



**PROSPEROUS AND ATTRACTIVE  
BOROUGH OVERVIEW AND  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, 25 September 2007**

**10.00 a.m.**

**Council Chamber, Council Offices Spennymoor**

**AGENDA**  
and  
**REPORTS**



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**العربية (Arabic)**

إذا أردت المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، نرجو أن تطلب ذلك منا.

**বাংলা (Bengali)**

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

**(中文 (繁體字)) (Cantonese)**

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

**हिन्दी (Hindi)**

यदि आपको सूचना किसी अन्य भाषा या अन्य रूप में चाहिये तो कृपया हमसे कहे

**polski (Polish)**

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

**ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi)**

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

**Español (Spanish)**

Póngase en contacto con nosotros si desea recibir información en otro idioma o formato.

**اردو (Urdu)**

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

**AGENDA**

**1. APOLOGIES**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To notify the Chairman of any items that appear later in the agenda in which you may have an interest.

**3. MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2007 (Pages 1 - 4)

**4. PROGRESS TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF BEST VALUE  
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR 204 THE PERCENTAGE OF APPEALS  
ALLOWED AGAINST THE AUTHORITY'S DECISION TO REFUSE ON  
PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

To consider the attached report (Pages 5 - 8)

**5. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RECYCLING SERVICES REVIEW GROUP-  
REVIEW OF FUTURE RECYCLING SERVICES OPTIONS**

To note Cabinet's response (Pages 9 - 12)

**6. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW GROUP - REDUCING ECONOMIC  
INACTIVITY (INCREASING EMPLOYABILITY) REVIEW**

To note Cabinet's response. (Pages 13 - 16)

**7. WORK PROGRAMME**

Report of Chairman of the Committee (Pages 17 - 20)

**8. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

Members are respectfully requested to give the Chief Executive notice of items they would wish to raise under the heading not later than 12 noon on the day preceding the meeting, in order that consultation may take place with the Chairman who will determine whether the item will be accepted.

**B. Allen  
Chief Executive**

**Council Offices  
SPENNYMOOR**

Councillor G.C. Gray (Chairman)  
Councillor B. Lamb (Vice Chairman)

Councillors Mrs. L. M.G. Cuthbertson, P. Gittins J.P., D.M. Hancock, Mrs. I. Hewitson, G.M.R. Howe, Mrs. E. Maddison, J. Robinson J.P, A. Smith, B. Stephens and A. Warburton.

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection etc. in relation to this agenda and associated papers should contact Liz North 01388 816166 ext 4237 email: enorth@sedgefield.gov.uk

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# Item 3

## SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

### PROSPEROUS AND ATTRACTIVE BOROUGH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Council Chamber,  
Council Offices  
Spennymoor

Tuesday,  
10 July 2007

Time: 10.00 a.m.

**Present:** Councillor G.C. Gray (Chairman) and

Councillors Mrs. L. M.G. Cuthbertson, Mrs. I. Hewitson, G.M.R. Howe, B. Lamb, Mrs. E. Maddison, J. Robinson J.P, A. Smith, B. Stephens and A. Warburton

**In Attendance:** V. Chapman, A. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, J.E. Higgin, Mrs. H.J. Hutchinson, Mrs. E.M. Paylor, K. Thompson and T. Ward

**Apologies:** Councillors P. Gittins J.P. and D.M. Hancock

#### **PAOS.1/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

#### **PAOS.2/07 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 held on 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **PAOS.3/07 DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY**

Members were presented with details of a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (for copy see file of Minutes).

It was explained that the Technical Services Manager, the Sustainable Communities Team Leader and the Energy Officer were present at the meeting to explain the Strategy, and answer any queries.

The Committee was informed that the draft Strategy and actions were being presented that day as part of the consultation process. Members comments would be taken into account and considered for incorporation within the Strategy which would then be submitted to Cabinet.

The Strategy covered the background and drivers for change, climate patterns, impact on service delivery, policy context, the role of local authorities, the current situation, aims and objectives and actions needed.

The Strategy was a medium term framework to cover until 2012. It was

a framework for the authority, which needed to lead by example. A Borough-wide Strategy would be prepared the following year.

Members were reminded that at the meeting of Council in June 2007, the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change had been signed. One of the actions within the declaration was to publicly declare, with plans and strategies, the Council's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from its own operations.

There was a need to consider how the Council could adapt to climate change, the impact on services and how the impact could be reduced. There was a need to ensure a sustainable infrastructure so that services were able to adapt to change and earlier effective action could be taken.

The Council's aim was to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 15% by 2012 meeting yearly 3% reduction targets to ensure the dependence on finite fossil were reduced. The Council also aimed to fully prepare services and communities for the potential impacts of climate change.

An Action Plan was drawn up to meet those aims and a number of key actions and objectives were identified in the areas of development and planning, housing, transport, sustainable procurement and awareness raising.

In respect of development and planning, the key actions identified were aimed at reducing the impact of development on climate change through the Local Development Framework, incorporating energy from renewable sources in new development and taking account of climate conditions in the design of new development.

The key actions suggested in respect of public buildings and consumption of natural resources were aimed at encouraging energy conservation initiatives and looking at on-site renewable technology for generating electricity.

Housing was the main area where residents could have an impact. The actions in relation to the Housing functions included providing energy efficiency and grants advice, reviewing heating systems in grouped accommodation and regular inspections of the housing stock in relation to the adverse impacts of climate change.

Green space and biodiversity key actions included the development of a green space strategy and incorporating potential climate change impacts into management plans.

In respect of transport key actions related to the Council's Travel Plan and the aim of reducing costs and fuel consumption of the Council's fleet.

Reference was then made to sustainable procurement and the key actions, suggested to achieve value for money whilst achieving the least impact on the community.

To make progress there had to be awareness-raising by creating a

wider knowledge and persuading people to adopt a sustainable lifestyle and the key actions in this area were identified.

It was noted that the Council had a responsibility to ensure that each key action was improved and maximised where appropriate, the overall programme and actions within the strategy were being implemented effectively and that individual actions were meeting strategic objectives and leading Sedgefield Borough Council towards fulfilling their aims.

A query was raised regarding car sharing. In response it was explained that the Council was encouraging staff to car share and had established a Car Sharing Scheme.

Reference was made to partnership working and the need for the Council to work with other organisations and agencies such as the Environment Agency. It was explained that this particular strategy referred to the provision of Council services and did not provide a strategy for the Borough as a whole. The Borough Strategy would be produced the following year when partnership working with such organisations as the Local Strategic Partnership etc., would take place. Working with the Environment Agency would also be linked to the Borough-wide strategy and any specific issues would be dealt with at that time. The Borough Plan would also be a much wider strategy dealing with transport etc.

A query was also raised regarding funding and grants available to carry out the actions. In response it was explained that there were grants available from DEFRA to deal with renewable energy technologies and the Council worked with the Carbon Trust, which was Government funded, to draw up action plans to reduce emissions.

With regard to a query on the aim of all new developments achieving a 10% renewable energy source, it was explained that there were various innovative ways by which developers could meet the requirements. There was a need to work with those responsible for delivery to achieve an outcome which was acceptable.

In respect of targets towards achieving the figures and comparison with other local authorities, it was explained that each local authority compiled data in different ways and therefore comparison was difficult. The Council was meeting targets in most areas and reducing emissions. However, the Council needed to concentrate on electricity consumption. Information was received from other authorities in terms of draft strategies for comment. When the Council's Borough-wide Strategy was released it would be forwarded to other authorities for comment.

In respect of the Waste Management targets for 2007/8 the aim was to recycle 20% of domestic waste. The situation was that the Council was on target to achieve 25%.

In response to a query raised regarding an analysis of the cost of the exercise, it was explained that the cost over and above the salary of the Energy Officer was minimal.

Dealing with a query regarding information on energy ratings of properties, it was explained that there would be a database which would record the energy efficiency of all housing. Information would be gathered from external sources. Software would be used which would allow the information to be assessed on a Ward basis.

Discussion was held regarding capping and whether capital charges would be ringfenced, in respect of Council houses, from the Housing Revenue Account.

- AGREED :*
1. *That the Strategy and Action Plan be commended to Cabinet for approval.*
  2. *That reports be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a six monthly basis in respect of progress.*

#### **PAOS.4/07 WORK PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to the Work Programme for Prosperous and Attractive Borough Overview and Scrutiny Committee. (For copy see file of Minutes).

*AGREED :* *That the Work Programme be approved.*



# Item 4

## REPORT TO PROSPEROUS AND ATTRACTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

25 SEPTEMBER 2007

### REPORT OF HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

#### DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SERVICE – REVIEW OF PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS AND PERFORMANCE LEVELS

##### SUMMARY

This report is an update of progress towards Best Value Performance Indicator 204 which measures the number of allowed appeals arising from refusals of planning permission. The indicator is only concerned with the number of appeals against refusal of planning permission. It does not include decisions on appeals against conditions imposed on planning permission, non-determination of planning applications, and enforcement notice appeals.

##### RECOMMENDATION

That Committee consider the report and feedback views to cabinet.

##### INTRODUCTION

On 12 December 2006 a report was presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 advising that during the period April 2005 and November 2006 47.5% of appeals determined in this period had been upheld in favour of the applicant. This represented a significant dip in performance as a figure in the region of 35% would normally be expected, which is also close to the national average of allowed appeals. The report sought to identify the reasons for this dip in performance and also made a number of recommendations to address the decline in performance including the following measures:

- Officers to give greater weight to the impact that an extension will have upon the wider environment and not just the host property.
- Senior officers to visit sites where it is recommended to refuse an application on visual amenity grounds.
- Critiques to be prepared on appeal decisions and reported to committee so that lessons can be learnt from decisions.

This report reviews the progress that has been made to date.

## **APPEAL ANALYSIS**

During the period December 2006 and August 2007 a total of 8 appeal decision letters were received. The appeals related to a variety of proposals including domestic extensions, dwelling houses and changes of use. An analysis of the outcomes has revealed that 5 of the appeals were dismissed and 3 were upheld. In percentage terms this amounts to 37.5% of appeals of being upheld with 62.5% of appeals being dismissed.

In the same period 5 decision letters were received in connection with enforcement notice appeals. Whilst these decisions are excluded for the purposes of calculating performance against BVPI 204 it is worthwhile noting that a 100% success rate was achieved.

## **CONCLUSIONS TO BE DRAWN FROM THE ANALYSIS**

An analysis of the appeal decisions has established that there has been a marked improvement in performance during the period December 2006 and August 2007. Performance is now more in line with the national average of allowed appeals and demonstrates that more robust decisions are being made. However, given the relatively low number of appeals one decision either way could have a marked impact upon performance levels. Furthermore, the diverse range of proposals involved makes it difficult to establish with any degree of certainty whether the measures designed to address poor performance have been responsible for the improvement in performance levels. Under the circumstances it is intended to continue to monitor and review performance and to report appeal decisions to Committee together with a critique of the decision and lessons to be learnt.

Whilst enforcement notice appeal decisions are not included for the purposes of calculating performance against BVPI 204 a 100% success rate demonstrates that enforcement notices are being drafted and served correctly and that they are being issued where it is expedient to do so.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There will not be any direct resource implications but failure to improve performance could have an impact upon future Planning delivery Grant Allocations.

## **OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

### Links to Corporate Objectives / Values

Improved performance will help meet Corporate Aim 25, which is to provide a high quality, efficient and customer focussed Planning Service that supports sustainable improvement of the built and natural environment of the Borough.

### Legal Implications

There are no legal implications.

### Risk Management

There are no risk management issues.

### Health and Safety Implications

No additional implications have been identified.

### Sustainability

At this stage, there is no requirement to undertake Sustainability Appraisal.

### Equality and Diversity

No additional implications have been identified

### Social Inclusion

No additional implications have been identified.

### Procurement

There are no procurement issues.

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

## **LIST OF APPENDICES**

List of appeal decisions.

**Contact Officers:** Andrew Farnie  
**Telephone No:** (01388) 816166 ext 4507  
**Email Address:** afarnie@sedgefield.gov.uk

**Ward(s):** All

### **Background Papers**

Appeal decision notices  
Sedgefield Borough Residential Extensions SPD  
Sedgefield Borough Local Plan

## Examination by Statutory Officers

	Yes	Not Applicable
1. The report has been examined by the Councils Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The content has been examined by the Councils S.151 Officer or his representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The report has been approved by Management Team	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RECYCLING SERVICES REVIEW GROUP - REPORT OF THE REVIEW OF FUTURE RECYCLING SERVICE OPTIONS**

**DRAFT CABINET RESPONSE AND ACTION PLAN**

Review Recommendations	Cabinet Response		Implementation for consideration by Management Team	
	Agreed?	Comments	Responsibility	Timescale
1. The Groups preferred option for a co-mingled collection system be implemented in the long term, be noted.	Yes	The Review Groups long-term preferred option for recycling services be noted. However in light of the Government's decision regarding Local Government Review it is considered that the long-term preferences for recycling services be addressed in the development of the Waste Management Strategy of the new Unitary Authority.	Director of Neighbourhood Services	March 2008
2. The Kerb-it Scheme to continue until 31 March 2008.	Yes		Streetscene Manager	March 2008
3. Consideration be given for various options for the continuation of a kerbside collection service after 31 March 2008, including working in partnership with current partners of the existing kerb-it scheme.	Yes		Technical Services Manager Streetscene Manager	August 2007

Review Recommendations	Cabinet Response		Implementation for consideration by Management Team	
	Agreed?	Comments	Responsibility	Timescale
4. The segregated collection of glass for recycling continues following the withdrawal of the Kerb-it Scheme in 2008	Yes		Streetscene Manager	On-going
5. Glass collection methods are continuously reviewed to allow full appraisal of collection, separation and disposal options available at that time	Yes		Streetscene Manager	On-going
6. Sedgefield Borough Council's 29 bring sites be rationalised, with the retention of 6 dedicated sites at Newton Aycliffe (Tesco), Sedgefield (Library), Shildon (Co-op), Spennymoor (Asda), Tudhoe Civic Amenity Site and Aycliffe Civic Amenity site, and phasing out of the remaining 23 sites	Yes		Streetscene Manager	September 2007
7. A separate, free collection service for televisions, monitors and white goods continues to be provided to all residents of the Borough	Yes		Streetscene Manager	On-going

Review Recommendations	Cabinet Response		Implementation for consideration by Management Team	
	Agreed?	Comments	Responsibility	Timescale
8. The free green waste collection service offered in a limited area of the Borough be withdrawn following the cessation of Waste Performance Grant funding in 2007/08	No	Existing arrangements to be maintained in the short term subject to financial consideration when setting the 2008/09 Revenue budget.	Technical Services Mgr Streetscene Manager	October 2007
9. The provision of a discretionary chargeable green waste collection service, offered throughout Sedgefield Borough, is explored for introduction post-April 2008	No	As a consequence of Local Government Review it is considered that this recommendation should not be progressed. Long term arrangements for the collection of 'green waste', considering the financial; operational and sustainability impacts of the various options available, will need to be addressed in the Waste Management Strategy of the new Unitary Authority.	Technical Services Mgr Streetscene Manager	October 2007
10. A comprehensive education and awareness-raising campaign be promoted to support recycling arrangements.	Yes		Technical Services Manager	On-going

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW GROUP REPORT – REDUCING ECONOMIC INACTIVITY (INCREASING EMPLOYABILITY)  
REVIEW**

**CABINET RESPONSE AND ACTION PLAN**

Review Recommendations	Cabinet Response		Implementation	
	Agreed?	Comments	Responsibility	Timescale
1. Cabinet recognises that the official unemployment rate does not give a true picture of the economic conditions of the Borough.	<u>Yes</u>	Cabinet recognises that there are significant numbers of residents in the Borough that suffer economic disadvantage and that the economic conditions in the Borough are far more complex than the headline unemployment figures would suggest. Despite the low official unemployment rate Economic development remains a priority for the Council and its partners as reflected in the Community Strategy and corporate Plan.	Head of Strategy and Regeneration	Corporate Plan 2007-2010

<p>2. Sedgefield Borough Council's Economic Development Service focuses on supporting entrepreneurship and access to employment in disadvantaged communities.</p>	<p><b><u>Yes</u></b></p>	<p>The Cabinet is aware of the changing economic conditions within the Borough and notes the upturn in the market for land and premises and the improving employment rate in the Borough. However Cabinet is concerned that many in our disadvantaged communities are being excluded from the labour market, having a detrimental effect on the productivity of the borough. Economic policy will focus on improving access to employment, training and entrepreneurship in disadvantaged communities as well as more traditional aspects of economic development. This will be reflected in the Corporate Plan and monitored through the Prosperous SWG.</p>	<p>Head of Strategy and Regeneration</p>	<p>June 2007</p>
<p>3. The Borough Council cease grants of up to £10,000 for companies and refocus on smaller grants for individuals starting businesses.</p>	<p><b><u>Yes</u></b></p>	<p>In line with Policy set out above, the Cabinet agrees that there is little additionality in giving out such grants as the market has improved and other agencies such as ONE now fulfil this service. Council resource will be redirected into supporting individuals seeking to start in business with continuing effort on aftercare and support. Cabinet has agreed a new grant programme of small grants to individuals in anticipation of this recommendation.</p>	<p>Head of Strategy and Regeneration</p>	<p>Implemented April 2007</p>

<p>4. Systems need to be in place to link training services to information on company expansions and relocations.</p>	<p><b><u>Yes</u></b></p>	<p>The Cabinet agrees that information brought into the Council via planning applications, enquires to Economic Development and employer forums needs to be used systematically to ensure residents can be trained to take up new opportunities. Officers will be instructed to examine how internal communications can be improved.</p>	<p>Head of Strategy and Regeneration</p>	<p>September 2007</p>
<p>5. The Government is lobbied to provide further funds, paid to local authorities, for neighbourhood-focused regeneration activity.</p>	<p><b><u>Yes</u></b></p>	<p>The Cabinet is awaiting the outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review currently being carried out in Government.</p>	<p>Head of Strategy and Regeneration</p>	<p>September 2007</p>
<p>6. The Council actively engages in the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative programme as integral to its economic development function.</p>	<p><b><u>Yes</u></b></p>	<p>The Council is actively involved in the LEGI programme at an officer level, with mainstream resources diverted to support the programme. Cabinet notes that there is less scope for political involvement in the programme and will be recommending that officers examine this gap.</p>	<p>Head of Strategy and Regeneration</p>	<p>September 2007</p>
<p>7. The value of the Local Strategic Partnership is recognised in tackling such a multi-faceted problem as employability.</p>	<p><b><u>Yes</u></b></p>	<p>The Cabinet notes that as the democratically elected body for Sedgefield Borough the Council leads the development of the Community Strategy. This plan is currently being refreshed however Cabinet fully supports Employability as one of the key strategic objectives for partnership working through the LSP. Cabinet will also lobby to ensure that Employability is incorporated within the Local Area Agreement.</p>	<p>Head of Strategy and Regeneration</p>	<p>September 2007</p>

8. The important role of the voluntary and community sector in delivering services locally is recognised.	<u>Yes</u>	The Voluntary and Community Sector are better placed than the Council in reaching many residents with employability issues. The Council is working with CAVOS to explore how the Community and Voluntary sector can be commissioned to carry out work in this area.	Head of Strategy and Regeneration	Ongoing commitment
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# Item 7

## PROSPEROUS & ATTRACTIVE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

25<sup>th</sup> September 2007

### REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

#### WORK PROGRAMME

##### SUMMARY

This report sets out the Committee's current Work Programme for consideration and review.

##### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Chairmen of the current Review Groups give a brief update as to progress.
2. That the Committee's Work Programme be reviewed.

##### DETAIL

1. In accordance with Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rule 8 of the Council's Constitution, Overview & Scrutiny Committees are responsible for setting their own work programme.
2. Each Overview & Scrutiny Committee should agree a realistic, achievable and considered work programme on the understanding that, from time to time, more urgent or immediate issues may require scrutiny. Issues may, for example, be raised by Cabinet reports, Members' constituency business or be referred to Scrutiny by Cabinet in advance of a Cabinet decision.
3. The current Work Programme for this Committee is appended to the report which details:-
  - Scrutiny Reviews currently being undertaken.
  - Scrutiny review topics held in reserve for future investigation.
  - A schedule of items to be considered by the Committee for the next 6 meetings.
4. **Scrutiny Review**

The Committee should aim to undertake a small number of high quality reviews that will make a real difference to the work of the Authority, rather than high numbers of reviews on more minor issues. Each Overview & Scrutiny Committee should therefore aim to undertake two reviews concurrently. Any additional review topics that have been agreed by Members will be placed on a reserve list and as one Review is completed the Committee will decide on which review should be undertaken next.

Scrutiny reviews will be conducted by a Review Group established by the Committee comprising of 5-6 Members. In most cases the Review Group will be made up of Members from the establishing Committee. However, Members may decide to conduct a review that cuts across the responsibilities of another Overview & Scrutiny Committee. In these cases Members should consider whether it would be appropriate to co-opt Members from the other relative Overview & Scrutiny Committee(s). If it is decided that the review is crosscutting the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Overview & Scrutiny Committees concerned should decide which Committee should take the lead on the review and how many Members should be co-opted from other Overview & Scrutiny Committee(s). The number of Members to be co-opted will depend on the extent to which the responsibility of the topic is shared, however the Review Group should have no more than 6 members.

#### **5. Business for Future Meetings**

The Work Programme sets out a plan of when it is anticipated that certain items will be considered by the Committee. These items may include:-

- Best Value Service Improvement Plan updates
- Items which are submitted at regular intervals
- Issues identified by Members for consideration
- Any updates requested by Members

Members are requested to review the Committee's Work Programme and identify, where necessary, issues which they feel should be investigated by the Committee. It will not always be possible to anticipate all reports which will need to be considered by an Overview & Scrutiny Committee and therefore a flexible approach will need to be taken to work programming.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None associated with this report.

#### **5. CONSULTATION**

**Contact Officers:** Jonathan Slee  
**Telephone No:** (01388) 816166 ext 4362  
**Email Address:** [jslee@sedgefield.gov.uk](mailto:jslee@sedgefield.gov.uk)

**Ward(s):** Not ward specific

**Background Papers** None

**PROSPEROUS & ATTRACTIVE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**WORK PROGRAMME**

**Ongoing Reviews**

No reviews currently ongoing

**Future Reviews**

There are currently no review topics identified by the Committee for future review. As one review is completed Members will decide which review should be undertaken next.

**ANTICIPATED ITEMS**

**25<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

- ***Update on progress towards the achievement of Best Value Performance Indicator 204, the percentage of appeals allowed against the Authority's decision to refuse on planning applications (update requested by the Committee at its meeting on 12 December 2006)***

**6<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

- ***Performance Review***  
Performance Indicator information relating to the Key Ambitions and Community Outcomes associated with the portfolio areas of the Committee

**11<sup>th</sup> December 2007**

- *No items identified*

**24<sup>th</sup> January 2008**

- *Budgets*

**29<sup>th</sup> January 2008**

- *No items identified*

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