

**KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S GROUP**

**Overview & Scrutiny Management Board
4th April 2006**

**Report Number C/10/06
Workload for Municipal Year 2006/07**

Report by Karen Cook, Policy Manager

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To stimulate discussion of an appropriate work plan for the Board for the next municipal year and to make recommendations for adopting specific subject areas.

2.0 Financial, Staffing, Risk & Legal Implications

- 2.1 There are no potential staffing, financial, risk or legal implications arising out of this report.

3.0 Workload

- 3.1 The Overview & Scrutiny Management Board adopts an annual work programme to plan the work load for the year, this includes both the Best Value Review Programme as well as the scrutiny reviews it intends to undertake.
- 3.2 In consideration of what workload the Board should undertake, it should be mindful of the benefits to be achieved by such a review using the principals of economy, effectiveness and efficiency.
- 3.3 Subject to the decisions taken by the board, it is important that terms of reference are established for each area of work.
- 3.4 Management team have undertaken the annual review of the Best Value Review programme and the following review is recommended for 2006/2007.

Affordable Housing

It is proposed that a Member Sounding Board is appointed for this review.

- 3.5 Proposals for the Boards other workload include the following reviews:-

Use of Resources

A task group was established in 2005/06 and their findings are reported in report C/11/06. One of the findings of the task group was:-

- To develop the role of scrutiny in respect of article 8.5 of the constitution in respect of involvement in the development of the council's strategies and in particular to act as a consultee for the review of the corporate strategy.

It is proposed that a new task group is established with a minimum of five members to take forward this review.

Consultation

The council has been reviewing its Consultation Strategy in 2005/06. A scrutiny review of the current strategy should help inform the process. Although this review was originally scheduled for 2005/06 it is now envisaged that the work should take place in 2006/07.

A task group comprising of Councillors Combe, Hoddinott & Hunter was established in December 2005. It is proposed that these members take forward this piece of work.

The following terms of reference are proposed:-

- To review the existing strategy and guidance adopted by the council in 2001.
- To look at new best practice and new requirements such as the Local Development Framework and Compact and consider implications for the strategy.

Tourism

To undertake a tourism review in line with the terms of reference approved by the Board in February 2006.

1. To examine the budget allocated by Kennet District Council to tourism, including the roles and responsibilities engaged in supporting this activity and the support received in kind from Kennet District Council partners.
2. Consider the co-ordination of Kennet District Council tourism activities with those of Swindon and Salisbury.
3. Consider the attractions of Avebury and the Kennet and Avon Canal and how these can best be promoted.

A task group comprising of Councillors Ashley, Carter, Cavill, Hunter and Rawlins was established by the Board in December 2005. It is proposed that this task group continues.

Recommendations

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT; the Board

- i) Approves the Best Value review of affordable housing and recommends that a Member Sounding Board be established.
- ii) Adopts a work programme of the following scrutiny reviews for the next financial year:- Use of Resources, Tourism, Consultation.
- iii) Agrees on the membership of the working groups and/or sub committees proposed for the tourism and consultation strategy reviews.
- iv) Establishes a task group of a minimum of five members for the Use of Resources task group.

KDC
March 2006