

**Suggestion for Scrutiny Work Programme Form
(To be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee)**

Suggestion from:
Councillor Susan Glossop on behalf of Councillor Sarah Stamp
What would you like to suggest for investigation / review?
Anglia Revenue Partnership (ARP)
What are the main issues / concerns to be considered?
<p>On the 10 June 2015, ARP gave a presentation to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OAS) and presented their joint debt management and recovery policy.</p> <p>At the OAS Committee held on the 19 April 2017, it was felt that it would be beneficial to receive another presentation and ask if the debt management and recovery policy needed to be updated. There were questions asked by new member of the Committee if we scrutinised ARP.</p> <p>It was suggested that the OAS Committee might wish to receive a follow-up presentation from ARP to get a better understanding of how they carry out their debt management work and what are the working practices carried out before compiling a list of debts to be written off; and also what percentage of written off debts are eventually recovered.</p>
Would this review benefit from a "West Suffolk" approach (i.e. joint scrutiny by both Councils), or is it relevant only to your council?
Not at this time.
Who is responsible for providing this service, or tackling the issue in question?
Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance, Councillor Ian Houlder.
Have you spoken to them, and if so, what was the response?
<p>Following an email sent to the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance, he has subsequently asked if a senior member of the ARP management could attend a future OAS Committee meeting and make a presentation and to be take part in a questions and answer session.</p> <p>He felt that it was a good idea for more Members to understand what ARP gets up to and why these debts occur, the processes and laws involved etc.</p>

What is the Portfolio Holders view on this issue?	
The Portfolio Holder is very supportive of the suggestion to invite ARP to an OAS Committee.	
What would be the likely benefits and outcomes of carrying out this investigation / review?	
A better understanding of the working of Anglia Revenue Partnership and how they reach decisions.	
Estimated Committee and officer resource implications (eg research group, one-off report, dedicated meeting etc)	
Presentation to a scheduled meeting of the Committee.	
Suggested witnesses, documentation and consultation	
Officers from the Anglia Revenues Partnership Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance, Councillor Ian Houlder Assistant Director (Resources and Performance)	
Will this investigation / review contribute to one or more of the Council's Strategic Priorities? If so, which (please tick)	
Increased opportunities for economic growth	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resilient families and communities that are healthy and active	<input type="checkbox"/>
Homes for our communities	<input type="checkbox"/>

Will this investigation / review contribute to the achievement of one or more of the commitments within the Council's Strategic Plan 2014-2016? If so, which (please tick)	
Increased opportunities for economic growth:	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Benefit growth that enhances prosperity and quality of life.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Existing businesses that are thriving and new businesses brought to the area.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. People with the educational attainment and skills needed in our local economy.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Vibrant, attractive and clean high streets, village centres and markets.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resilient families and communities that are healthy and active:	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. A thriving voluntary sector and active communities who take the initiative to help the most vulnerable.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. People playing a greater role in determining the future of their communities.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Improved wellbeing, physical and mental health.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Accessible countryside and green spaces.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Homes for our communities:	
1. Sufficient housing for current and future generations, including more affordable homes; improvements to existing housing.	
2. New developments that are fit for the future, properly supported by infrastructure, and that build communities, not just housing.	
3. Homes that are flexible for people's changing needs.	

Will this investigation hit one of the essential elements of a scrutiny review when analysing potential scrutiny reviews? If so, which (please tick)	
Public Interest: The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen by overview and scrutiny.	X
Impact (Value): Priority should be given to issues that make the biggest difference to the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area, and which have the potential to make recommendations which could lead to real improvements. The outcome must also be proportionate to the cost of carrying out the review in terms of staff and councillor time.	X
Relevance: Overview and scrutiny must be satisfied that an issue identified for review is relevant and does not duplicate existing work being undertaken elsewhere by various Working Groups, Cabinet, partners etc.	X
Partnership working or external scrutiny: The focus of scrutiny is moving towards joint action and community leadership, so anything which offers this opportunity should be given serious consideration.	X

Would you like to be involved in the investigation / review?	
Yes	
Date of request: 13 June 2017	Signed: Councillor Susan Glossop and Councillor Sarah Stamp.

Please return this form to the:

Scrutiny Officer, Forest Heath District Council, College Heath Road, Mildenhall, Suffolk, IP28 7EY

Email: Christine.brain@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Updated: July 2013
Updated: June 2014 (Revised West Suffolk Strategic Priorities)
Updated: March 2015 (Amended as a Joint Form)