

**REPORT:** Children and Young People Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2009

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director Children and Young People Directorate

**SUBJECT:** Children and Young People Policy and Performance Board Work Programme 2009/10

**WARDS:** Boroughwide

## **1.0 PURPOSE AND CONTENT OF REPORT**

1.1 The key task is for Board Members to decide on a work programme of 2 or 3 Topics to be undertaken in the next municipal year.

**2.0 RECOMMENDED: that the Policy and Performance Board finalise Topics to be included in the Board's 2009/10 work programme.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Annex 1 – Topic selection checklist.

## **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Council's priorities are further developed through the 2009/10 scrutiny topics.

## **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

None.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### **6.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

Selection of scrutiny topics for 2009/10 leads to further development of the Council's priorities.

### **6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

Selection of scrutiny topics for 2009/10 leads to further development of the Council's priorities.

### **6.3 A Healthy Halton**

Selection of scrutiny topics for 2009/10 leads to further development of the Council's priorities.

### **6.4 A Safer Halton**

Selection of scrutiny topics for 2009/10 leads to further development of the Council's priorities.

### **6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

Selection of scrutiny topics for 2009/10 leads to further development of the Council's priorities.

## **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

The main risk is in terms of capacity to undertake the work. This may be managed in the eventual selection of topics to be considered.

## **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

All topics finally selected will take into account equality and diversity implications.

## **9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None under the meaning of the Act.

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**  
**Topic Selection Checklist**

This checklist leads the user through a reasoning process to identify a) why a topic should be explored and b) whether it makes sense to examine it through the overview and scrutiny process. More “yeses” indicate a stronger case for selecting the Topic.

#	CRITERION	Yes/No
<b><i>Why? Evidence for why a topic should be explored and included in the work programme</i></b>		
1	Is the Topic <b>directly aligned with and have significant implications for at least 1 of Halton's 5 strategic priorities &amp; related objectives/PIs, and/or a key central government priority?</b>	
2	Does the Topic <b>address an identified need</b> or issue?	
3	Is there a <b>high level of public interest or concern about the Topic</b> e.g. apparent from consultation, complaints or the local press	
4	Has the Topic been <b>identified through performance monitoring</b> e.g. PIs indicating an area of poor performance with scope for improvement?	
5	Has the Topic been <b>raised as an issue requiring further examination through a review, inspection or assessment, or by the auditor?</b>	
6	Is the Topic area likely to have a <b>major impact on resources or be significantly affected by financial or other resource problems</b> e.g. a pattern of major overspending or persisting staffing difficulties that could undermine performance?	
7	Has some <b>recent development or change</b> created a need to look at the Topic e.g. new government guidance/legislation, or new research findings?	
8	Would there be <b>significant risks</b> to the organisation and the community <b>as a result of <u>not</u> examining this topic?</b>	
<b><i>Whether? Reasons affecting whether it makes sense to examine an identified topic</i></b>		
9	<b>Scope for impact</b> - Is the Topic something the Council can	

	actually influence, directly or via its partners? Can we make a difference?	
10	<b>Outcomes</b> – Are there clear improvement outcomes (not specific answers) in mind from examining the Topic and are they likely to be achievable?	
11	<b>Cost: benefit</b> - are the benefits of working on the Topic likely to outweigh the costs, making investment of time & effort worthwhile?	
12	<b>Are PPBs the best way to add value</b> in this Topic area? Can they make a distinctive contribution?	
13	Does the organisation have the <b>capacity</b> to progress this Topic? (e.g. is it related to other review or work peaks that would place an unacceptable load on a particular officer or team?)	
14	Can PPBs contribute meaningfully given the <b>time</b> available?	