Suggestions for topics to be scrutinised – evaluation table

A Member/Officer suggesting a topic for scrutiny must complete this table as fully as possible. Completed tables will be presented to Overview & Scrutiny for consideration.

roposer: Councillor/Officer: Councillor Helen Lynch					
Topic recommended for scrutiny: Please include as much detail as is available about the specific issues and areas which should be included/excluded from the review. Should the focus be on past performance, future policy or both?	Cycling on the pavement A review that provides recommendations to address pedestrian safety and provision for cyclists				
Why have you recommended this topic for scrutiny?	I have had many complaints at Neighbourhood Forum/residents' meetings and also from resident surveys showing that this is an issue.				
What are the specific outcomes you wish to see from the review?	A proactive approach to cycling on pavements looking at enforcement, signage, cycle lanes, a 'considerate cycling' awareness programme etc. Perhaps including it in the Partnership Protected Area.				

Does the proposed item meet the following criteria?					
It must affect a group or community of people	It affects all residents in Watford who are pedestrians; businesses in the town that rely on footfal to trade and cyclists to feel safe travelling around the town.				
It must relate to a service, event or issue in which the council has a significant stake	The prosperity and well being of the town.				
It must not have been a topic of scrutiny within the last 12 months There will be exceptions to this arising from notified changing circumstances. Scrutiny will also maintain an interest in the progress of recommendations and issues arising from past reports.	It has not been subject to scrutiny in the last 12 months to my knowledge.				
It must not be an issue, such as planning or licensing, which is dealt with by another council committee	Not to my knowledge				

Does the topic involve a Council partner or other outside body?	'Spokes', Police, possibly Highways, Planning Department		
Are you aware of any limitations of time or other constraints which need to be taken into account? Factors to consider are forthcoming milestones, demands on the relevant service area and member availability	No No		
	7. Influence and partnership delivery Please confirm which ones 2, 4, 5		
Does the topic meet the council's priorities?	 Improve the health of the town and enhance its heritage Enhance the town's 'clean & green' environment Enhance the town's sustainability Enhance the town's economic prosperity and potential Supporting individuals and the community Securing an efficient, effective, value for money council 		

The following section to be completed by Democratic Services					
Consultation with relevant Heads of Service (this section to be completed by Democratic Services)	It is important to ensure that the relevant service can support a review by providing the necessary documents and attending meetings as necessary. The Head of Service's comments should be obtained before the request to hold a review is put to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.				
Has the relevant Head of Service been consulted?	Yes Proposal emailed to the Head of Planning on 4 November 2011.				
Is this a topic which the service department(s) is able to support.	I do not believe that cycling on pavements would be an appropriate topic for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to discuss at this time. Problems caused by cycling on the pavement in Central ward have already been raised by Cllr Martins. As a result of his comments the matter has been referred to JAG.				
	PCSOs have recently been given new powers to deal with unauthorised cycling on the pavements and other such offences. This is not therefore a matter for this Council to enforce. PCSOs in Watford have not completed their training on these powers yet, but should have by the end of Nov. JAG is considering how we (WBC) can work together with police on using powers for PCSOs next week. Once a policy or approach has been agreed with/by the Police this could be forwarded on to Cllrs for comment. Otherwise I would suggest that the new regime is allowed to operate for a reasonable period and then perhaps, if considered necessary, O&S could consider whether this has been effective in tackling the problems raised.				
	The Community Safety Manager has advised that the Joint Action Group met on 8 November 2011 and discussed cycling on the pavement. The Police will shortly carry out a 2-week campaign to help tackle current concerns.				

When was the last time this	This particular topic has not been considered.
service was the subject of a	
scrutiny review?	

Sign off					
Councillor/Officer H Lynch	date 01/11/11	Head of Service Jane Custance	date 04/11/11		