

**Scrutiny work programme
Essential Reference Paper B**

Community Scrutiny Committee work programme 2011/12 and into 2012/13

Still to be scheduled: Implications of Localism Bill

meeting	date	topic	Contact officer/lead	Next Exec
THIS	CIVIC YEAR			
Member information	on-line from 21 Nov 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2012/13 Proposed Service Options 		
JOINT SCRUTINY	17 Jan 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2012/13 Budget items Residents' Survey - results 		
JOINT SCRUTINY	14 Feb 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2012/13 Service Plans 2011/12 Estimates and Future targets 		
4 in 11/12	28 Feb 2012 Report deadline 15 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report from Health Eng Panel Leisure Contract – end of year 3 East Herts Housing Strategy 2011 – 2014 annual monitoring of progress on action plan Final report from Community Safety review task & finish group East Herts Sustainable Communities Strategy – <i>the specific strand for scrutiny to be confirmed</i> Healthcheck through to Dec 2012 Work programme 2012/13 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairman of Panel Invite SLM Claire Bennett T&F Chairman and Brian Simmonds Will O'Neil/Mekhola Ray (George Robertson) Lorna Georgiou/Karl Chui Marian Langley 	06 Mar 2012 22 May 2012
meeting	date	topic	Contact officer/lead	Next Exec
NEXT	CIVIC YEAR			
1 in 12/13	12 June 2012 Report deadline 30 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report from Health Engagement Panel End of financial year annual report for Hertford Theatre Service Plan monitoring Oct 2011 – March 2012 (Community only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairman of the Panel Director Customer and Community Services Lead Officer – Corporate Planning 	10 July 2012 7 Aug 2012 4 Sept 2012

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcheck through to March 2012 (which includes relevant 2011/12 Out-turns and 2012/13 Targets) • Work Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Officer - Performance • Scrutiny Officer 	
2 in 12/13	<p>28 Aug 2012</p> <p>Report deadline 15 Aug</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report from Health Eng Panel • TBC • TBC • Healthcheck through to June 2012 • Work Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman of the Panel • X • X • Lead Officer - Performance • Scrutiny Officer 	<p>9 Oct 2012</p> <p>6 Nov 2012</p>

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)

At the last scrutiny evaluation there was a feeling, in the light of the current economic climate and limited resources, that there should also be some consideration given to

- areas where significant costs might be incurred or could be saved
- minimising the level of risk associated with the topic/issue
- the length of time since the topic was last reviewed.