget gap forecast of £711,000.

In respect of the Government's grant settlement announced yesterday, Mr. Plummer said the current budget estimate had assumed a reduction of 10.7% in the grant, whereas the actual reduction is 15.5%, worsening the budget gap by a further £500,000.

Councillor Anne Turrell, Leader of the Council, said because the Government announcement on grant settlement comes so late in the year it is not possible to reflect the implications to the Council's strategic programme within this Budget update. Councillor Turrell said January was a more appropriate time to be discussing the Budget proposals in detail.

Councillor Smith, Portfolio Holder for Resources and Diversity reiterated that the 10.7% reduction in the grant settlement as built into the Budget was an estimated figure, and confirmed the recent budget consultation had proved useful in determining the overall budget strategy.

There was a general agreement that in future the Budget report should be presented a time that would enable the report to include the implications to the Council's Strategic Plan.

Councillor Willetts thanked Councillor Turrell for attending the meeting.

*RESOLVED* that the Panel;

- i) Considered and noted the 2011/12 Budget as presented to the Cabinet on 1 December 2010.
- ii) Asked officers when considering the 2012 -13 Budget Strategy and Timetable, to schedule a pre-scrutiny report to the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel once all grant settlements are established, outlining the implications of the new Budget on the Council's Strategic Plan.

**Councillor Theresa Higgins (in respect of her membership of Essex County Council) declared a personal interest in the following item pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure Rule 7(3)**

**27. Half yearly Performance Report including progress on the Strategic Plan**

## Action Plan

Ms. Lucie Breadman, Head of Corporate Management, presented the Half Yearly Performance report.

Ms. Breadman briefly spoke of the national changes and approach for performance reporting, with the demise of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA), National Indicators to be replaced with a 'single reduced list', Local Area Agreements (LAA) no longer mandatory, and no performance reward grant. Ms. Breadman confirmed that whilst changes would happen, for the immediate future the Panel would continue to receive half yearly performance reports as previously agreed.

In regards to performance, in summary, Ms. Breadman said 64% of the reported National Indicators are on target as are 74% of Strategic Plan targets.

Progress on cleanliness and recycling was 42.67%, exceeding the 41% target, the average time to re-let council houses was down to 22 days from 36 days for the same period for the previous year, and sickness leave was down to 7.5 days per person per year, lower than the public sector average of 9 days, all noteworthy achievements.

In conclusion, Ms. Breadman said the key actions within the Strategic Plan Action Plan that were experiencing difficulties did on the whole have links to partnership activities where funding issues had arisen.

Councillor T. Higgins said staff should be commended for the reduction in sickness levels during these times. Councillor Smith, Portfolio Holder for Resources and Diversity explained that the reduction in staff sickness was evident since the commencement of the new flexible working arrangements. Councillor Smith said one of the benefits of flexible working was the ability of staff to work from home when feeling under the weather, whereas in the past it would have been easier to have a sickness leave day.

Councillor Offen said the Visitors Information Centre should be commended for their continual year on year receipt of awards and accreditations, excellent work.

Councillor Turrell addressed the Panel to explain the progress of those actions within the Strategic Plan that are not achieving their target. In the main, these actions had been subject to financial restraints, and whilst all funding opportunities will be considered, it would shortly be decided which of those actions would be retained or removed from the Strategic Plan.

In regards to the action on swimming lesson provision, Councillor Offen asked that if the review of primary school swimming lessons identifies schools not offering swimming lessons, that the Portfolio Holder should write to the Essex County Council Portfolio Holder to encourage County to ensure all schools are given the opportunity to allow their pupils to learn to swim.

*RESOLVED* that the Panel;

- i) Considered and commented on the half yearly Performance Report,

including progress on the Strategic Plan Action Plan.

ii) commended and thanked staff for reducing sickness levels at a time of major change in working practices and reductions in staffing levels.

iii) Requested the Portfolio Holder for Communities to write to the Essex County Council Portfolio Holder, if a review of primary school swimming lessons identifies schools not offering swimming lessons, to encourage the Portfolio Holder to ensure all schools are given that opportunity.

**Councillor Theresa Higgins (in respect of her membership of Colchester Twinning Society) declared a personal interest in the following item pursuant to the provisions of Meetings General Procedure Rule 7(3)**

**28. Review of the work of the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Diversity.**

Councillor Smith, Portfolio Holder for Resources and Diversity attended the meeting for the review of his work in respect of the resources and diversity portfolio.

Councillor Smith took the opportunity to give a summary of the highlights of the work undertaken within his portfolio.

Councillor Smith received monthly updates from service areas, and gave details of current performance levels, identifying improvements in performance, for example, Council Tax and Benefit processing, an excellent result given the reduction in staffing levels as a result of the recent fundamental service review. Councillor Smith said the Council's various Fundamental Service Reviews have had a big impact on the work of Human Resources, who support the process and ensure it is equal and non discriminatory. Councillor Smith spoke about the positive discussions with the Twinning Society and the ongoing discussions with the current IT Contractor on a renegotiated contract, hopefully in partnership with neighbouring authorities that will provide reductions in costs through the economies of scale.

In response to Councillor Willetts, Councillor Smith said where there are cuts made in the level of service provision, these services remain under constant review, with performance statistics monitored on a month to month basis. In Revenues and Benefits for example, whilst changes including staff reductions have been made, new working practices are improving performance, having a positive effect on the level of service provision.

As a point of clarification, Councillor Smith confirmed that there was a funding agreement between the Council and Firstsite, not a service level agreement.

In response to Councillor T. Higgins, Councillor Smith confirmed his support for the Member Development Charter, and whilst the timeframe for achieving this charter had slipped the Council remained committed. Once the 2011-12 Budget is finalised, a new timeframe will be evaluated. Councillor T. Higgins said member development could be

improved, for example, a 6-monthly in-house training refresher course on Planning. Councillor Frame also suggested more Licensing training would be very helpful to members.

In response to Councillor Frame, Councillor Smith said Councils can choose a Council Tax discount to 2<sup>nd</sup> home owners of between 10 – 50 per cent. Colchester has historically chosen the minimum discount of 10%. Councillor Smith said he wished there was a way to remove this discount, but he did not have the power to do so.

Councillor Smith responded to Councillor Ellis on details of the Icelandic Bank investments. The overall £4 million investment was made up of £2 million in rolled-over investments and £2 million of new investments. Local Authorities have been informed that 93% of investments will be repaid, over a number of payments, the dates of the payments to be confirmed. Councillor Smith said the actual investment sums remain capital funds whilst the interest accrued is revenue income. As a rough estimate, a £4 million invested at 0.5% would accrue £20,000 income per annum.

Councillor Frame commented that he was not sure of the value of what is achieved through the portfolio holder reviews. Whilst the schedule of reviews would continue until the end of the year, Councillor Frame asked that thereafter members consider these reviews and look to see if there is a better way of achieving the desired outcomes. By way of information, Councillor T. Higgins said at Essex County Council, Portfolio Holders submit annual reports outlining the work and achievements within their respective portfolios. Councillor Offen said the scoping report within the agenda, coupled with the portfolio holder responsibilities provided members with the information needed to focus in on questions to the portfolio holder. It was agreed that the Chairman and Group Spokespersons should consider these reviews in more detail at the end of the year.

*RESOLVED* that the Panel thanked Councillor Smith for attending the meeting and responding to the Panel's questions.

## **29. Work Programme**

The Panel noted an unchanged Work Programme.



# Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel Scoping Document

Item  
**10**

<b>Committee</b>	Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel	
<b>Topic</b>	<b>North East Essex Children's Commissioning and Delivery Board</b>	Ref: <b>SCR/2010-11/1</b>
<b>Objective</b>	<p>The Panel is asked to review the effectiveness of the work of the North East Essex Children's Trust Board (now known as the North East Essex Children's Commissioning and Delivery Board) and the extent to which the work contributes to the Council's strategic priority of "Addressing Younger People's Needs" and the Council's current statutory duty to contribute to the delivery of the Essex Children and Young People's Plan 2009-11.</p>	
<b>Reasons for undertaking review</b>	<p>In 2009 the Essex Children's Trust arrangements were reviewed and revised on both a county-wide and district basis, resulting in the replacement of the Colchester Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) with a North East Essex Children's Trust Board (CTB), covering both Colchester and Tendring districts.</p> <p>In 2010 the Coalition government set out its intention to remove the statutory framework around Children's Trusts, and as a result the children's partnership arrangements in Essex were revised again, resulting in the local partnership body being renamed the North East Essex Children's Commissioning and Delivery Board (CCDB).</p> <p>The Council has until now had a statutory duty under the Children Act 2004 and the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 to cooperate in the Essex Children's Trust and to have regard to the Essex Children and Young People's Plan in exercising its functions. The coalition government intends to remove these statutory duties.</p> <p>The North East Essex CCDB is in the early stages of its development as the decision to adopt the new arrangements was only made on a county-wide basis in November 2010.</p>	
<b>Approach</b>	<p>The basis for scrutiny is the Council's strategic priority of "Addressing Younger People's Needs" and the Council's current statutory duty to contribute to the delivery of the Essex Children and Young People's plan and "have regard to this plan in exercising its functions".</p> <p>In addition, the Council's community leadership role means that the Panel will want to scrutinise the partnership arrangements in place locally to ensure these arrangements are maximising the opportunities to improve the wellbeing of children and young people in Colchester</p>	

	borough.
<b>Membership</b>	Full Panel
<b>Background Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex Children and Young People's Plan 2009-11.</li> <li>• North East Essex Children's Commissioning and Delivery Board Priorities and Commissioning Plan</li> <li>• North East Essex Children's Commissioning and Delivery Board terms of reference and structure.</li> </ul> <p>A link to these reports will be provided in early January.</p>
<b>Supporting documentation</b>	
<b>Representatives</b>	<p>The following <u>representatives</u> have accepted an invitation to attend this meeting;</p> <p>Ms. Donna Telfer, Chair of the North East Essex Children's Trust Board and Assistant Director, Public Health at NHS North East Essex</p> <p>Cllr Tina Dopson, Vice-Chair, North East Essex Children's Trust Board and CBC Portfolio Holder for Communities.</p> <p><b>Officers</b></p> <p>Mr. Gareth Mitchell, CBC officer representative on the North East Essex Children's Trust Board and CBC Head of Life Opportunities.</p> <p><b>Presentations:</b> <i>To be confirmed with CTB Chair</i></p>
<b>Future Action</b>	
<b>Governance Officer</b>	Robert Judd, Scrutiny Officer
<b>Lead Officer(s)</b>	Gareth Mitchell, Head of Life Opportunities

**North East Essex Children's Trust Board Plan 2010-2012**  
**Strategic Vision:**

**The NEELCTB aim to: 'make a difference to local children, young people their families and carers'**

What we need to do (CYPP Priorities, Local Priorities, LAA targets, JAR recommendations. Note targets (statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))	Action(s) 2010/11	Who will do it and by when?	Progress – (include statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))	Other (e.g. risks identified equality/diversity issues, workforce issues and actions required)
<b>Infrastructure – overarching strategic direction</b>				
<p>The NEELCTB will provide the overarching strategic direction for partners working with children, young people and their partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Understand and analyse the local needs within Colchester and Tendring</li> <li>+ Map existing services</li> <li>+ Identify available resources by completing the resource envelope</li> <li>+ Explore opportunities for Joint Commissioning</li> <li>+ Understand what can have an impact i.e. evidence based research</li> <li>+ Prioritise the provision of services to meet needs</li> <li>+ Commission services against need and priorities</li> <li>+ Monitor the impact of provision against priorities</li> </ul>	<p>All</p> <p>Begin Summer 2010 –</p> <p>Review all actions by March 2011</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ JSNA and performance scorecards available for NE – further work to be actioned on analysis</li> <li>+ Supply mapping is available and is being updated regularly</li> <li>+ Resource envelope being completed currently</li> <li>+ Evidence based research currently being developed to inform actions against priorities</li> </ul>	<p>Public Service funding cuts</p> <p>Local reorganisations responding to new Government policies</p> <p>Recruitment bans &amp; restrictions</p> <p>Changes to existing targets and measures</p>



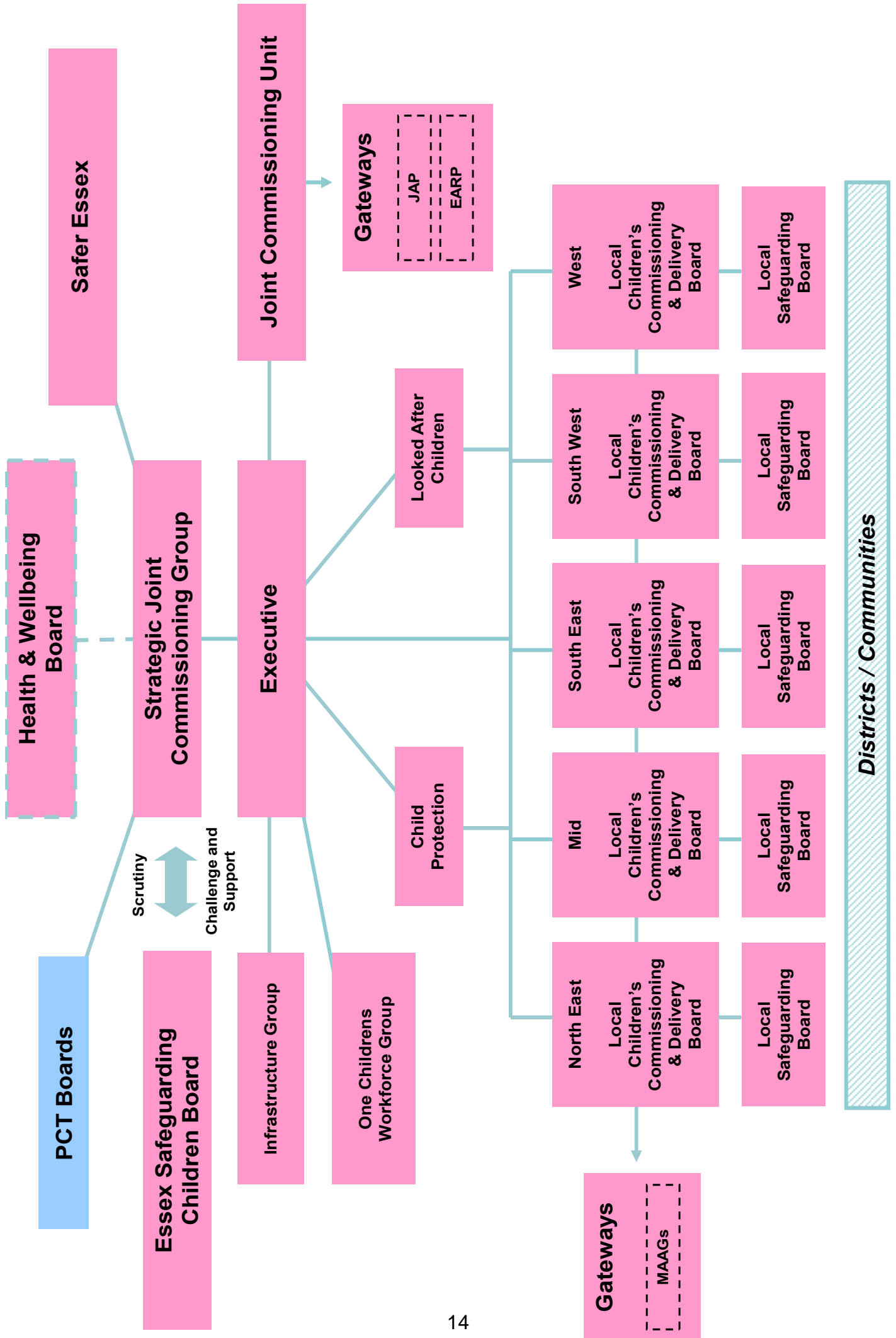
What we need to do (CYPP Priorities, Local Priorities, LAA targets, JAR recommendations. Note targets (statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))	Action(s) 2010/11	Who will do it and by when?	Progress – (include statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))	Other (e.g. risks identified equality/diversity issues, workforce issues and actions required)
<b>Integrated working – foundation upon which to build effective services for children, young people and their families</b>				
The NEELCTB, through the Integrated Workforce Manager and training team, will work with partners to ensure that services are integrated to provide a joined-up seamless access to services to support children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Monitor the take-up of integrated processes training</li> <li>+ Identify gaps in the take up of training</li> <li>+ Monitor the quality of CAFs</li> <li>+ Work with partners to ensure that access to services is timely and appropriate</li> </ul>	IWM and Integrated Workforce Training team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Joined up seamless service for Children, Young People with no gaps</li> <li>+ Interventions providing earlier support to prevent needs escalating</li> <li>+ Earlier identification of the need for support by understanding and responding to risk factors</li> <li>+ Better value for money</li> </ul>	Potential changes in Coalition Government policy
<b>NEE CTB Priorities</b>				
<p><b>Child Protection – Safeguarding</b></p> <p>The NEELCTB through its <b>Stay safe subgroup</b>, will ensure that partners are aware and implement their responsibilities in respect of safeguarding children and young people by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ ensuring that there is adequate access to safeguarding training at Levels 1 &amp; 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Via the <b>Stay Safe subgroup</b>, statutory partners will be asked to review the level of Safeguarding training that is appropriate for staff working or in contact with children and young people and to ensure that these staff are trained.</li> </ul>	All statutory partners - From Spring 2010 To be completed by 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Safeguarding training at levels 1 &amp; 2 has been reviewed and new proposals agreed by the ESCB. ECTB is currently identifying a provider to deliver the level 2 programmes commencing from January 2011</li> <li>+ Action Plan being prepared following recent Ofsted /CQC report</li> </ul>	ECTB inability to identify and commission a suitable provider to deliver the level 2 training

What we need to do (CYPP Priorities, Local Priorities, LAA targets, JAR recommendations. Note targets (statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))	Action(s) 2010/11	Who will do it and by when?	Progress – (include statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))	Other (e.g. risks identified equality/diversity issues, workforce issues and actions required)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensuring that partners are aware of, and learn from, the recommendations from serious case reviews and child death reviews</li> </ul>	Stay Safe SG Lead to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure effective communications are in place with all relevant partners</li> <li>'lessons learnt' are demonstrated through action plans &amp; robust performance monitoring</li> </ul>	Stay Safe Lead: Sarah-Jane Ward CTB – Stay Safe group to review & monitor by January 2011		
<u><b>Emotional Health and Wellbeing</b></u> The NEELCTB through its joint working with colleagues across the County, will ensure that partners are aware of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>current services available</li> <li>opportunities for developing improved community-based early interventions</li> <li>evidence-base &amp; effective practice to inform commissioning and provision developments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the range of interventions available in NE to support C &amp; YP with emotional health needs</li> <li>Review the needs of C &amp; YP in terms of emotional health and well being</li> <li>Identify the gaps in provision and ensure that current provision is meeting needs</li> <li>Commission services to meet need and monitor performance</li> </ul>	Interim Lead: Donna Telfer Lead & Sub group to be identified By November 2010	Discussions are underway and links being developed with centrally commissioned CAMHS services NEE CAMHS needs assessment completed Local sub group being considered & key priority areas being identified (incl improved early interventions)	Possible impacts of changes in funding and commissioning arrangements
<u><b>Parenting Support</b></u> The NEELCTB through existing local Parenting Platforms will ensure that partners are aware of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>current services available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake an audit of parenting support across the area</li> <li>Identify the needs for parents in terms of parenting support</li> <li>Identify gaps in provision and ensure that current provision is</li> </ul>	Parenting Coordinator CTB – PMS group to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mapping of parenting support is currently being undertaken</li> <li>Parenting strategy developed at county level</li> </ul>	

<p><b>What we need to do (CYPP Priorities, Local Priorities, LAA targets, JAR recommendations.</b>  <b>Note targets (statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))</b></p>	<p><b>Action(s) 2010/11</b></p>	<p>Who will do it and by when?</p>	<p><b>Progress – (include statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))</b></p>	<p><b>Other (e.g. risks identified equality/diversity issues, workforce issues and actions required)</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- opportunities for developing improved community-based early interventions</li> <li>- evidence-base &amp; effective practice to inform commissioning and provision developments</li> </ul>	<p>meeting needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Commission services to meet need and monitor performance</li> </ul>	<p>review &amp; monitor by January 2011</p>		
<p><b><u>NEET – closing the gap</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ To review the recommendations for partners emerging from the Total Place initiative in Tendring</li> <li>✚ To consider how the recommendations can be implemented</li> </ul>	<p>CTB Lead for NEET – Claire Fox</p> <p>CTB – PMS group to review &amp; monitor by December 2010</p>	<p>Awaiting outcome report and recommendations</p> <p>Key joint actions to be determined for CTB partners as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree to bring all plans for activities/programmes to one central group – possibility of the Area Planning group with revised remit and membership</li> <li>• All partners in the LCCDB to be asked to provide work experience/ internships for pre and post 16 young people</li> <li>• Area Planning Group will work with employers to develop a work programme for YP on work experience/ internships</li> <li>• Partners within LCCDB</li> </ul>	<p>Changing Coalition Government policy in relation to Total Place</p>

What we need to do (CYPP Priorities, Local Priorities, LAA targets, JAR recommendations. Note targets (statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))	Action(s) 2010/11	Who will do it and by when?	Progress – (include statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))	Other (e.g. risks identified equality/diversity issues, workforce issues and actions required)
			<p>agree to involve YP in development plans and offer work experience or apprenticeships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LCCDB partners to influence local transport companies to provide affordable/flexible transport options for YP</li> <li>• LCCDB partners agree to promote careers in their services to YP</li> <li>• IAG to be given to pupils at a younger age</li> </ul>	
<b><u>Children in poverty – vulnerable groups</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Complete the children in poverty audit</li> <li>✚ Identify potential actions to reduce the number of children in poverty</li> <li>✚ Focus target groups to be considered such as Children &amp; families: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- living in inadequate housing</li> <li>- on low incomes</li> <li>- with severe &amp; enduring MH issues</li> <li>- Young Carers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Task and finish group chaired by Gareth Mitchell</p> <p>To be completed by March 2011</p> <p>CTB – PMS group to review &amp; monitor by February 2011</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partners need better communication between agencies to identify vulnerable families</li> <li>• Partners and families and practitioners need better awareness of support available</li> <li>• Consideration of more family targeted 'FIP' type interventions for 'at risk/vulnerable' families (focused on early interventions &amp; prevention</li> </ul>	

<b>What we need to do (CYPP Priorities, Local Priorities, LAA targets, JAR recommendations. Note targets (statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))</b>	<b>Action(s) 2010/11</b>	<b>Who will do it and by when?</b>	<b>Progress – (include statistical performance measure(s) and impact statement(s))</b>	<b>Other (e.g. risks identified equality/diversity issues, workforce actions required)</b>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families need family centred key worker type support including a targeted approach to the impact of transience/turbulence both geographical and the movement between separated families on child poverty, parenting and emotional wellbeing</li> <li>• YP need support to raise aspirations including attendance and engagement with education</li> <li>• Promote nutrition/healthy eating where child poverty may impact on this</li> </ul>	



## Colchester BC Scrutiny Committee – January 2011

### Achievements of North East Essex Local Children's Commissioning and Delivery Board (LCCDB)

- Board has agreed ToR and membership though these are currently being reviewed following the Government's announcement re Children's Trusts and duty to cooperate
- Good attendance across partnership at meetings and representation at senior level
- Development opportunities for LCCDB around commissioning and partnership working
  
- Structure of LCCDB agreed with the following subgroups
  - Performance Management
  - Stay Safe
  - Integrated working Implementation Group
  - Parenting Platforms
  - Child Poverty – decision to be made as to whether this is a formal subgroup
  - NEET/Total Place – likely to be subsumed with the area planning group (APG)
  - CAMHS subgroup – in the process of being formed
  
- Revisited priorities and have now reduced number of priorities – reflected in the action plan as follows
  - NEET
  - Emotional well-being and Mental health
  - Parenting and family support
  - Child Poverty
  - Safeguarding
  
- In addition 2 overarching priorities of partnership working and integrated working
  
- The revised action plan and closer partnership working across the Children's Partnership Board has enabled:
  - Greater opportunities for cross-cutting issues such as parenting and child poverty to become key issues across partnership and organisation's agendas
  - More joint working on key targeted projects, such as, *Managing minor illnesses and reducing school absenteeism*
  - local relationship building, better agency integration and wider involvement in addressing C&YP and their families with mental health related issues
  - Safeguarding training to become a priority action for all member organisations
  - Key focussed local resources to be quantified and identified across public sector organisations
  - A robust partnership platform to be responsive to new national and local government policies and changes
  
- Through the Local Priority fund (LPF) (ECC funding that has been devolved to local boards) the LCCDB has commissioned services for :
  - NEET
  - Emotional health and well being
  - Parenting support
  
- Achievements of some of these:
  - Emotional health and well being:
    - One service funded by LPF provides counselling for children/young people aged 5-16 years as well as young people aged 16-19. Through talking therapy and therapeutic

- play, children and young people are enabled to deal with painful emotional issues in the presence of an experienced counsellor. The service is achieving against projected targets
- Another service provided is working with young people between the ages of 12 and 19. Formal counselling, emotional support and advocacy as well as training on the issues of sexual violence and its presentations for other professionals working with this age group. Also preventative work focusing on healthy relationships, aimed at addressing inappropriate behaviour and building self esteem. Again service on target
- Supports vulnerable children emotionally harmed as a result of living with domestic abuse, who have suffered the additional trauma of re-locating and leaving behind family and social networks. Each child is allocated a key worker to support their emotional and other needs during their stay and to assist their mother with parenting at this time of crisis. A range of activities are provided for families, designed to foster positive relations between mother and child and to develop and build self esteem and resilience.
- Parenting Support:
  - Courses, groups and activities based at St Andrew's House provide support and advice for families seeking to improve their life skills. The family centre give opportunities for improvement in confidence, self esteem and aspirations of parents/carers. As a result they become positive role models for their children. Includes well resourced crèche to give parents peace of mind and time to develop their own skills or receive much needed support. Targets and outcomes achieved as per contract.
  - 1-2-1 personal support for parents with at least one child under 5 for families at risk of social exclusion, including those who do not engage with other services. Supports families to make healthy lifestyle choices and empowers families to take control of their lives therefore increasing emotional wellbeing. Trained volunteers work alongside parents. Support is tailored to the individual needs of each family and is provided for as long as the family needs it. Achieving targets and outcomes.

#### Future Challenges and opportunities for the NEE LCCDB

The NEE Children's partnership is proud of its achievements to date and particularly of its partners' on-going dedication and commitment to improving outcomes for local children, young people and their families.

There is evident strong and effective networking in place, based on local knowledge of, and long-standing trust and confidence in, local agencies and wide service provision.

New Government policies, further budget cuts and other local structural changes all bring a number of challenges for NEE LCCDB to address. With clear leadership and the on-going commitment of local partners, we are confident the work of the Children's partnership will continue to work towards fulfilling its aim in the coming years:

***'To make a difference in the lives of local Children,  
Young people and their Families'***

Further detailed outcome-based information will be available from the NEE LCCDB's Performance Management Group by the end of the financial year 2011.

**Donna Telfer – Chair NEE LCCDB (and Assistant Director Public Health - NHS NEE)**  
**Maureen Hanley – NEE Commissioning Hub Lead - ECC**

**January 2011**





# Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel Scoping Document

Item  
**11**

<b>Committee</b>	Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel	
<b>Topic</b>	<b>A review of the work of the Portfolio Holder for Communities</b>	Ref: <b>SCR/7</b>
<b>Objective</b>	The Panel is asked to consider the effectiveness of the work undertaken by the Portfolio Holder during the current municipal year.	
<b>Reasons undertaking review for</b>	One of the functions within the panel's Terms of Reference is to scrutinise the performance of Portfolio Holders.	
<b>Approach</b>	<p>The basis for scrutiny will be dialogue between the panel members and Portfolio Holder to determine the effectiveness of the portfolio holder in respect of;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Delegated responsibilities – these are attached to the scoping report and members have the opportunity to determine the contribution made by the portfolio holder in the effectiveness of this work.</li> <li>2. The 6-monthly Performance Report, as reported to the Panel on 14 December 2010 giving progress on performance indicators and the Strategic Plan Action Plan is available on-line and in the Members Room. This is an opportunity for Members to understand the contribution made by the portfolio holder to this work.</li> </ol> <p>This review is not about the work of those officers / service areas within the portfolio holder's Scheme of Delegation.</p>	
<b>Membership</b>	Full Panel	
<b>Governance Officer</b>	Robert Judd, Scrutiny Officer	
<b>Lead Officer(s)</b>	Pam Donnelly, Executive Director	

## **Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members**

<b>Delegation to the Portfolio Holder for Communities</b>
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### **RECREATION**

To procure the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:-

1. Sports and leisure facilities, parks and gardens, allotments, playing fields, beach facilities, public open spaces, amenity areas and country parks.
2. Liaison with voluntary organisations and clubs in the development and use of sporting and recreational facilities.
3. The promotion and encouragement of recreational events.
4. Colchester Leisure World.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

To procure and or encourage the procurement of the specified service in the provision, implementation, maintenance and management of:-

1. The promotion of public health matters so as to increase public awareness.
2. Services for the elderly.
3. Community projects supporting the Council's work on life opportunities.
4. Welfare rights.
5. Matters relating to young people.
6. Grants to the voluntary and community sector and village and community halls.
7. The Council's work with partners aimed at improving the life opportunities of residents.

## **Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members**

<b>Delegation to the Portfolio Holder for Communities (continued)</b>
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<b>Portfolio Responsibilities</b>
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1. To determine investment in “third sector” organisations which deliver services to help the Council to meet its corporate objectives.
  2. To ensure that the Council is working with partners to meet partnership targets.
  3. To support initiatives which tackle deprivation throughout the Borough, but with specific reference to the Council’s work on Life Opportunities.
  4. To engender partnership working between the Council and Town and Parish Councils within the Borough of Colchester.
  5. To explore the significance of rural issues in the Borough and determine what programmes and actions may be needed to address these.
  6. To authorise any grants to Town or Parish Councils.
  7. To oversee the implementation and monitoring of the Council’s policies and services relating to sport, recreation, leisure and the Olympics.
-



# Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item  
**12**

11 January 2011

Report of	Scrutiny Officer	Author	Robert Judd Tel. 282274
Title	Work Programme 2010-11		
Wards affected	Not applicable		

**This report sets out the 2010/11 Work Programme for the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

## 1. Action Required

- 1.1 The Panel is asked to consider and note the 2010-11 work programme.

## 2. Reason for Action

- 2.1 This function forms part of the Panel's Terms of Reference in the Constitution.

## 3. Addition and/or outstanding items

- 3.1 There are none.

## 4. Current Work Programme

The work programme for the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel includes the work of the Crime and Disorder Committee.

### 4.1 8 June 2010

1. 2009-10 Year End Performance Report (Head of Corporate Management)

### 24 June 2010 (extra meeting)

1. HRA Reform – Consultation paper (Head of Strategic Policy and Regeneration)

### 20 July 2010

1. Budget Strategy, Timetable and MTFP (Head of Resource Management)

### 24 August 2010

1. Safer Colchester Partnership (**Crime and Disorder Committee**)

### 21 September 2010

1. Review of the Leader, Portfolio Holder for Strategy and Performance

### 12 October 2010 (extra meeting)

1. HX Care – Serious Case Review

### **16 November 2010**

1. Street Services FSR (Head of Street Services)
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Street and Waste Services

### **14 December 2010**

1. Review of the Budget – Strategic update (Head of Resource Management)
2. Performance report (6-monthly 2010-11) (Head of Corporate Management)
3. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Diversity

### **11 January 2011**

1. Review of NEE Local Children's Trust Board (LCTB) (Head of Life Opportunities) - invitation accepted by the Chair of LCTB.
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Communities

### **8 February 2011**

1. Revenues and Benefits FSR / stage2 - follow-up to Full Business Case Review
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Sustainability
3. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Culture and Tourism

### **15 February 2011 (extra meeting)**

1. Review of the London 2012 Partnership Plan

### **22 March 2011**

1. Housing Services FSR / stage2 – follow-up to Full Business Case Review
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Customers
3. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Safety

