

Wiltshire Council

Environment Select Committee

13 June 2017

Overview and Scrutiny Forward Work Programme

Purpose

1. To report relevant topics on the single overview and scrutiny (OS) forward work programme as agreed by the OS Management Committee at its meeting on 6 June 2017. (The OS Management Committee co-ordinates the overview and scrutiny forward work programme).
2. To report the task group activity of the previous Environment Select Committee and re-establish those task groups and appoint memberships as appropriate.
3. To report the next steps for developing this Committee's section of the single OS forward work programme.

Background

4. On 22 February 2017, the Environment Select Committee considered the key pieces of work it had undertaken during the 2013-2017 Council. These demonstrated the contribution it had made to decision-making, policy development and the good governance of the council.
5. The Committee also considered the topics within its remit remaining on the OS forward work programme, including forthcoming agenda items and ongoing or planned task groups. From this it agreed a list of topics that it recommended for inclusion on the OS forward work programme in the new council.
6. The Committee's recommendations, and those from the other select committees, were then considered by the OS Management Committee on 28 March 2017. From these, a legacy report was agreed and referred on to the Management Committee to consider in the new council. Management Committee will consider this report on 6 June and the topics relevant to this Committee are listed below (a verbal update on Management Committee's decisions will be provided at the meeting). Pending Management Committee's approval, Committee is asked to consider whether to take the work areas listed forward and any additional topics it wishes to explore:

Activity	Date	Brief Explanation	Reason for Inclusion
Playing Pitch Strategy	Annual	Reports to be provided from the Wiltshire Playing Pitch Strategy Implementation Group to Environment Select Committee regarding the strategy's development.	To receive updates on progression of strategy following committee involvement in its draft.
Wiltshire Council Resident Engagement Strategy	20 June 2017	For the Committee to receive an updated report on the progress of the Council's resident engagement strategy provided	To provide an update following the work of the task group as agreed at 7 June meeting.
Enforcement update	20 June 2017	Information following a reduction in numbers of enforcement officers.	To review the impact of the reduction of enforcement officers across the services.
Wiltshire Housing Allocation Plan	TBC	To receive following Cabinet's consideration of the Draft Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan on 23 May 2017.	Identified as a legacy topic by ESC.
Emissions	TBC	To investigate possible scrutiny involvement in Wiltshire's emissions.	Identified as a legacy topic by ESC.
Municipal Waste Management Strategy	TBC	Work planned to develop an updated version of the current strategy. This was scheduled to take place in 2017.	Identified as a work priority.
Planning	TBC	To consider the possibility of scrutiny involvement in planning.	Identified as a legacy topic by ESC.

Activity	Date	Brief Explanation	Reason for Inclusion
Governance arrangements for the prioritisation of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) spending	TBC	<p>On 14 March Cabinet resolved to,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the process for the review of the Regulation 123 List and prioritising the spending of strategic funds raised through the CIL; • Agree that for 2017, the next step would be to prioritise projects for funding consistent with the current Regulation 123 List. 	To assist with the effective operation of CIL and ensure open and transparent decision making in the allocation of strategic CIL funds.
Highways and Street Scene Task Group	Final Report – Autumn 2017	<p>To support the service in developing a framework for the whole service (as per peer review) and ensure that the performance framework includes measures of members of the public's satisfaction / wishes;</p> <p>To consider the proposed Key Performance Indicators and monitoring of the new contract to ensure that the experience of members of the public is taken into account;</p> <p>To monitor the implementation of the contract whilst considering how the monitoring of the delivery of the contract should be reported to the Environment Select Committee once the task group has completed its work.</p>	Identified as possible legacy topic by ESC
Re-Commission of Housing Service Support Contracts Rapid Scrutiny	Final Report – 20 June	N/A – Rapid scrutiny exercise to discuss the approach when procuring new services under Option 3, and to help shape the outcomes required and the substance of what to commission.	Identified as possible legacy topic by ESC

7. On 24 May 2017 an OS councillor induction event was held and attendees were asked what key issues were raised by constituents during the election period. The list of issues put forward will be considered by Management Committee on 6 June 2017, including whether OS might add value, and updates will then be provided at the other select committees' first meetings where appropriate.

Appointments to Task Groups and Rapid Scrutiny Exercises

8. The Committee may wish to appoint or re-appoint members to those activities it decides should continue. As a number of vacancies have arisen following the elections, the Committee may wish to simply re-appoint those members who remain on the Council subject to their wish to continue and authorise the chairman and vice-chairman to fill any vacancies following expressions of interest. The previous memberships are listed below.

Highways and Streetscene Task Group

Cllr Peter Evans

Cllr Bob Jones MBE

Cllr Gordon King

Cllr Tony Trotman

Cllr John Walsh

VACANCY

Re-Commission of Housing Service Support Contracts Rapid Scrutiny

Cllr Mike Hewitt

VACANCY

Next steps

9. In order to use OS's resources most effectively, the OS work programme should primarily be aligned to the council's agreed strategic priorities. It is therefore timely that a new council Business Plan is being developed and will be presented to the Management Committee for input at an extraordinary meeting on 21 June. The final version will then be presented for approval by Cabinet on 3 July and adoption by Full Council on 11 July.
10. The new Business Plan will set out the council's priorities for the next ten years and should therefore be influential in developing an OS work programme that delivers maximum value for the people of Wiltshire. To facilitate this further, Management Committee has supported discussions between the select committee chairmen and vice-chairmen with the Executive and directors to gain a more informed understanding about priorities and plans. These will take place following Full Council's agreement of the new Business Plan and outcomes the meetings will be reported back to the Committee for discussion. The Committee may then want to agree further opportunities for discussing its work priorities.
11. The OS work programme should be viewed as a live document that is constantly reviewed and updated. It will be reported to every meeting of the Management Committee and relevant parts to the respective select committees. The Committee will need to be mindful of the capacity of councillor and officer resource when determining its work programme.

Proposal

12. To consider the scheduled Committee activity agreed by the OS Management Committee (see paragraph 7), formally re-establishing task groups where appropriate;
13. To appoint the memberships of the relevant task groups and rapid scrutiny exercises and authorise the Chairman and Vice-chairman to name members to fill any vacancies following expressions of interest;
14. To note that a new council Business Plan will be brought to Full Council on 11 July, which will be influential in shaping the new OS forward work programme;
15. To support early discussion between the Chairman and Vice-Chairman with Cabinet members, portfolio-holders and directors (following adoption of the new council Business Plan) to gain a more informed understanding about Executive priorities, with outcomes reported back to Committee.