Report to: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Subject: **Scrutiny Work Programme 2013/14**

Date: **7 October 2013**

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

i. To introduce Councillor John Clarke, Leader of the Council and Mark Kimberley, Corporate Director, who have been invited to attend the meeting to take questions on the following areas of the Leader's Portfolio:

- The Council's Procurement strategy
- Co-location arrangements with partners.

ii. To receive any wider questions that Members may have about Q1 2013/14 performance.

iii. To provide an update on the 2013/14 Scrutiny work programme.

2. BACKGROUND

At the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday 5th August Members agreed a programme of attendance by Portfolio Holders and relevant Corporate Directors at committee and also identified which areas of performance within each Portfolio they would like to examine. It was further agreed that questions for Portfolio Holders should be submitted in advance of each meeting, however 'ad hoc' questions may be put forward at the meeting itself.

This committee has elected to consider the following elements of the Leaders' Portfolio:

- The Council's Procurement strategy
- Co-location arrangements with partners

Questions include:

1. How successfully are we contracting with local suppliers?
2. How are co - location arrangements progressing?
3. What are the future plans for co-location?
4. What benefits are being demonstrated, and what future benefits do we hope to achieve?

ONGOING PROGRAMME OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE

Listed below are details of the on-going programme of Portfolio Holder and Corporate Directors at Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The programme may be subject to minor changes.

- **Committee date: 9th December 2013 – attendance confirmed in diaries**

Councillor Peter Barnes: Environment Portfolio
Corporate Directors: Dave Wakelin and Stephen Bray

Services for review: Waste strategy, energy management, sustainability

- **Committee date: 10th March 2014 – availability of PF holder and CD to be confirmed**

Councillor Hollingsworth: Health and Housing Portfolio
Corporate Director: Dave Wakelin

Service for review: Public Health

- **Committee date: 12th May 2014 – availability of PF holder and CD to be confirmed (Committee date may be affected by the European election)**

Councillor Pulk: Leisure and Development Portfolio
Corporate Director: Paula Darlington

Services for review: the planning process and the town centres strategy

- **Committee date: 14th July 2014 - availability of PF Holder and CD to be confirmed**

Councillor Fox: Community Development Portfolio
Corporate Director: Paula Darlington

Service for review: Neighbourhood working

- **Committee date: 29th September 2014 – details to be confirmed**
- **Committee date: 15th December 2014 – details to be confirmed**

2.3 Covalent Performance Monitoring Report: Quarter 1 2013/14

Members have the opportunity to review the quarterly Performance Digest which is available under **"Our priorities, plans and performance/performance management".**

3. IN DEPTH SCRUTINY

Nominations have been received and meetings set for in depth scrutiny working groups as follows:

1. **Homelessness and hardship in the Borough**

Working Group members: Councillors Lawrence, Weisz, Blair, Paling, Hope, P. Allan, Bexon, Hewson, Hughes.

Tuesday 22nd October, 5 – 6pm in the Committee Room

2. **Reducing unemployment in the Borough**

Working Group Members: Councillors Wheeler, R. Ellis, R. Allan, Bailey, Gregory P. Andrews, Hewson, Hughes.

Tuesday 29th October, 5 – 6pm in the Reception Room

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- Put forward relevant questions to the Portfolio Holder and Corporate Director.
- Raise any questions they may have regarding the Q1 Covalent Performance Monitoring Report.
- Note the meetings set for in depth reviews 'Homelessness and Hardship in the Borough' and 'Reducing Unemployment in the Borough.'