

**ITEMS REFERRED FROM RESOURCES, PROSPERITY, PARTNERSHIP AND
PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Report of the County Secretary

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Executive Member: Robert Gordon

1. Purpose of the report

To consider whether items referred from the Resources, Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation Scrutiny Committee in January 2003 should be included in the work programme for 2003 for this Committee.

2. Summary

The report details possible scrutiny items referred from the meeting of the Resources, Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2003; members may also put forward additional items. These may form a Work Programme for 2003/2004, but will not preclude members raising other issues over the course of the year as they arise.

3. Conclusion

The Scrutiny Committee should discuss whether or not they wish to scrutinise any of the items referred from the Resources, Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation Scrutiny Committee. If they choose to do so, this may be done by, for example:

- questioning officers/executive members at the meeting
- requesting a further report
- referring the matter to a panel/topic group
- requesting an independent consultant, partner organisation or interest group to investigate the matter on their behalf and report back
- holding one or more public hearings which are specifically designed to enable members of the public, interest groups, etc. to give their views

The Committee may also wish to consider prioritising and setting a timescale for the scrutiny programme.

4. Items referred by Resources, Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2003:

- 4.1 At the last meeting of the Resources, Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation Scrutiny Committee, the Committee considered a report on the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Corporate Assessment. The Committee recommended to the Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee that they might wish to consider scrutinise the following issue arising from the report:

Paragraph 54 of the CPA – Education Key Indicators

‘There is some difficulty in continuing to show improvement against the Council’s key indicators in this area.’

- 4.2 The Committee also referred the following targets from the Traffic Light Monitor to the Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee for possible scrutiny:

(i) **Local L252**

The proportion of looked after children who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months and were of school age, who were permanently excluded from school at any time during the previous school year

(ii) **Local L225**

Percentage of Minority Ethnic pupils achieving KS2 Level 4 and above in English and Maths:African-Caribbean

(iii) **Local L253**

The proportion of looked after children achieving 5 or more GCSE grades A-C, expressed as a percentage of all children in the local authority achieving these standards

(iv) **Local L266**

Reduce the percentage of schools attaining 40% or less of pupils with 5 or more grades A*-C at GCSE

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.2 The Assistant Chief Executive holds a small budget for providing support to scrutiny committees. If the Committee identifies that they may need additional resources for any scrutiny item, this can be considered in consultation with the Scrutiny Co-ordination Panel.

Background information referred to by the author whilst compiling this report:

Report on CPA Corporate Assessment Resources - Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation Scrutiny Committee 23 January 2003

Traffic Light Monitor - Resources, Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation Scrutiny Committee 23 January 2003

Minutes - Resources, Prosperity, Partnership and Consultation Scrutiny Committee 23 January 2003