

Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2008/09

The four principles of good public scrutiny:

- *provides 'critical friend' challenge to executive policy-makers and decision-makers*
- *enables the voice and concerns of the public and its communities*
- *is carried out by 'independent-minded governors' who lead and own the scrutiny role*
- *drives improvement in public services*

Currently within East Herts Council, the criteria for selecting issues:

For the Scrutiny Committee to select an issue to review, it must meet all of the following criteria:

- Of local, and preferably current, concern
- Linked to the council's corporate objectives
- Capable of being influenced by this committee
- Of manageable scope – focused rather than too wide ranging
- Of sufficient scope to warrant a scrutiny review – not something that can be easily fixed by meeting with the service provider
- Not being scrutinised elsewhere (eg another Scrutiny Committee)