

Housing and Community Select Committee
Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 30 July 2013

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

Review of Tobacco Control

The final report was agreed by Cabinet at the meeting of 11 July. An action plan is now being drawn up.

Review of Welfare Reform and Financial Inclusion

The Committee agreed the scope of the review of Welfare Reform and Financial Inclusion at the meeting of 6 June. The review will examine the early impact of the welfare changes introduced in April 2013 on the Council and partner agencies, and identify where policies will need to be reviewed in response. The review will also provide an overview of the preparations for further changes including Universal Credit.

The review will also consider the wider aspects of financial inclusion, looking at a range of factors such as food banks, illegal money lending, and credit unions. There will be close links with the review Child Poverty.

The Committee considered a presentation to set the scene on 18 July, and also discussed methods of data collection to track the local impact of welfare reform.