

**Progress Report – Current Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups**

**1. Inquiry Panels:**

a) **Inward Investment** (convener: Cllr Jeff Jones)

Key Question: What can the Council do to influence inward investment into Swansea and the South West Wales region?

Progress Bar:

Scoping				Evidence Gathering				Draft Final Report			

The Panel are currently drawing up their final report.

b) **Public Engagement** (convenor: Cllr Joe Hale)

Key Question: How can the Council improve its engagement practices with the public, staff and external stakeholders?

Progress Bar:

Scoping				Evidence Gathering				Draft Final Report			

The panel has completed its evidence gathering. It will meet at the end of April to consider its findings and identify conclusions and recommendations for the final report.

c) **Streetscene** (convenor: Cllr John Bayliss)

Key Question: How well does the Council maintain and keep clean the roads, footways and verges in Swansea, and what changes should it make?

Progress Bar:

Scoping				Evidence Gathering				Draft Final Report			

The panel recently met with the Cabinet Member to discuss policy commitments in this area. The panel will next meet on 30<sup>th</sup> April to gather evidence from residents on their experiences of street scene services.

d) **Social Care at Home** (convenor: Cllr Jane Harris)

Key Question: How can Swansea Council and its partners support elderly people to enable them to remain in their own homes?

### Progress Bar:

Scoping				Evidence Gathering				Draft Final Report			

The Panel is now taking stock of the evidence it has gathered and starting to consider its conclusions and recommendations. Following this, the Panel will consider whether any further evidence gathering is required prior to developing its final report.

## 2. Performance Panels:

### a) Wellbeing (convener: Cllr Paxton Hood-Williams)

The panel has agreed its work plan for the next 12 months. It is continuing to meet fortnightly alternating between scrutinising the performance of adult social care and child and family services

### b) Service Improvement & Finance (convener: Cllr Mary Jones)

The Panel met on 14 May to evaluate its work over the year and to plan for the year ahead.

The next meeting will take place on 11 June. The Panel have invited the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources to attend in order to discuss progress on achieving savings targets, the Panel's involvement in the Budget process for 2015/16 and the development of its work programme for year. The Panel will also receive a report from the Head of Finance and Performance, which outlines the Budget Tracker Progress and how the Authority will be monitoring the implementation of savings targets.

### c) Schools Performance (convener: tbc)

The Panel will meet on the 5 June with the Chief Education Officer, Arwyn Thomas to discuss progress with the Local Authorities Education Inclusion review. They will also discuss/agree their work programme for the year.

### d) Local Service Board (convener: Cllr Mike Day)

The Panel met on 12 May and received information about the Local Service Board (LSB) Delivery Framework, which is the document that is used to monitor progress against the LSB's priorities. They also had a further development session with Rebecca David-Knight from the Centre for Public Scrutiny, looking at a Return on Investment approach to scrutiny.

The next Panel meeting will take place on 23 June. The Panel have invited representatives from the statutory LSB partners (including the Local Authority, AMBU Health Board, SCVS and South Wales Police)

to attend to discuss their various roles in relation to delivering LSB priorities.

### 3. Working Groups:

A number of topics have been identified which will be dealt with through one-off Working Groups.

a) **Planning Services** (convener: Cllr Mark Thomas)

The Panel will meet on 10 June to look further at the issues it explored in December 2013 regarding planning enforcement, the performance of the Planning Area Committees and to monitor Planning Service performance indicators.

b) the following Working Groups will be convened in the next few months:

- **Car Parks** (convener: Cllr Tony Colburn) – this will be to discuss provision across Swansea, performance, and plans for improvement
- **Local Flood Risk Management** (convener: Cllr Susan Jones) – this will be a further meeting, following initial meeting in January 2013, to discuss Environment Agency flood risk and flood hazard maps and specific areas of risk. The Council has not yet received the maps in a format which can be used. It is likely that information will be ready to be presented to scrutiny by the summer.