

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre (Committee Room No. 1) on Thursday, 5th December, 2013 at 5.30 p.m.

Membership

Cllrs, Bonallie, Howe, Kay, T. Martin, Shattock, Tate, Waller and N. Wright

Co-opted Members - Ms A. Blakey, Ms R. Elliott and Ms. H. Harper

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No items

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No items

E. WAUGH,
Head of Law and Governance,
Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

27th November, 2013.

At a meeting of the SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on THURSDAY, 11th NOVEMBER, 2013 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Tate in the Chair.

Councillors Bonallie, Howe, Kay, T. Martin, Shattock and N. Wright.

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Waller.

Minutes of the last Meeting of the Committee held on 10th October, 2013

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 10th October, 2013 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

There were no declarations of interest made.

Change in the Order of Business

At this juncture the Chairman advised that the remaining items of business on the agenda would be taken in the following order:- item 5, item 6, item 4, item 10, item 7, item 8 and item 9.

Sunderland Healthwatch

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided members with background information on the role of Sunderland Health Watch and which introduced the recently appointed Chair of the organisation, Kevin Morris and Alesha Aljeffri, Healthwatch Sunderland Manager, who were present to provide the Committee with a presentation on how Healthwatch would operate in Sunderland.

(For copy report and presentation – see original minutes)

Ms. Aljeffri informed members that Healthwatch was an independent body, accountable to its membership of local people with a Governance Board made up of its members. Nationally Healthwatch England provided central leadership and support to Local Healthwatches and linked directly into the Care Quality Commission.

PCP (a leading regional health and wellbeing charity) had been commissioned to set up and run Healthwatch in Sunderland, Stockton, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland.

Ms. Aljeffri explained that Healthwatch in Sunderland had the following vision:-

- influencing health and social care delivery
- a strong, independent, trusted and effective voice and a champion for local people
- supporting people to access health and social care services
- striving to ensure the best possible quality and choice in health, social care and wellbeing services for the benefit of all living and working in the city

and would have the following role:-

- Gathering views of local patients, public, service users and carers and making those views known to those who commission and provide local health and social care services
- Supporting the involvement / scrutiny by local people in the commissioning and provision of local health and social care services
- Providing information and signposting about health and care services to support local people to make informed choices
- Signposting them if they wish to complain, or get support to complain about these services. However it was not the role of Healthwatch to investigate individual complaints or advocate on behalf of individuals.

With regard to its powers, Ms. Aljeffri advised that service providers had a duty to respond to Local Healthwatch reports and recommendations within 20 working days. (This now included providers of children's social care services). It had the power to enter and view premises where health or social care services were provided (except premises that provided social care to children). In addition Local Healthwatch had a statutory entitlement to a seat on the local Health and well-being Board and could escalate issues direct to Healthwatch England and through them, to the Care Quality Commission.

Ms. Aljeffri having explained the Healthwatch governance structure and progress made to date, concluded her presentation by outlining how members could get involved in the work being undertaken by Healthwatch in Sunderland.

The Chairman thanked Ms Aljeffri for her presentation and asked Mr. Morris what would be his priorities now he had been appointed Chair of Healthwatch? Mr Morris replied that he needed to understand what was going on, what other people were doing and what were the areas of good practice. This information needed to be captured and shared. He wanted to gain an overall view of how people engaged but more importantly he wanted to know what was the impact of the views expressed and how had services changed as a result.

Councillor N. Wright highlighted the importance of partnership working, she stated that the presentation made reference to utilising local networks and asked if Ms. Aljeffri could provide any examples. Ms. Aljeffri replied that VCAS were helping Healthwatch to engage at the local level and Groundworks were assisting in providing links to services for young people. Healthwatch were also engaging with the Children's Trusts, Sunderland's five Area Committees and would be visiting

People First on Monday. Ms. Aljeffri also asked the Committee to get in touch with any suggestions they may have regarding further links that could be made. In this regard Alan Caddick, the Council's Head of Housing Support and Community Living advised that he was involved with the Sunderland Armed Forces Network which met every two months with a view to improving support for veterans. The Network included representatives from the Royal British Legion, SSAFA etc and could provide excellent links for Healthwatch with regard to the health of local ex forces personnel. Councillor T. Martin added that the Fellowship of Services and Durham Light Infantry Association could also provide useful links in this matter.

Councillor Howe confirmed that the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel had already established close links with Healthwatch.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Martin, Ms Aljeffri confirmed that she had contacted the previous Links Groups and that there had been quite a successful transfer. Councillor Martin further asked whether Healthwatch were involved with the appeals process in relation to Section 2 Mental Health Act referrals. Ms. Aljeffri advised that Healthwatch did not deal directly with this process but were currently contacting the Trusts that did.

Councillor Shattock highlighted that there were many people and groups that had become, or were in danger of becoming disconnected from wider society and that they must not be forgotten. Mr Morris agreed and advised that Healthwatch would strive to tap into the seldom heard voices and reach out to those groups that were difficult to engage with. Councillor Shattock referred to Sunderland's Health and Well-being Board. She advised that the Board were a group of powerful people and that to be heard, a strong voice was required. She believed however that Mr. Morris and Ms. Aljeffri would provide that voice.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chairman thanked Mr. Morris and Ms. Aljeffri for their attendance and looked forward to working with Healthwatch in the future. Mr. Morris replied that he liked to think that Healthwatch would operate as the Committee's critical friend.

2. RESOLVED that the report and presentation be received and noted.

Commissioning Integrated Wellness Services

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided members with an overview of a programme of reform work related to the commissioning of integrated wellness, an outline of the concept and approach taken and which sought the Committee's views on how they would like to continue to be briefed on progress during the consultation and implementation process.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

To compliment the report, Gillian Gibson, Consultant in Public Health provided members with a presentation which described the background to the development of the integrated wellness services, fed back community views expressed during previous engagement work and identified the next steps in the process. The Chairman referred to the transfer of the Public Health function from the NHS to the Local Authority. He asked if the service was flexible enough to operate in a

peripatetic manner to access those hard to reach groups, and if this was the case, how would it be carried out. Ms. Gibson replied that the Health Champions would be utilised in these areas in order to assist people and sign post them to the most appropriate source of help or treatment. Health Trainers would also be working in those areas where they were needed the most.

Mr. Morris added that he was very pleased to hear that as part of the procurement of services there would be a review stage where service users would be asked “we thought you said.....is that correct?” He believed that this stage should also be used to double check the list of consultees to make sure no one was missing.

Councillor N. Wright referred to the reference made in Ms. Gibson’s presentation that there were some things that hadn’t worked and which would therefore be decommissioned. She asked what these services were, as presumably at one time they had been deemed to be important. Ms. Gibson replied that at this stage she would be reluctant to specify. It was well known that there was a requirement to make savings and the Authority was unable to commission on the same basis as it had before. Councillor Wright appreciated Ms. Gibson’s reluctance but asked that once the work had been completed the rationale for the decisions made was brought back before the Committee so it could ask questions regarding the approach taken.

There being no further questions for Ms. Gibson, the Chairman thanked her for her presentation. He moved that the item be referred to the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel as part of the consultation process, to further considered the matter and report back to the Committee in due course.

Accordingly it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report and presentation be received and noted; and
- ii) the item be referred to the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel as part of the consultation process to further considered the matter and report back to the Committee in due course.

Annual Audit Letter 2012/2013

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report attaching a copy of the report considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 6th November, 2013 (copies circulated) providing details of the Sunderland City Council Annual Audit Letter covering the year 2012/2013.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Mr. Gavin Barker, Senior Manager, Mazars LLP who proceeded to address the Committee in respect of his audit of Sunderland City Council for 2012/13. He advised that the auditor had issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statements and an unqualified value for money conclusion.

He highlighted that that the Council:

- Produced accounts for 2012/13 that gave a true and fair view of the council's financial position and that no objections to the accounts were received
- Accurately reported its financial performance to government via the Whole of Government Accounts process
- Had proper arrangements in place to secure value for money.
- Was financially resilient and had managed its financial position very well as both budget setting and close budget monitoring were considered robust which had culminated in an underspend of £6m despite having to successfully deliver continued significant financial savings in 2012/13.
- Is aware of the continued and significant reductions in funding it is facing and in this context is continuing to identify ways of ensuring service sustainability and new ways of working.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor T. Martin as to why the error of £607k did not result in a qualification, Mr. Barker advised that it was considered to be a presentational error which was not material to the accounts. Sonia Tognarelli, Head of Financial Resources, advised that the error had occurred in the asset register which had not reflected the replacement of the Tavistock Car Park with the Software Centre.

Councillor N. Wright congratulated all the officers involved in overseeing the Council's accounts and stated that she was delighted with Mr. Barker's report. With regard to page 3 she asked Mr. Barker to expand on his references to the key challenges the Council would face in the future. Mr. Barker replied that the Auditors would constantly assess the implications for the Council's accounts of issues such as the new models of service delivery, the externalisation of care and support and the local asset backed vehicle. In particular, significant challenges would be posed by the need to provide Council Group Accounts, both for the officers in the preparation and Mazars in the auditing. Ms. Tognarelli added that her Service were aware of the prospect of Group Accounts and the Technical Team had been producing shadow Group Accounts in preparation.

The Chairman referred to the prudence of the Council in setting aside earmarked reserves and media reports of Government criticism of Local Authorities' reluctance to spend their reserves. He asked Mr. Barker's view on the matter who replied that it was true the Council had maintained a good level of reserves however there was a need for it to do so.

The Chairman having thanked all concerned for the work which resulted in such a positive Annual Audit Letter, he thanked Mr Barker for his attendance and it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report and presentation be received and noted.

Request for the Inclusion of an Item

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) on a request received from Councillor Howe that the following item be placed on the agenda for consideration at a future meeting of the Scrutiny Committee:

'Ex-Services Personnel in Sunderland: Health Inequalities and delivering the Armed Forces Community Covenant.'

(For copy report – see original Minutes)

Councillor Howe explained that the Scrutiny Committee would be asked to receive a presentation on current activities in relation to health inequalities around services for veterans and on delivering the Sunderland Armed Forces Community Covenant.

Discussion ensued on the matter. Mr Caddick explained that in effect Councillor Howe's request had been overtaken by events. The Armed Forces Network were currently doing a series of sessions for Members, staff and partner organisations, covering the points raised in the report. He believed that it would be more appropriate to let the sessions take their course and review the position thereafter. If it highlighted any outstanding issues then a decision could be made to bring it before the Committee.

The Chairman agreed and stated that he could not see what value it would add by bringing the matter before the Committee at this stage.

Councillor Howe asked whether former Councillor Graham Hall was aware of the sessions? Mr Caddick replied that he was and that he was actually assisting him to deliver them. Councillor Kay reassured Councillor Howe that he had recently met Mr Hall in passing with the Deputy Leader. He had been more than happy with the approach being taken and believed it to be a better way of taking the issue forward.

5. RESOLVED that the issue did not merit any response beyond noting the matter, pending a review of the position at the end of the financial year.

Notice of Key Decisions

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 8 October, 2013.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

A copy of the latest notice (issued on 5th November, 2013) was tabled for Members' information.

The Chairman asked any Members having issues to raise or requiring further detail on any of the items included in the notices, to contact the Scrutiny Co-ordinator, Ms. Helen Lancaster for initial assistance.

6. RESOLVED that the Notice of Key Decisions as detailed above be received and noted.

Annual Work Programme 2012/13

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) attaching for Members' information, the work programme for the Committee's work being undertaken during the 2013/14 council year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Lancaster having advised that the programme would be revised to reflect the referral of the Integrated Wellness Services item to the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel, it was :-

7. RESOLVED that the information contained in the work programme be received and noted.

Lead Scrutiny Member Update

The Lead Scrutiny Members submitted a joint report (copy circulated) providing an update to the Scrutiny Committee regarding the work of each of the six Lead Scrutiny Members and supporting Panels.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Consideration having been given to the report it was:-

8. RESOLVED that the update of the Lead Scrutiny Members be received and noted.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked Members and Officers for their attendance and contributions to the meeting.

(Signed) R.D. TATE,
Chairman.

LOCAL AUTHORITY TRADING COMPANY

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To receive a presentation about the Local Authority Trading Company (LATC).
- 1.2 Philip Foster, Head of Care and Support, will be in attendance at the meeting to provide Members with information and progress.

2. Background Information

- 2.1 On 19 June, Cabinet endorsed a proposal to set up a new Local Authority Trading Company structure and transfer current in-house care and support provision to the Company.
- 2.2 The LATC will enable a more flexible and responsive approach to meeting adult social care needs and offers an opportunity to assist the council in meeting the significant financial challenges it faces. There was a strong service and financial case for the LATC to assist in the delivery of maximum choice, freedom and flexibility for individuals whilst also contributing to the achievement of value for money and significant savings.
- 2.3 The advantages for customers who are to receive services delivered by the LATC include:
 - A more effective and efficient services resulting from the need to be competitive, flexible and innovative;
 - Increased opportunities in the local economy, which could lead to greater job creation and employment prospects;
 - Encouraging a 'mixed economy' of supply that enables local authority clients to make the best use of the market place to obtain the most appropriate supply solution;
 - Longer term the creation of new opportunities for supply and support services from local companies, especially smaller businesses;
 - The potential to introduce new providers into the market for local authority services which serves to increase competition and contestability; and
 - The potential for supporting relationships between local government and the voluntary and community sectors.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 The LATC will be operational as of 1 December 2013.
- 3.2 A significant amount of consultation and discussion has been undertaken with key stakeholders during both the formation of the proposals and the subsequent implementation of the LATC, including affected staff, trade unions, service users and Elected Members.
- 3.2 Prior to Cabinet approval of the proposals for the LATC the Chair, Vice Chair and Lead Member for Health, Housing and Adult Services met with Philip Foster to discuss the proposal and what it would mean in practice for both service users and staff.
- 3.3 During this discussion, scrutiny's oversight of the LATC was discussed in detail, the first stage of which is the progress update to be provided at the meeting.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider and comment upon progress in regard to the LATC.

5. Background Papers

Cabinet Agenda – 19 June 2013

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DRAFT HOUSING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY – APRIL 2014 – MARCH 2017

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PEOPLE SERVICES

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform Committee of proposed changes to the Financial Assistance Policy.
- 1.2 To seek Committee's input in to the revision of the Financial Assistance Policy prior to its submission to Cabinet in March 2014.

2. Background Information

- 2.1 The Regulatory Reform(Housing Assistance) (England and Wales) Order 2002 (RRO HA 2002), which came into force on 18 July 2002 gives Local Authorities wide powers to provide assistance to private homeowners for repair, renovation and location. The assistance can be done by both grants and loans; offering loans to those who unable to obtain commercial loans by a system of equity release on their property to carry out repairs linked to housing advice for financial assistance.

The RRO gives the Council wide ranging powers to improve living conditions in the city by providing assistance to the private sector for housing renewal. The assistance is based upon arrangements to:

- Tackle poverty
- Promote social inclusion
- Reduce health inequalities
- Repair and improve defective private housing
- Ensure neighbourhoods do not fall into decline

- 2.2 The Council's approach to meeting the requirements of the RRO is set out in its Financial Assistance Policy – copy attached at **Appendix 1**. As well as delivering the regulatory element of housing assistance our policy also includes elements of discretionary assistance so as to create a comprehensive approach to housing assistance for the city. The current policy has been in place since April 2011 and runs out in March 2014. There is a need therefore to review the policy and establish a new policy that reflects current housing policy and the financial position in relation to housing assistance.

3. Housing Financial Assistance Policy – Proposed Changes

3.1 The current Housing Financial Assistance Policy 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2014 sets out the Council's approach to housing assistance and summarises the assistance available from FAP 1 – FAP 19. The proposed changes to the policy are set out below and the rationale for them.

- FAP 1 – Advice and Information - this will be expanded to cover all areas of advice, so the reference to Independent Financial Advice in FAP 3 and Energy Advice in FAP 11 will now be included in here and those references will be removed.
- FAP 2 – Project Management – this will remain unchanged.
- FAP 3 – Independent Financial Advice – to be removed and included in a revised FAP 1.
- FAP 4 – Commercial Loan Product – this to be removed as it is not a loan that would be provided by the Council therefore shouldn't be included.
- FAP 5 – Capital and Interest Free Loan – this will remain unchanged.
- FAP 6 – Home Improvement Equity Loan – this will become an Equity Loan and will include for relocating to a replacement home as well as for home improvements.
- FAP 7 – Interest Free Loans – there will be some changes to the wording and in terms of what the loan can be used for there will be an additional line added in which will assist an applicant to make their contribution towards work funded by a mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant where their costs exceed the maximum limit of £30,000.00.
- FAP 8 – Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) – this will remain unchanged.
- FAP 9 – Discretionary Assistance (loan or grant for disability related adaptations or relocation) – this will remain unchanged
- FAP 10 – Handypersons' Service – this will remain unchanged.
- FAP 11 – Sunderland Energy Efficiency Programme – this programme has now come to an end as it was reliant on funding from utilities in the main which has now ceased. Warm Front also no longer exists and this product will be removed. Information on Warm Up North to be included instead and what's available under the scheme. The

reference to Energy Advice will be included in FAP 1 as described earlier.

- FAP 12 – Financial Assistance is available for works which will enhance confidence and perception of specific Neighbourhoods within the area – this to be amended to say “specific Neighbourhoods in renewal areas or other designated areas”.
- FAP 13 – Relocation Home Equity Loans – this to be removed and included in a revised FAP 6 – Equity Loans.
- FAP 14 – Homeswap and Homesteading – this to be removed and included for in a revised FAP 12.
- FAP 15 – Empty Homes Assistance – in the cost section the amount of assistance will increase to £75k from £65k.
- FAP 16 – Mortgages – this to be removed as there is an ongoing review of mortgages being undertaken to take account of Government schemes such as Help to Buy and the increasing range of offers from High Street lenders.
- FAP 17 – Bond Guarantee Scheme – this to be removed and included in a new Access to Housing Strategy.
- FAP 18 - Repossession Prevention Fund – funding has come to an end for this so it is to be removed.
- FAP 19 – Mortgage Rescue Scheme – funding has come to an end for this so it is to be removed.
- FAP 19 – Home Security/Target Hardening Assistance – there is a doubt as to whether funding remains available for this so it is likely to be removed.

3.2 Further information on the detail of some of the proposed changes can be provided at the meeting, and Members’ comments and input into the proposed changes are welcomed.

4. Recommendation

4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider and comment upon the proposed changes to the Housing Financial Assistance Policy and to provide comments on the proposed changes prior to its submission to Cabinet in March 2014.

5. Background Papers

- Housing Financial Assistance Policy: 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2014

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INTRODUCTION OF 20 MPH ZONES IN THE CITY – UPDATE

JOINT REPORT OF THE LEAD SCRUTINY MEMBERS

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the current position in relation to the introduction of 20mph zones in Sunderland and consider the findings of work carried out by the City Services Scrutiny Panel in relation to a revised methodology and criteria for priority schemes.

2. Background

- 2.1 In 2009 engineering consultants Jacobs were commissioned by Sunderland City Council to contribute to the review of its speed management strategy. In February 2010 Jacobs published their *Casualty Reduction Initiative for Residential Areas* report detailing the findings of investigations into prospective pilot areas for the introduction of 20 mph zones and speed limits in Sunderland. The report followed an investigation into this issue by a Task and Finish Group formed by the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.2 On 2 June 2010, Cabinet agreed the report and its recommendations for the introduction of 20 mph zones, and on 18 December 2012, the City Services Scrutiny Panel considered an update on the implementation of 20 mph zones in the city.
- 2.3 At that meeting, the Panel suggested that it was an appropriate time to revisit the accident figures and criteria used in the original study. Consequently, further reports were considered by the Panel on 18 July and 11 November 2013. These reports set out details of proposed changes to the 20 mph zone / limit methodology and scheme priority.
- 2.5 These proposed changes were agreed by the City Services Scrutiny Panel on 11 November 2013 and are submitted to the Scrutiny Committee for further consideration.

3 Current Position

- 3.1 In the original report, fifteen areas were identified as being suitable for 20 mph zone pilot schemes. These locations were ranked in order of priority for implementation with the location having the poorest overall record being given the greatest priority.
- 3.2 The areas ranked in order of priority were:

- 1 Silksworth
- 2 Marley Potts
- 3 Plains Farm
- 4 Concord
- 5 Biddick
- 6 Pennywell
- 7 Seaburn Dene
- 8 Hill View
- 9 Hetton
- 10 Town End Farm
- 11 Red House
- 12 Ford
- 13 Oxclose
- 14 Leechmere
- 15 Hall Farm

- 3.3 Since the publication of the original report the data sets used by Jacobs to identify the pilot areas would likely have changed. Following a meeting with the Scrutiny Panel on 18 July 2013 it was agreed to further examine collision and other relevant data. This review offered the opportunity to reconsider the order of priority set by the Cabinet approved Jacobs report.

DFT Guidance for 20mph Speed Limits and Zones

- 3.4 The Department for Transport has recently made significant changes to facilitate and reduce the cost for providing 20 mph Zones in England. DfT Circular 01/2013, Setting Local Speed Limits published in January 2013, section 6, urban speed management sets out the policy for 20 mph zones and speed limits.

Key points of the Guidance

- 3.5 Speed limits in urban areas affect everyone not only as motorists, but as pedestrians, cyclists and residents. As well as influencing safety they can influence quality of life, the environment and the local economy.

- 3.6 Traffic authorities can over time introduce 20 mph speed limits or zones on:-

Major streets where there are – or could be – significant numbers of journeys on foot, and/or where pedal cycle movements are an important consideration, and this outweighs the disadvantage of longer journey times for motorised traffic.

- 3.7 This is in addition to:-

Residential streets in cities, towns and villages, particularly where the streets are being used by people on foot and on bicycles, there is community support and the characteristics of the street are suitable.

- 3.8 Where they do so, general compliance needs to be achievable without an excessive reliance on enforcement.

20 MPH Zones

- 3.9 These are predominantly used in urban areas, both town centres and residential areas and in the vicinity of schools, shops, markets, playgrounds and other areas with greater levels of pedestrian and cyclist traffic. They should not be applied to streets where motor traffic is the primary function.
- 3.10 Zones are signed at all entry points and require traffic calming measures such as speed humps and chicanes or repeater speed limit signing and/or roundel road markings at regular intervals so that no point in the zone is more than 50 metres from a feature. The end of the zone is indicated with a terminal sign.
- 3.11 Research in to the effectiveness of 20 mph Zones with traffic calming suggests the overall average annual collision rate can be reduced up to 60%. Zones can also encourage modal shift from vehicle use increasing walking and cycling with an overall reduction in traffic flows.

20 MPH Limits

- 3.12 These are similar to other local speed limits and normally applied to individual or small numbers of roads. They do not require the use of traffic calming but are increasingly being applied to larger areas and are signed at the start and ended with a terminal sign between which there is at least one repeater sign.
- 3.13 Research in to the effectiveness of signed only 20 mph speed limits suggests that they lead only to relatively small reductions in speed vehicle speeds. Therefore, they are generally only appropriate for areas where traffic speeds are already low. If the mean speed is already at or below 24 mph the introduction of a 20 mph limit through signing alone is likely to lead to general compliance with the applied limit.
- 3.14 National statistics suggest that 20 mph zones / speed limits can provide the following benefits: -
- Improved Road Safety, particularly for vulnerable road users;
 - Enhanced environmental quality and liveability in residential areas;
 - More sustainable travel behaviours through encouragement of walking, cycling and public transport;

- Efficiency gains in operations, for instance making it easier to recruit and retain School Crossing Patrols; and
- Opportunities to capture private sector funding contributions as part of the development process.

Scheme Delivery and Staged Approach

- 3.15 The Silksworth, Marley Potts and Plains Farm sites, ranked 1 to 3 respectively are in the process of installation or consultation. The remaining locations (4 – 15) have yet to be consulted on or programmed.
- 3.16 Subject to satisfactory consultation the proposed implementation of the remaining 12 sites is programmed over the next 6 – 8 years.
- 3.17 However, given the changes specified in *Setting Local Speed Limits* it is considered possible to reduce the delivery timescale to an estimated 4 years.
- 3.18 The aim of the 20 mph limits / zones is to achieve 85th %ile speeds not greater than 24 mph (the speed at or below which 85% of drivers travel at). This can be achieved through the installation of different engineering measures, some of which will be more effective than others depending upon the location and the existing layout and operation of the highway.
- 3.19 Department for Transport expects 20 mph zones to be self-enforcing and, as such, zones should include traffic calming features to help maintain slower speeds. However the new guidance allows Traffic authorities to now place any of the following:
- repeater sign (TSRGD diagram 670)
 - a speed roundel road marking (TSRGD diagram 1065)
 - or a combination of both these signs, and;
 - typical traffic calming features
- 3.20 These new arrangements should significantly reduce the requirement for signing and traffic calming features and traffic authorities can now incorporate wider areas within a 20 mph zone where physical traffic calming features may not be appropriate.
- 3.21 It is envisaged that the zone entry signs and 20 mph roundel road markings will help educate drivers of the appropriate maximum speed that should be driven within the zone. A change in driving behaviour should lead to reduced vehicle speeds that will improve road safety within an area with greater numbers of small children and other vulnerable road users.

- 3.22 In consideration of these changes a two stage approach has been devised. Each location will be subject to Stage 1 works in order to expedite the implementation of the zones. The areas will be monitored to determine the impact of the measures. Those areas which are found to require additional features to achieve the target speed reduction will be subject to Stage 2 works.

Stage 1

- Speed surveys to determine the current operating speed of the road(s) within the respective areas.
- Installation of and 20 mph zone / limit signs and the supporting roundel road markings.

Stage 2

- Speed surveys to determine the current operating speeds of the roads in the respective areas since the introduction of the new speed limit and traffic calming features.
- The installation of physical measures such as speed humps and cushions at those sites which still have 85thile speeds above 24 mph.
- Vehicle speeds and accident injury records will continue to be monitored after implementation of the scheme helping with the planning and implementation of future pilot 20 mph speed limit zones.

Existing Methodology

- 3.23 The Jacobs report used a relatively complex method of assessment to determine its 15 proposed sites. As well as collision data, sites were scored against criteria such as likelihood of compliance, public acceptability, proximity to school and cost of implementation
- 3.24 Whilst this is a more in depth approach it is considered that a simpler and less time consuming methodology may provide as accurate a reflection of the need for implementation at a particular site. The new methodology also gives greater weight to key criteria such as collisions.
- 3.25 Therefore it is proposed to simplify the assessment methodology. For the purposes of this review, the 15 identified sites were compared on collision data alone scoring the sites in volume and severity. It is considered that this simple method would robustly reflect the performance of each site and the need for action. It will also be easier to update the programme annually and make comparisons.
- 3.26 The collision data assessment interrogates the Northumbria Police Authority road traffic collision records (STATS 19) available through the

web based programme CIRTAS to determine which of the 20 mph zones has the highest collision risk

- 3.27 The sites are initially ranked by volume of collisions to identify the worst performing site(s) in that particular study period. Any sites with the same number of collisions will be separated through severity, the site with the highest number of greater severity collisions taking precedence.
- 3.28 Each site is scored with the highest number of points given to the site(s) with the highest number of collisions and rank in that year. The site(s) with lowest number of collisions and rank receives the fewest points. Should two or more sites have exactly the same record they will be awarded the same score value. The scoring system is;
- Rank 1 15 pts
 - Rank 2 14 pts
 - Rank 3 13 pts and so on.
- 3.29 Each site will then have the severity of its collisions scored. This mechanism is applied to filter those sights which exhibit a greater collision record but of a lesser severity from those sites which exhibit fewer collisions but of a greater severity. The scoring system is;
- Fatal 10 pts
 - Serious 5 pts
 - Slight 1 pt
- 3.30 Subject to the severity scoring mechanism the sites are ranked accordingly with the highest scoring site being ranked as 1. The sites, as previously explained, are again scored from 15 pts downwards against its new rank.
- 3.31 Combining the volume and severity rank scores gives a final total and the order of priority for implementation.
- 3.23 Appendix A to this report shows the scoring table setting the revised order of priority.

Data Analysis

- 3.33 A study of the latest collision data indicates that the exiting order could be amended to reflect the changes in the number, severity and type of collisions in the respective areas.
- 3.34 The Silksworth, Marley Potts and Plains Farm sites, ranked 1 to 3 respectively are in the process of installation or consultation. The remaining locations (4 – 15) have yet to be consulted on or programmed.
- 3.35 Appendix B to this report set out the collision data and the respective changes and the amended order of priority. However a simple

comparative list of previous and proposed rank is set out in the table below.

Area	Initial Priority	Proposed Priority
Ford	4	1
Leechmere	5	2
Hetton	6	2
Town End Farm	7	3
Concord	8	4
Biddick	9	4
Seaburn Dene	10	4
Red House	11	4
Pennywell	12	5
Hill View	13	5
Oxclose	14	5
Hall Farm	15	5

Public Concern

- 3.36 In addition to the delivery of this programme it is also recommended to install 20 mph zones / limits at sites of public concern. Differing to the predominantly residential streets and areas that the existing sites cover Public Concern Sites will typically be individual streets which are not necessarily residential. Such as those outside of schools, shops and play parks etc where there isn't the need to address the wider area. These schemes can be implemented relatively quickly and with comparatively lower financial input and appeasing the concerns of the local community and stakeholders.
- 3.37 Public Concern Site schemes would be limited to a construction cost of £8,000 and funded through the Mass Action element of the Local Transport Plan (LTP). Should a scheme be estimated at costing in excess of this it would be subject to the Highway Assessment Framework prioritised against other local road safety schemes.

New Developments

- 3.38 It is proposed to install 20 mph zones / limits at recently constructed residential developments which have geometric designed highways to produce lower vehicle speeds. Such areas will already have lower vehicle speeds and the installation / implementation of the supporting signing, road markings and Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) will enhance the message to drivers and maintain lower speeds.
- 3.39 In line with the actions set in the June 2010 Cabinet report section 278 / section 38 agreements require that the roads should be constructed to the 20 mph design speed and the appropriate signing, road markings installed / implemented prior to adoption by the Council. It is intended to extend the

requirements of the developer to include the implementation of the supporting TRO's.

- 3.40 This also allows the Council the opportunity to access private developer funding contributing to the improvement of the highway network.

4 Conclusion

- 4.1 In summary there is clear evidence to suggest that 20 mph treatments can be an effective means of improving road safety in residential and urban areas with significant benefits in terms of improving road safety, particularly among the vulnerable road user categories. It is therefore important that the programmed implementation continues.
- 4.2 It is also important to develop an approach to implementing public concern sites.
- 4.3 However, in consideration of the latest research and changes to the regulations the order of priority as set in the Jacobs report could be amended to reflect the current performance of the respective areas.
- 4.4 Cabinet approval is required to gain agreement that the order of priority is reviewed annually (September) to determine the three sites for implementation in the subsequent financial year.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and comment upon:-
- (i) The content of the report including the proposed changes to the scheme;
 - (ii) The public consultations for Marley Potts and Plains Farm; and
 - (ii) Public concern sites being included in future programmes.

6. Background Papers

- Scrutiny Committee Agenda and Papers

Contact Officer: Ken Heads
0191 561 1233

Appendix A

Collisions by Volume (3 years)							Collisions by Severity					Combined Rank Score	Priority
Area	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	Rank	Rank Score (1 - 15)	Fatal (10)	Serious (5)	Slight (1)	Total	Rank Score (1-15)		
Ford	1	1	6	8	1	15	10	5	6	21	15	30	1
Leechmere	0	1	1	2	5	11	0	5	1	6	14	25	2
Hetton	0	0	4	4	3	13	0	0	4	4	12	25	2
Town End Farm	0	0	3	3	4	12	0	0	3	3	11	23	3
Concord	0	0	1	1	6	10	0	0	1	1	10	20	4
Biddick	0	0	1	1	6	10	0	0	1	1	10	20	4
Seaburn Dene	0	0	1	1	6	10	0	0	1	1	10	20	4
Red House	0	0	1	1	6	10	0	0	1	1	10	20	4
Pennywell	0	0	0	0	7	9	0	0	0	0	9	18	5
Hill View	0	0	0	0	7	9	0	0	0	0	9	18	5
Oxclose	0	0	0	0	7	9	0	0	0	0	9	18	5
Hall Farm	0	0	0	0	7	9	0	0	0	0	9	18	5

Appendix B

Ford – Initial rank 4 / Proposed Rank 1			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal	0.0	1 x Fatal	0.33
5 x Serious	1.0	1 x Serious	0.33
5 x Slight	1.0	6 x Slight	2.00

Leechmere – Initial Rank 5 / Proposed Rank 2			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal	0.0	0 x Fatal	0.0
0 x Serious	0.0	1 x Serious	0.33
3 x Slight	0.6	1 x Slight	0.33

Hetton – Initial Rank 6 / Proposed Rank 2			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal	0.0	0 x Fatal	0.0
0 x Serious	0.2	0 x Serious	0.0
4 x Slight	0.8	4 x Slight	1.33

Town End Farm – Initial Rank 7 / Proposed Rank 3			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal	0.0	0 x Fatal	0.0
0 x Serious	0.0	0 x Serious	0.0
3 x Slight	0.6	3 x Slight	1.0

Concord – Initial Rank 8 / Proposed Rank 4			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal 0 x Serious 5 x Slight	0.0 0.0 1.0	0 x Fatal 0 x Serious 1 x Slight	0.0 0.0 0.33

Biddick - Initial Rank 9 / Proposed Rank 4			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal 0 x Serious 3 x Slight	0.0 0.0 0.6	0 x Fatal 0 x Serious 1 x Slight	0.0 0.0 0.33

Seaburn Dene - Initial Rank 10 / Proposed Rank 4			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal 0 x Serious 2 x Slight	0.0 0.2 0.4	0 x Fatal 0 x Serious 1 x Slight	0.0 0.0 0.33

Red House - Initial Rank 11 / Proposed Rank 4			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal 0 x Serious 4 x Slight	0.0 0.0 0.4	0 x Fatal 0 x Serious 1 x Slight	0.0 0.0 0.33

Pennywell - Initial Rank 12 / Proposed Rank 5			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal	0.0	0 x Fatal	0.0
1 x Serious	0.2	0 x Serious	0.0
4 x Slight	0.8	0 x Slight	0.0

Hill View - Initial Rank 13 / Proposed Rank 5			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal	0.0	0 x Fatal	0.0
0 x Serious	0.0	0 x Serious	0.0
2 x Slight	0.4	0 x Slight	0.0

Oxclose Initial Rank 14 / Proposed Rank 5			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal	0.0	0 x Fatal	0.0
0 x Serious	0.0	0 x Serious	0.0
0 x Slight	0.0	0 x Slight	0.0

Hall Farm - Initial Rank 15 / Proposed Rank 5			
Collision Data 2005 / 09 (5 yrs)	Annual Average	Collision Data 2010 / 12 (3 yrs)	Annual Average
0 x Fatal	0.0	0 x Fatal	0.0
1 x Serious	0.2	0 x Serious	0.0
2 x Slight	0.4	0 x Slight	0.0

REQUEST TO ATTEND SEMINAR – CENTRE FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For the Committee to consider nominating two delegates to the Centre for Public Scrutiny's Parliamentary Seminar to be held on 7 January, 3 February and 31 March 2014.

2. Background

- 2.1 The council's Scrutiny Handbook contains a protocol for use of the Scrutiny Committees budget by members to attend training and conferences relevant to the remit of the Committee.

3. Conference Details

- 3.1 The Parliamentary Seminars aim to give elected members the opportunity to learn about parliamentary scrutiny and discuss what local and national scrutiny can learn from each other. The Seminars provide the opportunity to hear from a chair of a select committee and put questions directly to them. Seminars also include a "Questioning and chairing skills session" which explore the skills needed to evaluate evidence, understand some issues faced in scrutiny, and practice the select committee style of questioning skills. All sessions run from 11.00am – 4.00pm.
- 3.2 The Seminars will be held on 7 January, 3 February and 31 March 2014. The CfPS charges a nominal fee of £40 +VAT to cover costs. There will be associated travel costs to London however, previous delegates have indicated that these events offer excellent value for money as the speakers and practical training will be entirely free.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 It is suggested that the Committee considers the expressions of interest and agrees a nomination to attend the Seminar, to be funded from the budget of the Scrutiny Committee.

5. Background Papers Conference Papers

Contact Officer: Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Coordinator – 561 1233

NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 5 November 2013.

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 Notice of Key Decisions) 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.

- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions is included on the agenda of this Committee. The Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 5 November 2013 is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In considering the Notice of Key Decisions, Members are asked to consider only those issues where the Scrutiny Committee or relevant Scrutiny Panel could make a contribution which would add value prior to the decision being taken.
- 3.2 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. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 5 November 2013.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda

Contact Officer : Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Coordinator
0191 561 1233
helen.lancaster@sunderland.gov.uk

28 day notice
Notice issued 5 November 2013

The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions (including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
130910/08	Appointment of preferred bidder in respect of the Sunderland Local Asset Backed Vehicle (LABV) and related matters.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 6 November 2013 to 5 December 2013	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
						outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.		
121218/13	To approve a policy to deal with horses tethered on Council land	Cabinet	Y	4 December 2013	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
131008/05	Approval to progress projects funded by Local Pinch Fund and Regional Growth Fund Round 4 Grant awards.	Cabinet	Y	4 December 2013	Y	N/A	Cabinet Report Pinch Point and RGF 4 Bid documents and associated offer letters.	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
131105/01	To approve the novation of the current contracts in place between the Council and the Local Authority Controlled Company, Care and Support Sunderland Ltd.	Cabinet	Y	4 December 2013	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
131105/02	To agree the Council's response to the DCLG Consultation in relation to the creation of a Combined Authority for the North East of England.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 4 December 2014 to 15 January 2014	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
131105/03	To approve disposal of Broadway House, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 4 December 2013 to 12 February 2014.	N	N/A	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
130806/05	To seek approval to a Council funded city centre office development scheme and associated pre-letting arrangements	Cabinet	Y	During the period 4 December 2013 to 15 January 2014	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
						financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.		
131008/06	Alternative Service Delivery Model for ICT- Approval of Business Case and next steps.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 5 December 2013 to 15 January 2014	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
						holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.		
130910/10	To consider and approve the Housing Financial Assistance Policy	Cabinet	Yes	12 March 2014	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO Box 100 Civic Centre Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Note; Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below. Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team PO Box 100, Civic Centre, Sunderland, or by email to committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Who will decide;

Cabinet; Councillor Paul Watson; Councillor Henry Trueman; Councillor Mel Speding; Councillor Pat Smith; Councillor Graeme Miller; Councillor John Kelly; Councillor James Blackburn; Councillor Celia Gofton

Elaine Waugh
Head of Law and Governance
5 November 2013

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The report attaches, the work programme for the Committee’s work during the 2013/14 council year.
- 1.2 In delivering its work programme, the Scrutiny Committee will support the council in achieving its Corporate Outcomes.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The work programme is a working document which the Committee can develop throughout the year. The work programme allows Members and officers to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.
- 2.2 The first priority policy review topics commissioned by the Scrutiny Committee to the Scrutiny Panels are underway as follows:-

Remit	Policy Review Topic
Children’s Services	Child Obesity
City Services	Alcohol and Licensing Control
Health, Housing and Adult Services	Supporting Carers in the City
Public Health, Wellness and Culture	Patient Engagement
Responsive Services and Customer Care	Volunteering: Increasing Community Capacity
Skills, Economy and Regeneration	The Growth and Diversification of the Local Economy

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 The work programme reflects discussions that took place at the Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 7 November 2013. The current work programme is attached as **Appendix 1**.

Commissioning Integrated Wellness

- 3.2 At its last meeting the Committee agreed to commission the consultation for the commissioning of integrated wellness services to the Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel. The Panel's response will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee at its meeting of 5 December 2013.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The work programme developed from the meeting will form a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2013/14.

5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That the Committee notes the information contained in the work programme and consider the inclusion of any proposals for the Committee into the work programme.

Contact Officer: Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Coordinator
0191 561 1233 – Helen.lancaster@sunderland.gov.uk

REASON FOR INCLUSION	13 JUNE D/L 04.06.13	11 JULY D/L 02.07.13	12 SEPTEMBER D/L 03.09.13	10 OCTOBER D/L 01.10.13	7 NOVEMBER D/L 29.10.13	5 DECEMBER D/L 26.11.13	16 JANUARY D/L 07.01.14	13 FEBRUARY D/L 04.02.14	13 MARCH D/L 04.03.14	17 APRIL D/L 11.04.14
Cabinet Referrals and Responses		Portfolio Holder Response to Policy Reviews 2012/13 Revenue Budget Outturn for 2012/2013 and First Revenue Review 2013/2014 Capital Programme Outturn 2012/2013 and First Capital Review 2013/2014 including Treasury Management	Portfolio Holder Response to Policy Reviews 2012/13 Youth Justice Plan 2013/14	Proposal for Budget Consultation 2014/15 Budget Planning Framework 2014/2015 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014/2015 – 2016/2017 Capital Programme Second Review 2013/14 Revenue Budget Second Review 2013/2014 Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2013/14			Revenue Budget 2014/15 Proposals Revenue Budget Third Review 2013/14 Capital Programme and Revenue Budget Second Review 2014/15 Children and Young People Plan-Annual Report 2012/13	Budget and Service Reports: Collection Fund 14/15 Revenue Budget & Proposed Council Tax 14/15 Capital Programme 14/15	Local Development Framework	
Scrutiny Business	Future Library Services Children's Services Scrutiny Panel: CAMHS Update Membership of Scrutiny Panels Commissioning the Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14 Notice of Key Decisions	Final Draft of the Health Protocol Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14	Clinical Commissioning Group 'Better Health for Sunderland' Urgent Care Service Reform – Update on Progress Corporate Parenting Annual Report Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14	Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14	Sunderland Healthwatch Annual Audit Letter Integrated Wellness Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14	Local Authority Trading Company 20mph Zones Housing Financial Assistance Policy CfPS Parliamentary Series Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14	Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy – Progress Annual Report – Director of Public Health 2013 Council Annual Complaints Report Effective Health Scrutiny Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14	Building Participation in Physical Activity, Leisure and Sport Safer Sunderland Partnership – key priorities and emerging issues Draft Final Policy Review Reports Scrutiny Member Development Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14	Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services Ofsted Inspection – Progress against Action Plan Outcome of the Peer Challenge – Adult Social Care Draft Final Policy Review Reports Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14	South Tyneside Foundation Trust Quality Account Annual Monitoring the Delivery of Agreed Scrutiny Recommendations Draft Final Policy Review Reports Scrutiny Annual Report Notice of Key Decisions Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14
Lead Scrutiny Member Update		Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update
Substantial Variations to Service - Health										

CCFA/Members items/Petitions					Veterans - Health Inequalities					
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LEAD SCRUTINY MEMBER UPDATE: DECEMBER 2013

JOINT REPORT OF THE LEAD SCRUTINY MEMBERS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update to the Scrutiny Committee regarding the work of each of the six Lead Scrutiny Members and supporting Panels.

2. SCRUTINY LEAD MEMBER UPDATE

Scrutiny Chair and Vice Chair (Cllrs David Tate and Norma Wright)

- 2.1 On 4 November, the Chair attended the Regional Health Scrutiny Committee in Gateshead. The Committee discussed the Children's Paediatric Review, the CCG Call to Action and received updates regarding NHS 111 and Ambulance Service A and E Review.
- 2.2 On 7 November the Chair participated in a Frontline Member Workshop held as part of the Corporate Peer Challenge for the council. The Chair was one of a number of elected members who met with the Peer Challenge Team, made up of elected members and senior officers. The Workshop gave members the opportunity to give their views on the council's journey to becoming a Community Leadership Council.
- 2.3 The Chair also attended an event which looked at Sunderland's approach to improving health. This focused on three priority areas; integrated wellness, the Core Strategy Health Impact Assessment and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Children's Services (Cllr Debra Waller)

- 2.4 Members have visited the Stay and Bake Programme at the Tansy Centre in South Hylton which helps families to cook on a budget and develop skills in the kitchen. Members found it interesting to learn how through the course relationships were developed, skills enhanced and confidence increased. The course highlighted how to get the very best from a limited budget and how to use groceries to maximum advantage.
- 2.5 The Children's Services Scrutiny Panel also took part in Children's Takeover Day and welcomed pupils from Thornhill School into Committee Room 1. The Panel and pupils had a lively discussion around food, eating habits and healthy lifestyles. Members and young people interacted well to make this a very informative meeting.
- 2.6 Professor Mike Kelly from the NICE Organisation will be at the Panel's December meeting to discuss some of the ways in which local authorities

can influence child obesity. Professor Kelly is Director of the Centre of Public Health at NICE as well as a public health practitioner, researcher and academic.

City Services (Cllr Stephen Bonallie)

- 2.7 On 11 November 2013, the Panel met to consider the current position with regard to the introduction of 20mph zones in the city.
- 2.8 The Panel had previously considered an update on the development of 20mph zones in Sunderland and the current position with regard to their implementation. At that meeting, the Panel suggested that it was an appropriate time to revisit the accident figures and criteria used to draw up the priority list of schemes.
- 2.9 As a result of reviewing the accidents statistics, it was suggested that the original priority list be updated and amended. It was also proposed to review the work and timescales involved in implementing the 20mph Zones. This was in part a response to recent Department of Transport (DfT) guidance *Setting Local Speed Limits* which suggested that the use of signs & lines should be looked at rather than the introduction of physical features such as round humps. As a result, it was therefore considered possible to reduce the delivery timescale to an estimated 4 years.
- 2.10 In addition to the delivery of this programme, it was also recommended that provision existed to install 20 mph zones / limits at sites of public concern, such as outside of schools, shops and play parks. These Public Concern Site schemes would be limited to a construction cost of £8,000 and funded through the Mass Action element of the Local Transport Plan (LTP).
- 2.11 Following the meeting of the Panel, a report will be submitted to a future Cabinet meeting detailing the proposed changes to the 20 mph zone / limit methodology and scheme priority. A report will also be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

Health, Housing and Adult Services (Cllr Christine Shattock)

- 2.12 The Panel holds a major evidence gathering day on 6 December where a number of key witnesses will provide evidence to the panel around supporting carers.
- 2.13 Members are interested to understand from these witnesses how identification and recognition of carers can be enhanced and what role frontline councillors can play, as community advocates, in this very important dimension to the review.
- 2.14 One of the witnesses will be a young carer who has kindly agreed to attend and discuss their own personal experiences, including some of the barriers, pressures and challenges encountered. The day should prove to

be extremely informative and provide a number of key issues that will support the review work of the panel.

Public Health, Wellness and Culture (Cllr George Howe)

- 2.15 The Panel is looking into patient and public engagement (PPE) in the health service. At a meeting on 12 November the Panel took evidence from South Tyneside Foundation Trust which provides community health services in Sunderland including in patients' homes, care homes, hospice and day care centres.
- 2.16 The Trust is aiming to develop a culture of patient engagement through the involvement of all staff across all professional disciplines. They have produced a strategy which focuses very much on the involvement of everyone in the organisation. A key measure of success of the strategy is for all staff to see it as their business to achieve good patient experience.
- 2.17 So far 1,400 staff have been surveyed as part of this cultural assessment. The focus has been on compassion in care and how patients and their families are treated day-to-day. All staff have been subject to the same standard assessments and are trained in the same way to eliminate error.
- 2.18 The Trust is taking part in a national initiative 'Transparency in Care' which includes publishing patient stories monthly. In the last year they have carried out 906 individual patient qualitative stories. Through this approach they report that cases of pressure ulcers have been reduced by approximately 50%.
- 2.19 We will be continuing to take evidence on each provider's patient engagement processes.

Skills, Economy and Regeneration (Cllr Tom Martin)

- 2.20 On 18 November, the Panel met with David Dunn, Chief Executive Officer at Sunderland Software City as part of its review into the diversification of the local economy.
- 2.21 Mr Dunn provided a presentation covering the following themes:-
- a general overview of the software sector in Sunderland
 - the Growth potential of software firms in the city
 - the obstacles to growth
 - the importance of developing the national reputation of Sunderland
- 2.22 During the discussion, reference was made to the importance of the software sector both as a growing area of the local economy and its role in underpinning and supporting the development of other sectors such as manufacturing, automotive and offshore.

- 2.23 Whilst at the present time the software sector was relatively small there existed considerable potential for future growth, providing generally well paid employment opportunities. A major challenge for the sector was to develop and then retain businesses in the city, with firms attracted by the city's good transport links and enthusiastic work force. There was also a need to continue to develop the skills of our local workforce and ensure that young people were made aware of the opportunities available.
- 2.24 Important work was going on to raise the profile of the city nationally and internationally and make potential investors aware of the range of support and facilities on offer. Work was also being directed at developing the links between firms within the software sector.

Responsive Services and Customer Care (Cllr Iain Kay)

- 2.25 The Panel is carrying out a review of volunteering with a focus on unlocking capacity. The Panel met on 13 November and took evidence on young people's involvement in volunteering; focusing on how the university provides opportunities for students. Members also took evidence on how the council supports advice services in the city.
- 2.26 The Panel was pleasantly surprised at the motivation of students to spend time volunteering in all sorts of ways. It heard that international students in particular are very keen to volunteer as they see as part of learning about the local area. A small and active team works to match students to volunteering opportunities but they need more support to raise the profile of their pool of volunteers and do what they can to work with organisations in the city. The Panel discussed areas for development including exploring links with the existing youth groups and developing links with schools.
- 2.27 The Panel also discussed advice services because we know that welfare reforms have placed additional burdens on voluntary sector advice services.
- 2.28 Big Lottery funding has supported a new model which aims to improve and sustain accessible advice services for vulnerable people in Sunderland through more collaboration and integration amongst advice providers and the VCS. The plan is to develop a Volunteer Academy to support city-wide recruitment and training of volunteers to provide sustainable advice services. Agencies funded by the council will be expected to implement a self-help model, and to provide appropriate self-help materials and self-service points for customers.
- 2.29 The Panel discussed the legacy and sustainability of this short-term funded project and whether transferring a significant level of current demand to other channels will free up capacity to provide specialist advice.

3. CHANGES TO PANEL MEMBERSHIPS

- 3.1 Non-executive Members have now been allocated to a scrutiny panel, membership of the panels has been decided in accordance with current political arrangements.
- 3.2 Scrutiny Panels are informal; therefore there is flexibility within the arrangements to revise Panel memberships at any point in the municipal year to reflect changes to Member capacity and other commitments.
- 3.3 There are no changes to report; therefore the complete membership of the Scrutiny Panels is attached for information and consideration as **Appendix 1** of this report.

4. DEDICATED SCRUTINY BUDGET

- 4.1 A small budgetary provision of £15,000 per annum is available to the Scrutiny Committee and the supporting Panels to deliver the agreed Annual Scrutiny Committee Work Programme.
- 4.2 As of 28 October 2013 the breakdown of the budget stood as follows:-

Description	£
Scrutiny Development	5,154.74
Member Development	2,350.09
Policy Review Development	0.00
Total Expenditure to Date	7,504.83
Budget	15,000
Remaining Budget	7,495.17

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Committee notes and considers the update of the Lead Scrutiny Members.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Scrutiny Committee Agenda and Papers

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APPENDIX 1

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SIX SCRUTINY PANELS

<p style="text-align: center;">City Services</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Stephen Bonallie</p> <p>Cllr Neville Padgett Cllr Michael Essl Cllr Stuart Porthouse Cllr Lynda Scanlan Cllr Steven Foster Cllr Amy Wilson Cllr Dianne Snowdon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Health, Housing & Adult Services</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Christine Shattock</p> <p>Cllr Jill Fletcher Cllr Ronny Davison Cllr Alan Emerson Cllr Rosalind Copeland Cllr Darryl Dixon Cllr Lisa Smiles Cllr Barbara McLennan Cllr Dorothy Trueman Cllr Mary Turton Cllr Gemma Taylor</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Children's Services</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Debra Waller</p> <p>Cllr Florence Anderson Cllr Linda Williams Cllr Doris MacKnight Cllr Anthony Farr Cllr Philip Tye Cllr Robert Oliver Cllr Bob Francis</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Skills, Economy & Regeneration</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Tom Martin</p> <p>Cllr Bob Price Cllr Christine Marshall Cllr David Snowdon Cllr Denny Wilson Cllr Len Lauchlan Cllr Tom Wright Cllr Peter Wood</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Public Health, Wellness & Culture</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr George Howe</p> <p>Cllr Debra Waller Cllr Louise Farthing Cllr Fiona Miller Cllr Julia Jackson Cllr Rebecca Atkinson Cllr David Errington Cllr Paul Maddison</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Responsive Services & Customer Care</p> <p>Scrutiny Lead Member: Cllr Iain Kay</p> <p>Cllr Bob Heron Cllr Betty Gibson Cllr Barry Curran Cllr Anne Lawson Cllr John Scott Cllr George Thompson Cllr John Wiper</p>

