

**COMMITTEES:**            **LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY**  
                                 **ENVIRONMENT AND NON- EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS**  
                                 **SCRUTINY**  
                                 **PERFORMANCE, RESOURCES AND ASSETS SCRUTINY**  
                                 **SOCIAL INCLUSION SCRUTINY**  
                                 **REGENERATION AND CITIZENSHIP SCRUTINY**

**DATES:**                **3RD JUNE 2004**  
                                 **8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2004**  
                                 **17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2004**  
                                 **24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2004**  
                                 **1<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2004**

**SUBJECT:**              **WORK PROGRAMME**

**REPORT BY:**           **DIRECTOR OF SCRUTINY**

**CONTACT OFFICER:**   **GEOFF BOCUTT**                            **01582 546073**

**IMPLICATIONS:**

<b>LEGAL</b>	<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY</b>
<b>EQUALITIES</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>
<b>FINANCIAL</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>	<b>OTHER</b>

**WARDS AFFECTED: NONE**

---

### **PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this report is to convey to the committees the decision of the Scrutiny Board and to enable the committees to consider the selection of further topics for their work programmes.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. **The Scrutiny Committees are recommended to consider the report and to decide whether and how to amend their work programmes.**

## **BACKGROUND**

3. At the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2004 the Scrutiny Board considered, as part of my progress report (7.1), the results of a number of consultations about topics that could or should be considered by the Council's scrutiny committees. That report is attached as appendix 1.
4. The Board noted that it was my intention to report to each of the committees during the June/July cycle and accepted the the draft version of the 2004-05 work programme as a working draft for this purpose. The draft work programme has since been updated several times to take account of decisions made by committees and other changes that I have made in the light of developing work on topics and other matters. The latest version is attached as appendix 2.

## **REPORT**

5. As I indicated in my progress report to the Board the draft work programme for this new municipal year is a roll forward of the existing work programme. The original selection of topics took place about two years ago and was based on consideration of a range of factors including the results of consultations and the priorities set by Members at that time base on the Council's visionary goals for 2010. Some regard was also had to the major changes that were in prospect at that time. The issues, I would suggest remain much the same. The Council's visionary goals have been revised and extended to 2011 and the Government has now made some significant decisions about the nature, scale and pace of growth and development in the local area. The challenges facing the Council and its statutory partners also remain similar and are reflected in the Council's vision and will be reflected in the community plan being developed by the Luton Forum.
6. Some committees have a list of topics to be scrutinised that will keep them busy for a number of years but other committees will need to select at least one further topic during the course of this year. Best practice is to carry out in depth scrutiny of major topic sequentially (that is to say don't start a new one until the current one is finished) so that it is not necessary to select a large number of topics; however it would be helpful if a forward programme to take us well into the next year (2005-06) could be developed. The work programme also identifies and schedules those matters that each of the committees have said they would like to keep under review but do not wish to scrutinise in depth and it is timely to review those items also. Attached as appendix 3 is a schedule for each committee showing the items listed in the report to the Board that relate to each committee.
7. The Board has continued to delegate to me the authority to amend the scrutiny work programme as circumstances demand and in consultation with the

committee chairs as appropriate and subject to advising the Board at each meeting.

### **PROPOSAL/OPTION**

8. Each committee is asked to consider its work programme and to make such revisions as it considers appropriate having regard to the information set out in the report attached.

### **APPENDIX**

1. Progress report of the Director of Scrutiny to the Scrutiny Board on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2004
2. Draft Scrutiny Work Programme 2004-05 (version 1.04)
3. List of suggestions that relate to the committee's terms of reference that have been extracted from the Board report.

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS** **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

9. Questionnaire responses and returns from the Citizens' Panel.