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**To**  
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

14<sup>th</sup> July, 2010

**Subject**  
Scrutiny Work Programme 2010/2011

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**1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with the issues identified for the 2010/2011 work programme by all the Scrutiny Boards and the Committee itself, so that the content of the initial programme can be finalised.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to consider the information shown in the appendix and to decide the content of the initial work programme, asking the Scrutiny Boards to give priority to significant issues.

**3 Information/Background**

- 3.1 At their first meetings in this municipal year, the Committee and all Scrutiny Boards identified the issues they wished to include in their work programmes.
- 3.2 These were subsequently considered, and further issues identified, at the informal meeting of all Scrutiny Members on 30th June, 2010.
- 3.3 The appendix sets out all of these issues. Given that there are a large number and Scrutiny Boards have only a finite amount of time available, those issues which appear to be the most important have been highlighted. This has been based on discussions at initial meetings of the boards, although further prioritisation is planned. The Committee may wish to highlight specific issues which it feels should be given high priority in individual board work programmes.
- 3.4 The Committee needs to bear in mind that this is only the initial work programme and that further issues might arise during the year which will need to be included.
- 3.5 As some of the issues affect more than one board, the Committee will need to review the programme as it develops to ensure it is co-ordinated effectively.

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Scrutiny Board	Possible Scrutiny Topic	Brief Description
SCRUCO	Transformation Programme *	Quarterly review of the programme to ensure that it is on course to achieve its objectives within budget. Co-ordination of the programme's engagement with Scrutiny.
SCRUCO	Impact across the Council of the Government's spending cuts #	The Committee wants to assess how the process is managed and how services might be affected. Co-ordination of approach to this issue across Scrutiny.
SCRUCO	Local Area Agreement progress reports	To identify possible performance issues for Scrutiny to consider.
SCRUCO	Pre-budget report	The Committee will consider this report as part of the council's general budget consultation process.
SCRUCO	Medium Term Financial Strategy	The Committee will decide whether to offer comments to the Cabinet.
SCRUCO	Local Economic Partnership #	
SCRUCO	Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership #	

**Key**

Highlighted issues are those initially identified by boards as priority issues for the year  
 Issues marked \* relate to the abc transformation programme. Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee will be taking an overview of this issue across Scrutiny

Issues marked # are those added to the list or amended following discussion at the joint scrutiny board meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> June

SCRUCO Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee  
 SB1 Finance, Corporate and Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Board  
 SB2 Children, Young People, Learning and Leisure Scrutiny Board  
 SB3 Economy, Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Board  
 SB4 Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Board  
 SB5 Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board

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<b>Scrutiny Board</b>	<b>Possible Scrutiny Topic</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>
SB1	Advice Services Review	The Board has asked that it be involved in this review of how advice is provided by various agencies across the city.
SB1	i-cov progress report *	The Board last year monitored progress on improving the delivery of ICT within the Council. It has decided to continue to do this, following the fundamental service review by officers.
SB1	The Government's Emergency Budget and funding reductions	Briefing on the implications for the Council
SB1	Charging policy	Consider a progress report on implementing this policy. SCRUCO asked for this In 2009/10 – The new Committee has asked that Members consider whether SB1 should include this in its work programme.
SB1	Councillor and Officer Training #	How effective is the training for councillors and officers and does it provide value for money?
SB1	Neighbourhood Management Review	The Board has asked to consider the report on the outcome of this review so that it can give its comments to the Cabinet Member.
SB1	Democratic Engagement Approach	The Board considered a report on this issue in 2009/10 and asked for a progress report to be given in October 2010
SB1	Quarterly Monitoring reports: a) Housing Benefits Service b) Revenue Service	The Board has been receiving these reports for some time, to provide information on whether the service is performing well/improving and that issues of concern are being addressed. It will consider the outturn reports in July so that new Members can learn about these service areas and will decide whether it wants to continue to receive these reports.
SB1	Customer Services annual performance report	The Board contributed to the development of the Customer Services Strategy and asked for information on progress after a year's operation.
SB1	Quarterly Monitoring reports: a) Sickness Absence b) Agency Workers and Interim Managers	a) The Board has been receiving these reports for some time, to provide information levels of sickness absence and to identify ways in which they might be reduced. b) This is an issue which the Board began to monitor last year and the reports will give statistical information on the use of agency workers across the Council.  The Board will consider the outturn reports in July so that new Members can learn about the issues and will decide whether it wants to continue to receive these reports.

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<b>Scrutiny Board</b>	<b>Possible Scrutiny Topic</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>
SB2	Safeguarding	Over recent years the Board has dedicated two meetings per year to Safeguarding. Last year the first meeting was essentially a full meeting with the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the various Chairs of Sub-Committees. The second meeting focused on issues which came out of the first. We need to make sure this year that Members are brought the outcomes of any serious case reviews as they are published.
SB2	Removing Barriers to Learning Programme/ Children and Young People at risk of exclusion	More and more the emphasis is turning to identifying young people for additional support earlier so as they do not fall behind at school, and they do not disrupt the work of other pupils. This is an opportunity for Members to find out what work is going on in Coventry in this area and look to other Authorities for innovative methods for identifying those at risk of exclusion.
SB2	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	At the Safeguarding meeting in April 2010, the Board met with the CAMHS service manager and agreed to hold a future meeting to focus on access and outcomes from CAMHS services, and the relationship between Coventry City Council services and CAMHS.
SB2	The Belgrade	The Belgrade is invited to present their annual report to the Scrutiny Board to enable to Board to question the organisation on its performance over the past year.
SB2	The Sports Trust	The Sports Trust is responsible for running a number of the City's leisure facilities. This is an opportunity for Members to receive the annual report of the Trust.
SB2	Budget and Resource Planning - Children, Learning and Young People Directorate	There are a number of budget and resource planning issues which will impact on the Directorate as issues around grant fall out become clearer and the allocation of the Council Budget is discussed. It will also be appropriate for Members to consider discussing budgets for Early Years Child Care and Children's Centres as well as School/Learning related budgets.
SB2	Workforce Development – focus on Social Care	SB2 touched upon workforce development in 09/10 but did not have the opportunity to look at it in detail. Over the past year there have been a number of developments nationally around the social work workforce as well as some local developments around 'grow your own' and links to universities. Therefore, it is now timely to investigate how well this is working and how the recruitment and retention issues are impacting on our existing staff as the numbers of Looked After Children increase.
SB2/ SB5	Young People's Sexual Health	Coventry has an unacceptably high level of teenage conceptions and received a red flag from the Audit Commission for its performance in this area. Scrutiny have challenged officers and partners on the steps being taken to reduce the conception rate, and it is important that both Boards continue to contribute to further progress being made in this area.
SB2/ SB5	Obesity	Last year two Boards held a joint meeting and a number of issues ensued. The best way of taking these forward would seem to be a further joint meeting between Boards 2&5.
SB2	Children's transport #	Review the effectiveness of the revised policy

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Scrutiny Board	Possible Scrutiny Topic	Brief Description
SB3	City Centre and City Centre Parking / Access Strategy	How the transport / parking needs of different users of the City Centre are going to be met alongside the need for effective access to the City Centre for different users
SB3	City Centre Management (linked to the above)	Is the model of a City Centre Management Company successful? Does the City Council get good value for money for its investment?
SB3	Regional Spatial Strategy #	What impact will its withdrawal have on the City? How will the strategic housing and employment needs of the City be met? What work will be done with Sub-Regional partners to collectively solve problems and avoid conflict over allocations? What are the implications for the Green Belt? What are the long term implications of redeveloping old factory sites?
SB3	Regeneration / Economic Development	What will the impact of national budget reductions be for local services / strategies? SB to give direction to replacement of Coventry Development Plan not scrutinise after event
SB3	Demand for Social Housing / Support for Homeless	Assess need for social housing / homelessness accommodation seek to find ways to reduce use of bed and breakfast and understand the future requirements for social housing for the City with likely available resources
SB3	Reducing the number of Empty Properties (linked to above)	Investigate additional efforts which could be undertaken to reduce the number of empty properties in the City
SB3	Coventry bus services #	How are bus services meeting the needs of passengers?
SB3	HS2 and implications for Coventry #	How will High Speed Rail 2 affect the economy of the City – should Coventry oppose or seek to influence to benefit the City?
SB3	Regeneration and Economic Development #	These are key to the city's future progress and development and success in this area underpins success in many other priorities. Have we got our priorities and approach right?
SB3	Discussion with Whitefriars about its governance arrangements and relationship with the Council	This discussion was requested by the SCRUCO towards the end of 2009/10. The new Committee has suggested that SB3 consider whether to include this in its work programme.

Scrutiny Board	Possible Scrutiny Topic	Brief Description
SB4	Licensing Enforcement	During 2009/10, Scrutiny undertook a review of licensing enforcement and made recommendations. It is suggested that this Board, as the new crime and disorder board, review progress made towards implementing the recommendations.
SB4	Drug and Alcohol Treatment	Consider opportunities to improve services and efficiency by working together across the sub-region.
SB4	Outcomes of the Grounds Maintenance Fundamental Service Review *	The Grounds Maintenance Review was the first of the fundamental service reviews to go live in April 2010. This has changed the way that the Council delivers its grounds maintenance and street cleansing service. This is an opportunity to find out the impact of these changes.
SB4	Pot holes and Gritting	At a meeting in February 2010, Members were informed of a planned to review of the gritting network. Members requested that they were consulted on the revised plans as they are drawn up.
SB4	Project Transform	March 2010 SCRUCO recommended 'that members of the relevant Coventry and Solihull Waste Disposal Ltd Panel be invited to attend a meeting of the relevant Scrutiny Board to provide Members with details of the options considered to ensure the best solution to meet the needs of the sub-region and the European procurement rules, for the new residual waste treatment solution.'
SB4	Outcomes of the Aerial Thermal Survey and approaches to making properties more energy efficient	An aerial thermal survey of Coventry took place over the winter, which indicates the houses which would benefit from additional heating insulation, it will be crossed checked with the benefits database to identify homes which may be able to take advantage of energy saving grants. Undertaking this work enables the Authority to help vulnerable households reduce energy costs and contributes to our carbon reduction figures.
SB4	Review of the three bin waste recycling service	During 2009/10, the Council introduced a new recycling system across the city. This is an opportunity to discuss what went well and what didn't go so well, and to make any suggestions for improvements to the scheme. One area where there seems to have been issues is around communications, particularly around the Christmas holiday collections and this is an opportunity to examine what steps are being put in place to avoid the same issues arising again.
SB4	Strategic approach to CCTV #	Coventry has a high proportion of cameras to people. They are owned and managed by a number of organisations including the Council and CVOne but there is no overall plan for their use and development. Is there duplication, are they working and how can they be managed in a more co-ordinated way?

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SB4	Commissioning of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services #	Joint work SB4 / SB5 to encompass links to other health and social care services for this client group
SB4	Domestic Violence #	Specifically include work to combat domestic violence in scrutiny of sub-regional community safety commissioning
SB4	Impact Officers (Neighbourhood Wardens) pilot scheme	In 2009/2010 SCRUCO asked for a report on these results. The new Committee has suggested that SB4 consider whether to include a review of the results of the pilot in its work programme.

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Scrutiny Board	Possible Scrutiny Topic	Brief Description
SB5	Response of UHCW to Physical and Sensory Impairment Report 'Building on Experience'	Last year the SB4 published a report into care received by patients with physical and sensory impairments, the response is now available for an early meeting. <i>Meeting to be held at University Hospital Coventry</i>
SB5	Hospital Discharge Arrangements	Lately there has been an increase in the numbers of patients awaiting discharge from the hospital which is an issue linked to the above item.
SB5	Director of Public Health Annual Report	The Director of Public Health produces an annual report on the health of the local population – this is a particularly useful resource for SB5 to use to monitor local health activity.
SB5	Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report	The annual report summarises progress in safeguarding adults in the City. The Council has been recognised as a regional leader in this field. SB5 will also be required to consider any Serious Case Reviews resulting from the Board's work.
SB5	Personalisation Project	The Government has encouraged all local authorities to increase the personalisation of adult social care services. Success here will depend on the opportunities available for clients to choose and the willingness of social care staff to support clients make these choices.
SB5	Dementia Care	NHS Coventry is currently working on improvements to dementia care pathways, the CC is also responsible for some commissioning here, currently felt to be an area where patients would benefit from improved pathways.
SB5	Transforming Community Services	NHS Coventry will shortly commence a consultation on their proposals for divesting themselves of their delivery arm (school nurses, community nurses, Coventry and Warwick based staff, etc.) and move them to the Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust (who mainly provide mental health and learning disability services).
SB5	Promoting Independence	Promoting independence and delaying the time when people might require social care services have become increasingly important. <i>Meeting to be held at the Opal Centre</i>
SB5	End of Life Care	The new hospice has added some capacity to end of life care in the City however there is considerable work to be done, many more people die at the hospital than need to and this is a strong potential
SB5	Chief Executives Question and Answer session	The Health Scrutiny Board has traditionally held an annual meeting with local NHS Trust Chief Executives which has usually provided a useful opportunity to discuss topical issues facing the local health economy.
SB4/5	Commissioning of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services	Joint work SB4 / SB5 to encompass links to other health and social care services for this client group