

NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting: COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

Date and Time: TUESDAY, 15 MARCH 2016, AT 6.00 PM*

Place: THE BRADBURY ROOM, APPLETREE COURT,
LYNDHURST

Telephone enquiries to: Lyndhurst (023) 8028 5000
023 8028 5588 - Ask for Melanie Stephens
Email: melanie.stephens@nfdc.gov.uk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

*Members of the public may speak in accordance with the Council's public participation scheme:

- (a) immediately before the meeting starts, on items within the Panel's terms of reference which are not on the public agenda; and/or
 - (b) on individual items on the public agenda, when the Chairman calls that item.
- Speeches may not exceed three minutes. Anyone wishing to speak should contact the name and number shown above.

Bob Jackson
Chief Executive

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This Agenda is also available on audio tape, in Braille, large print and digital format

AGENDA

Apologies

1. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2016 as a correct record.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To note any declarations of interest made by members in connection with an agenda item. The nature of the interest must also be specified.

Members are asked to discuss any possible interests with Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To note any issues raised during the public participation period.

4. CCTV TASK & FINISH GROUP (TO FOLLOW)

To consider the findings of the Task & Finish Group.

5. CHILD POVERTY TASK & FINISH GROUP (Pages 1 - 8)

To consider the findings of the Task & Finish Group.

6. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT TASK & FINISH GROUP (Pages 9 - 14)

To consider the findings of the Task & Finish Group.

7. WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 15 - 18)

To review the work programme, in the light of the Corporate Plan, to guide the Panel's activities over the coming months.

8. PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' UPDATES

An opportunity for the Portfolio Holders to provide an update to the Panel on any issues.

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

To:	Councillors	Councillors
	S P Davies (Chairman)	Ms K V Crisell
	D J Russell (Vice-Chairman)	A H G Davis
	D A Britton	Mrs P J Lovelace
	Mrs L D Cerasoli	N S Penman
	I C Coombes	M L White

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL - 15 MARCH 2016

CHILD POVERTY TASK & FINISH GROUP

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report details the progress of the Task & Finish Group and sets out its final recommendations, following the update given to the Panel at their last meeting on 17 November. At that meeting, the Panel approved an action plan (appendix 1) setting out improvements the Council and its key partners could make to services to assist families and children living in poverty.
- 1.2 The majority of actions set out in the action plan have been completed as at the Panel's meeting in November. Of those that required further work, the following updates are set out below: -
- A revised safeguarding policy is being finalised
 - Discussions have and continue to take place with the Solent Credit Union (a verbal update on this matter will be given at the Panel meeting)
 - The Community Transport Task & Finish Group has now met and will provide findings and recommendations under a separate cover report on 15 March.

2. WORK IN PROGRESS

- 2.1 The last report to the Panel set out planned activities, of those planned activities: -
- 2.1.1 The proposed presentation on the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Community to full council has not yet taken place. Given the wide-ranging considerations concerning the health and wellbeing of this hard-to-reach group, the Task & Finish Group would recommend that this issue be considered as a future work programme item.
- 2.1.2 A stakeholder meeting was proposed to take place in February 2016. However, due to the changes in the senior management team, this did not take place. The Task & Finish Group feel that this is a valuable and beneficial networking event for the Council and its partners and recommend that this event take place on an annual basis.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Council Officers continue in their work with the Solent Credit Union to establish potential further hubs across the Forest and that the financial assistance and advice offered by this service continue to be communicated to Council tenants and residents.
- 3.2 That the Panel consider examining the Health and Wellbeing of the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller community (particularly children) in greater detail as a future work programme item; and

- 3.3 That a networking event including the Council and its key partners be held on an annual basis, hosted by the Council.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information, contact Cllr Alan O'Sullivan (Chairman of the Task & Finish Group) or any other Member of the Task & Finish Group.

(Cllr Diane Andrews will be in attendance to represent the Task & Finish Group at the Panel meeting. Cllr Alan O'Sullivan is unable to attend.)

DETAILED WORKING NOTES FROM THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Item: 1. Improvements to information availability and distribution across all the subjects covered in the workshop				
Portfolios: Finance and Efficiency; Health and Leisure; Housing and Communities				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Information is a core resource and whilst there is material out there, it is not well co-ordinated or presented.	Build on the work of the New Forest Advisory Service; Local Children's Partnership and others and connect to NFDC sources. Better use of mobile technology/ social media.	Information produced for the Local Children's Partnership is a good starting point and this should be kept up to date.	Now part of Community First SLA with NFDC	Complete.
		Monitor if HCC work with the Early Help Hub will provide local information on services.	As and when it arises, it will be linked to the above work (and others) it will be discussed at the Early Help Hub Core Group and encourage services to input details TF / Early Help Directory.	Aware of sources, now monitor until ready to make the links
		The Council should ensure that the relevant officers are aware of key sources of information.	Officers advised of the information sources listed above	Complete
		Arrangements should be made to bring an LCP representative to the T&FG to discuss how the information is made available across the workforce.	Requesting attendance at the March Panel.	Recommendation to Panel

Item 2: Enable front line staff to identify those in need and signpost.				
Portfolios: All with front line services				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Service staff meet with those in need and can be in a position to know where assistance can be found.	There will be a need to develop awareness / skills and ready access to information. Will apply to all relevant services and is likely to tie into safeguarding and “Prevent” training. Adapt the older persons ‘trigger tool’ as an additional guide to staff in assessing those in need. Test staff knowledge through “mystery shopper”.	Safeguarding training is undertaken across the Council and is a subject in its own right. The T&FG supports the need for the updating of policy and training and notes the work is underway. A report back in January on achievements is requested.	Policy update scheduled for EMT in January March Task and Finish Group re: implementation.	Scheduled March T&FG meeting

Item: 3. NFDC employee and Members to be more aware of the cultures of the GRT community and how services might best be made accessible so as to ensure the best life chances for all children				
Portfolios: All Portfolios				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Difficulty in matching needs and services effectively. Changing arrangements amongst service providers (statutory and voluntary)	Start with training – perhaps related to the induction programme. Could then lead to consideration of addressing service delivery and awareness in the wider community. Ensure that there is an officer within the Council with specialist knowledge of this Group and filter this knowledge to other officers. Ensure one point of contact.	It was noted that an information session ahead of Council is being planned which was welcomed. At a future session, it would be good to include reference to the Early Help Hub HCC work in this field needs to be better understood. Invite a representative to talk to the Group about Hampshire’s role in links with the GRT in the District. This would help understanding of needs and who might do what.	Session on demography and health needs of GRT at future pre- Council. Session for T&/FG can be arranged when the Group wish There is a Hampshire GRT Health & Wellbeing Group. A representative to talk to T&FG will come when the Group wish to talk about the mechanics of partnership working	February pre - Council slot planned. T&FG briefing in March – after HCC consultation T&FG presentation in early December.

Item 4: NFDC employees to be more approachable and more knowledgeable				
Portfolios: All Portfolios				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Perceptions of the Council can be a barrier to people using services and getting what they need. Employee understanding of the mental health impacts of lack of access to finance and/or housing	Consider training of front line staff in customer skills and also specifics such as budget advice. More use of social media. Provide our customers with service feedback forms. Provide staff and members with training on mental health.	A future Heads of Service discussion was noted. T&FG to receive a report back after that, with any intended programme and intentions. At the same time, more information on the work of the New Forest C&YP Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Group would be useful.	Mental Health awareness courses have been run. It would be useful to check the degree of coverage of children/young people issues. Is information available? Children & Young People Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health in the New Forest Group is in operation. Report on this work under item 6 below.	Completed. Officers to check coverage of child specific matters and report to T&FG. Covered under item 6

Item: 5. Develop a sustainable programme of ‘Community Food Initiatives’ to teach hard to reach groups that are living in poverty, socially isolated or have longer term health issues how to cook healthy food on a budget’				
Portfolios: All Portfolios				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Making the most of existing groups / knowledge and workings. Avoiding duplication.	Enable awareness – officers linking up; supporting the operation of groups, possible higher profile for partnership section of NFDC web site. Provide a directory of voluntary organisations / key providers working within this subject. Host a yearly networking seminar similar to the workshop held on 6 Feb.	Provision seems to be effective but for this issue it was important to be clear about the target group. The next step is a review of what is happening now. To this can be added what is needed. This would prompt a conversation on whether there is a need for action and by whom. Directory is part of LCP work above (No1). This should happen. Need to review precise details on content and invites (eg more from Education). February date is the target.	“War on waste” in Environment Services and project based work in Public Health has been identified. With information – this can then be included in LCP work and TF/EHH directory (Item1) Content to be developed by the Task and Finish Group in a future meeting	Completed T&FG planning event in early December and host event in February

Item: 6. Mapping and understanding of mental health commissioning and service delivery for children and adults, particularly those with physical disabilities and special needs.				
Portfolios: Health and Leisure				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
There was a lack of such mapping with may be hindering identification of need/take up and leading to the danger of duplication	Take this matter to the New Forest Health and Well Being Partnership Board	<p>The scale of a comprehensive exercise was noted. Some work had been done by the LCP and Police and Crime Commissioner.</p> <p>The suggestion is to use what is currently available and the question asked about whether best use is made of it.</p> <p>A report back to the T&FG as part of No 4 and the work of the New Forest C&YP Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Group.</p>	With part of Item 4 bring a future presentation on the Children and Young People Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Group to the Panel.	T&FG presentation in early December

Item: 7. Provide more welfare surgeries				
Portfolios: Finance and Efficiency				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
There is a need for more access to what can be complex information	<p>Informal (tea and biscuits) approach</p> <p>Make more use of community premises such as children centres.</p>	In hand as part of work on Universal Credit. A temporary resource has been employed to help set up surgeries / support.	As part of UC we are undertaking an exercise to communicate with organisations and publicise welfare reforms. We have met with Children's Centres and we are developing links, including training and awareness sessions. We are looking to do the same with It's Your Choice, CAB, McIntyre Charity and other related organisations. We are looking to develop our website and Forestnet to inform Members and Officers	Complete. T&FG review in March
		There were other factors (including discussions about a Credit Union) that will be reported back to Panel on how affected families are being supported and this would be part of that. In addition, there may be value in an email bulletin to Members	Productive discussions with Solent Credit Union and are looking to pilot surgeries initially in Hythe, commencing in January 2016. Planned report to EMT in the next couple of months about developing closer links with the Credit Union	Work in progress. T&FG review in March

Item: 8. Enable a relationship between HCC GRT team and New Forest GRT with permanent residence				
Portfolios: Housing and Communities				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	
This link was not made	Enable a link	As discussed above (No 3)	As No 3.	

Item: 9. Direct referral to food banks.				
Portfolios Housing and Communities				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
As a direct result of networking at the workshop on 6 February, Housing Officers now have contact details of those running food banks in the district and can now refer people to these.	Ensure that Housing Officers continue to be aware of contacts details of those running food banks in the District.	<p>It was noted that in-house training is underway with provision of information to key officers and more services are making referrals</p> <p>More might be made of a two way relationship between NFDC and food banks.</p> <p>The subject prompted discussion about the best means for Members to share information or questions on topics. Discuss with the Communications Team and also within Group, may assist.</p>	<p>Our Welfare & Benefits Team have met with all Food banks and have now agreements in place with providers. Since April 15 we have given out vouchers and we are promoting this amongst employees. All Benefits staff are aware of this service, it's part of our procedures and part of our Safeguarding referral process. All Information Officers are aware of the Service.</p> <p>Alan O'Sullivan to raise possible input to thinking in next Corporate Plan on the themes of this work and particular reference to the role of families.</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Now part of Corporate Plan process</p>

Item: 10. Free use of room hire in NFDC offices				
Portfolios: Finance and Efficiency				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Venues can cost third parties for interviews. This is likely to be at low or no cost to NFDC	Room hire function.	Happening at the moment in response to needs when they are expressed and there is the opportunity to do so.	Process confirmed	Completed

Item: 11. Receive a report on Public Health Hampshire work with GRT community.				
Portfolios: Health and Leisure; Housing and Communities				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Health needs of this group are still apparent and there may be particular actions to consider. Current work is being completed and will be up to date.	Presentation to Panel	Covered under No 3	As number 3	T&FG presentation in December. Council presentation in February.

Item: 12. Community transport – what is commissioned and how / /what is out there – joining up of need and provision.				
Portfolios: All Portfolios				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Public transport is understood to be largely a matter of central government and County Council action. Local action / commissioning of community transport services may offer more scope. There is some uncertainty as to how well community users and needs are connected to transport provision and commissioning.	Possible joint Task and Finish Group between Panels	It was noted that this is really challenging. To assist future discussion the T&FG suggests a proposal is devised for further work (probably a joint session with representatives from Planning and Transportation). Some questions: What services are there? Is there capacity to carry more people in the current provision? What is the demography of users? Are there pre-conceptions about who the transport is for? What role for Town and Parish Councils? Is there best practice to learn from?	Proposal for a specific Task and Finish Group	Recommend to Panel

Item: 13. Should NFDC funding of third parties make more overt requirements to demonstrate recognition of child poverty?				
Portfolios: All Portfolios				
REASON	HOW	SUGGESTION IN SEPTEMBER	OUTCOME	STATUS
Demands are rising, resources are falling, so there is a need to make best use of what is available	Panel considers if Portfolios should be asked to consider at all; generally or more specifically	The Council does not have a clear history of allocating funding to wider “societal or social” functions such as child poverty / parenting skills and support / loneliness in old age / domestic violence and so forth. It was not known where HCC was heading with its funding. The new Corporate Plan was an opportunity to set out priorities, against which action can be taken.	These were much wider questions. A matter for Members in the light of the new Corporate Plan – and then consideration of any action on its own merits at that time. As item 9.	Now a matter for the Corporate Plan process

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL – 15 MARCH 2016

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT TASK AND FINISH GROUP

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Community transport services play an important role in enhancing accessibility and social inclusion; and helps the District and County Council meet their transport objectives.
- 1.2 A task and finish group was set up involving members from the Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel and the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Panel to look at community transport and how this could assist the Council tackle child poverty. This report sets out the current projects that are being funded and makes recommendations on how community transport initiatives can aid child poverty.

2. PROJECTS

- 2.1 New Forest District Council have for a number of years funded three main community transport project jointly with Hampshire County Council (HCC) through a funding agreement. This agreement provides funding for the following services:
 - Call and Go
 - Wheels to Work
 - Group Hire Mini Bus Scheme / Transport Worker.
- 2.2 In January 2015 this Council extended the funding arrangements with Hampshire County Council to provide community transport within the District. The current funding arrangements with HCC for these three projects continue to 31 July 2017.

3. CALL & GO

- 3.1 Call & Go is a Community Transport scheme and consists of a flexible bus service operating a fleet of wheelchair accessible minibuses that can collect people from their home, at pre-arranged times, taking them to the nearest major town/major supermarkets etc. It is operated by Community First New Forest.
- 3.2 The service is available to anyone who has a mobility or sensory impairment which means that they are unable to or experience difficulty or discomfort in using bus services; or who lives more than 400 metres from an available bus service/stop or who does not have access to a car and there is no bus service running when they need to travel.
- 3.3 Nine routes operate during the week in all areas of the District (including the National Park) and the costs will vary according to the distance travelled. Full return fares range from £2.50 – £6.00 and are less than those for public transport. In total between April 2015 and December 2015, 7,521 passenger trips were made.

3.4 There are 9 minibuses used to run this service, and in between April 2015 – December 2015 there were 1,271 registered users. This is broken down as follows:

3.5 The age profile of the users is:

3.6 The drivers of the minibuses are predominantly volunteer drivers who are MiDAS trained. Should a proposed driver not be MiDAS trained, they will be funded to achieve this.

3.7 The District Council contribute 50% of the required funding and HCC contribute the remaining 50% (the amounts are set out in paragraph 6).

3.8 Whilst there is also a Cango service also operating in the District between Lymington and New Milton, this is not funded by the District Council and is run independently to them. Community First New Forest also ensure that their Call & Go routes do not compete with this Cango service.

4. WHEELS TO WORK

4.1 This is a moped loan service which aims to help young people aged 16-25 who have difficulty accessing public transport to enable them to access employment opportunities or vocational training.

4.2 The scheme provides a fully taxed, insured and maintained 50 cc or 125cc moped to enable access to employment opportunities that may otherwise be unacceptable due to lack of suitable local transport. In total there are 28 bikes available within the New Forest area, 15 mopeds and 13 motorbikes. Approximately 50 people use this service each year.

4.3 The loan period is generally for 6 months but can be extended for up to a maximum of 12 months and a deposit is taken at the start of the agreement. There is a weekly hire charge, payable by debit card:

- £17 per week if you are under 21 and on a 50cc bike
- £19 per week if you are under 21 and on a 125cc bike
- £17.50 per week if you are 21 and over and on a 50cc bike
- £20 per week if you are 21 and over and on a 125cc bike

4.4 The loanee is responsible for supplying their own licence. The minimum requirement being a provisional motorbike licence, the scheme provides full RAC cover for the bike during the duration of the lease.

4.5 This was a competitively tendered scheme with a 2 year contract term from 1 August 2015 to 31 July 2017. The tender was awarded to Community First New Forest.

4.6 The District Council contribute around (but no more than) 50% of the cost of delivering the service in the New Forest (the amounts are set out in paragraph 6).

5. GROUP HIRE

5.1 The Council contribute funding towards a Transport Worker post whose primary role is to run the Group Hire mini bus scheme.

5.2 This scheme is for local voluntary or charitable organisations who can hire a minibus. The buses are available for regular repeat bookings or even as 'one offs,' for community travel purposes. The scheme aims to contract 500 bookings per annum with the current year to date being 451 from 212 unique hiring organisations.

5.3 Buses can be hired for periods ranging from 2 hours up to one week (subject to availability). The organisation hiring the bus can provide their own MiDAS trained driver or alternatively a volunteer driver could be sought from Community First New Forest if one is available. There are two charging options available for those who wish to use the service:

- Mileage rate at £1.20 per mile which includes the fuel used on the day, or:
- Day rate, which is £65 plus the cost of fuel used.

5.4 As per the January 2015 Cabinet decision this was appointed as a single tender contract to Community First New Forest from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2017 and further information on the organisation and the other projects they run / support can be found here: <http://www.cfnf.org.uk/>

6. FINANCE

6.1 The current levels of funding per annum towards the three projects are as follows:

- Call & GO - £26,000
- Wheels to Work - £7,300
- Group Hire / Transport Worker - £12,400

6.2 As the agreements for all three projects ends at the end of July 2017, HCC will start of the process of new arrangements for these Community Transport services before this time and the level of contribution will be renegotiated.

6.3 The current agreement with HCC allows a termination by either party in writing at a date mutually agreed or by not less than six calendar months' written notice to the other, such notice to expire on 31 March or 30 September in any year.

7. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ISSUES

7.1 Currently there is a waiting list for the Call & Go scheme and many of the users are repeat customers who have used the scheme for many years. Little marketing of the scheme is currently undertaken due to the high levels of use.

- 7.2 The current Call & Go scheme has fixed routes but this does not include visits to out of the area hospitals, such as Bournemouth and Southampton where some residents are taken when medical assistance is needed. Some schemes do exist which involve volunteer drivers using their own vehicles, where bookings can be made to attend such things as medical appointments.
- 7.3 Ensuring young people are safe in the evenings around the District is important. A possible scheme that could be implemented is a safe bus which is staffed by volunteers, including special constables, police community support officers, paramedics, club chaplains and alcohol addiction counsellors with the bus providing a safe place for vulnerable people to go and could help with:
- Physical injury or illness
 - Concerned for your or someone's safety
 - Alcohol or drug misuse
 - A victim of alleged crime
 - People separated from their friends
 - Emotional distress
- 7.4 Due to the rural nature of the New Forest District area, and the distance between major the settlements, such a scheme may prove costly and difficult to run.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That Community First New Forest be asked to carry out a feasibility study to explore a neighbour car / volunteer driver scheme in the New Forest to assist young people attending medical appointments.
- 8.2 That Community First New Forest be asked to carry out a feasibility study to explore the option of running a weekly Call & Go route to Bournemouth, Southampton and Lymington hospitals to coincide with visiting times, and the potential of also using the Group Hire scheme for this purpose.
- 8.3 That Community First New Forest be recommended to undertake wider promotion of Call & Go scheme to the under 25 age group and exploration of potential grant funding available for Group Hire specifically to assist the under 25 age group.

For further information please contact:

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Background Papers:

The following decisions have been made by New Forest District Council in relation to Community Transport Projects:

- Cabinet October 2008 – Approval of contributions towards Call & Go
<https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/Data/Cabinet/20081001/Agenda/CDR04199.pdf>

- Planning and Transportation Portfolio Holder Decision 4 March 2009 – Approval of contributions towards Wheel to Work & Community Transport Workers post until 2012.
[https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/Data/Planning%20and%20Transportation%20Portfolio%20\(Decisions\)/20090304/Agenda/CDD04714.pdf](https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/Data/Planning%20and%20Transportation%20Portfolio%20(Decisions)/20090304/Agenda/CDD04714.pdf)
- Planning and Transportation Portfolio Holder Decision 29 May 2012 – Renewal of funding agreement for Call and Go, Wheels to Work and Community Transport Workers post until 2015.
[https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/Data/Planning%20and%20Transportation%20Portfolio%20\(Decisions\)/20120529/Agenda/CDD07608.pdf](https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/Data/Planning%20and%20Transportation%20Portfolio%20(Decisions)/20120529/Agenda/CDD07608.pdf)
- Cabinet 7 January 2015 – Renewal of funding agreement for Call and Go, Wheels to Work and Community Transport Workers post until July 2017.
<https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/Data/Cabinet/20150107/Agenda/CDR09425.pdf>

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COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL – 15 MARCH 2016

WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

1. PURPOSE

1.1 This paper is for the Panel to review the content of its current work programme (attached as Appendix 1) and discuss items for scrutiny review for inclusion on the 2016/17 work programme.

2. SELECTING TOPICS

2.1 Members, steered by the Chairman, and advised by Executive Heads, should select the topics the Panel wishes to scrutinise. In order to prioritise topics, the Panel might wish to consider the Council's overall priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan 2016-2020.

2.2 The Council's priorities for 2016-2020 are set out below: -

Secures a better future for the people and place of the New Forest district by:

- Supporting local business to prosper for the benefit of the people within the community
- Assisting the wellbeing of the people who live and work within the district
- Protecting the special and unique local character of the New Forest district

To help support the achievement of this vision the priorities will be to:

- Help local business to grow and prosper
- Provide more homes for local people
- Deliver visible service outcomes that are valued by the people in the community
- Protecting the local character of the place

The delivery of these priorities will require that the council's actions are:

- Underpinned by effective and efficient management of resources, specifically addressing the reduction in net expenditure required by the Medium Term Financial Plan to 2020.
- Developed through collaboration with the community and other local organisations

2.3 The Key Delivery Actions for 2016 falling within the Terms of Reference of the Panel are as follows: -

Review	Success Measure	Portfolio Responsibility
<p>E 2. Housing Strategy <i>Review the delivery of affordable housing in terms of realistic aspirations of the Council and recent changes in the planning system.</i> <i>Assess the existing constraints and take into account the emerging new Government policy advice. Progress through the local plan review</i></p>	<p>More homes Economic growth</p>	<p>Housing & Communities</p>
<p>G.3 Community Safety <i>Review the Council's involvement in community safety (having regard to the Council's statutory responsibilities)</i></p>	<p>More streamlined, focused and meaningful outcomes</p>	<p>Housing & Communities</p>

O.2 Health & Leisure Centres <i>Set financial targets and scope service delivery review to challenge existing arrangements and maximise outcomes for the council and the customer in the longer term</i>	Lower costs More efficient and effective working	Health & Leisure
O.4 CCTV/Alarm Monitoring <i>Service delivery review to challenge existing arrangements and maximise outcomes for the council and the customer</i>	Lower costs More efficient and effective working	Housing & Communities

2.4 The Panel might wish to consider the following contextual information when setting its work programme.

- Funding - Council's budget has reduced by 15.8% since 2010, a further reduction in Government funding of 11.7% from 2016.
- Local Plan - likely to be increase in the planned housing numbers per annum from the current level target of 200.
- Demographics – aging population with those aged 65 and over predicted to increase by 27,900 making up 37% of the population by 2037. Increase of 11% in this demographic.
- Organisational Change – new Executive Management Team in place. The Panel has three new Executive Heads reporting to it. Grainne O'Rourke, Executive Head of Governance & Regulations, Chris Elliott, Executive Head Economy, Housing & Planning and Colin Read, Executive Head of Operations. The Executive Heads will give guidance as to what priorities they have for their new departments/portfolio of work.

3. SCOPING A SCUTINY REVIEW

3.1 Once the Panel has selected topics for inclusion on its work programme for the year, it needs to scope out how it wishes to scrutinise that topic. This should include which subjects will be covered, which headline questions will be asked, what sorts of evidence will be sought, if any witness/experts should be called and a timeline for scrutiny to be completed. Clear outcomes and recommendations should then be presented to the executive for consideration.

3.2 Should the Panel wish to establish any task & finish groups, the Panel should be clear on the terms of reference, set objectives, outcomes and timescales, as well as agree the number of councillors needed to form the group.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 It is recommended that the Panel review the work programme, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, in the light of the corporate priorities and decide the content and scheduling of the 2016/17 work programme.

For further Information contact:

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Committee Administrator
02380 285588
melanie.stephens@nfdc.gov.uk

Background Papers:

None.

Work Programme 2016/2017

ITEM	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	TIMING/UPDATE ON PROGRESS
HOUSING			
Armed Forces Community Covenant	To review the progress of the Community Covenant.	Task & Finish Group Report to Panel	As and when appropriate
Supporting People	To review the impact of the Supporting People regime.	Report to Panel	As and when appropriate
Welfare Reform	To review the transition to Universal Credit and impact on residents/tenants.	Report to Panel	As and when appropriate
CRIME & DISORDER			
CCTV Task & Finish Group	To consider the findings of the group.	Report to Panel	March 2016
Statutory Nuisance Task & Finish Group	To consider findings of the Group	Report to Panel	June 2016
Safer New Forest Partnership Plan	To consider inputting into the Plan	Report to Panel	To be considered
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE			
Child Poverty in the New Forest	Task & Finish Group	Findings and final recommendations	March 2016
HEALTH			
Progress of the Health & Wellbeing Board Action Plan	To review the progress of the current action plan	Report to Panel	June 2016

LEISURE			
Community Grants	To review the Community Grant applications and make recommendations to the Portfolio Holder	Report to Panel	January 2017

Current Task & Finish Groups

- Armed Forces Community Covenant (annual review)
- Child Poverty
- Dibden Golf Centre
- Statutory Nuisance
- CCTV