

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1 DECEMBER – 31 MARCH 2010

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

15 DECEMBER 2009

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 December – 31 March 2010 which relate to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

2. Background Information

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Forward Plan) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.3 To this end, it has been agreed that, on a pilot basis, the most recent version of the Executive's Forward Plan should be included on the agenda of each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees. The Forward Plan for the period 1 December – 31 March 2010 is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 Following member's comments on the suitability of the Forward Plan being presented in its entirety to each committee it should be noted that only issues relating to the specific remit of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee are presented for information and comment. Due to agenda and publication deadlines a revised copy of this information will be circulated at the meeting reflecting any amendments.
- 3.2 For members information the remit of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee is as follows:-
- Major Projects; Sustainability overview; Creating Inclusive Communities overview; Housing overview; Housing Strategy; Private Housing; Housing Associations; Culture overview; Art Development; Museums; and Heritage.
- 3.3 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 December – 31 March 2010;
- 4.2 To seek the views of Members on the revised format presented to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

5. Background Papers

None

Contact Officer : Nigel Cummings 0191 561 1006
Nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk