

REPORT OF THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE POLICY AND CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

COUNCILLORS: Jim Shorrock
Derek Hardman

LEAD CHIEF OFFICER:
Denise Park

Policy and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee;

Since the last meeting of Council, the Committee has held a meeting to better understand the changes to welfare reform and the impact on the Council, this is a topic the Committee will be keeping under review as more information comes to light.

At the December meeting of the Committee, Members will receive a budget update after the Government spending review and will look at the Council's own budget for 2015-2016.

Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee;

The work of the Committee has continued to gather pace, at the last meeting Members reviewed the Capital Projects in the borough and held a detailed review of the Council's work with Blackburn College.

The Committee have held a site visit to the Cathedral Quarter and new bus station site in October and a follow up site visit in November to see completed projects. The Committee will then be undertaking a review of the Capital project schemes currently being delivered in the town centre.

After the September Committee Members presented the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods Housing and Customer Services a number of recommendations on the Committees work into Selective Landlord Licensing.

Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee

At the task group on the 27th August 2015 Members received an overview from Public Health and Blackburn with Darwen CCG on Mental Health and Wellbeing to gain a better understanding of what it was and what support was available for residents of Blackburn with Darwen.

At the Committee on the 9th of September 2015 Members received a presentation from the Lancashire Care Foundation Trust on the pioneering work currently undertaken in Lancashire, namely the Custody Pilot. Representatives from Health Watch also attended to provide a balanced view on how well they thought the service worked.

Children & Young People's OSC

At the Committee meeting on 7th September 2015 Members received information from the Executive Members for Children's Services and Schools

and Education on Children Missing from Home and Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

The Committee reviewed their work programme for the remainder of the municipal year and agreed that they would keep PREVENT as a legacy item. The Committee also felt that they had received sufficient information from the Executive Member on Children Missing from Home and would not set up a task group.

The Committee also agreed that in advance of the January Committee meeting where Members have requested an update on Universal Credit for Young People and their families, they would like to arrange a task group to speak directly with young people to hear about their experiences of the universal credit process.