



Remit and Annual Work Programme of the Resources Commission

RECOMMENDATION

1. To consider the role and remit of the Resources Commission and identify possible items for its 2010-11 annual work programme.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The portfolio of the newly constituted Resources Commission covers issues previously within the remit of the Scrutiny Management Commission, SMC, and the former Community Commission:

From the SMC:

- Corporate human resources including training and development
- Employee payments (payroll) and income tax
- External employment initiatives
- Customer Services including Derby Direct
- Council Tax and Business Rates
- Information and Communications Technology and Telephony
- Procurement
- Legal and Democratic Services
- Financial Services, Audit and Risk Management
- Capital and revenue budgets

From the Community Commission:

- Housing and Council Tax benefit administration
- Derwent New Deal for Communities programme and succession strategy

- 2.2 All commissions are expected to consider and agree their annual work programme near the start of each new municipal year and submit them to the SMC for approval. The work programme should ideally include:

- Public facing services that matter to local people and/or
- Internal, back office services that affect the performance and reputation of the Council

and where the input from the Commission can make a difference. The work programme should comprise a mix of strategic policy issues as well as short reviews that can be scrutinised relatively quickly. The Commission may also undertake retrospective scrutiny of decisions that have already been taken and consider whether these are having the desired effect.

- 2.3 For the information of Members, major items scrutinised in the Work Programme 2009-10 of predecessor commissions that now fall within the portfolio of the Resources Commission have included:

By the Scrutiny Management Commission:

- Delivering Efficient Corporate and Transactional Services
- Accommodation Strategy

By the Community Commission

- Housing and Council Tax Benefit
- Rent Levels and Housing Benefit Subsidy

- 2.4 If Members consider that it would be premature to agree a full work programme through to April 2011, it would be desirable to agree one significant review that can be conducted in the autumn period. That would enable the co-ordination officer to begin conducting initial research, identify appropriate stakeholders and witnesses and make meeting arrangements.

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Background papers:	Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions http://cmis.derby.gov.uk/CMISWebPublic/Binary.ashx?Document=15593
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None arising from this report.

Legal

2. None arising from this report.

Personnel

3. None arising from this report.

Equalities impact

4. Effective scrutiny will benefit all Derby people.

Corporate Priorities

5. This report potentially links with the Council's priorities for 2010-11.