

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 25 MAY 2016

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to:
 - note the 2016/17 scrutiny Work Programme as agreed by Council on 12 May
 - consider the issues not completed from the 2015/16 Work Programme and agree which issues should be carried forward to the 2016/17 programme; and
 - consider and approve suggestions for taking the 2016/17 Work Programme forward.

Background

2. On 21 April, the OSPB was updated on the development of an overview and scrutiny Work Programme for 2016/17 following an extensive Work Programme consultation exercise.
3. Following that meeting, the Chairman and Vice Chairman completed a full analysis of all suggestions received and circulated a report to all Members of OSPB asking them to comment on the Chairman and Vice Chairman's recommendations for topics to be included in the Work Programme.
4. The Chairman and Vice Chairman of OSPB met on 26 April to consider feedback provided by OSPB members and agree a final set of topics/issues to be included in the Work Programme to be put to Council for approval. The agreed list was then considered by Council on 12 May.

2016/17 Work Programme

5. In considering the proposed list of topics, Council expressed concern about the workload implications of the items suggested for the Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Panel. Therefore it was agreed to remove the following 2 items from the Panel's Work Programme:
 - How can WCC support Retail whilst it is in transition and help support and retrain retail employees?
 - What are the benefits to Worcestershire of 20 MPH speed limits and how does this link to Residents Parking Policy?
6. The 2016/17 list agreed by Council is attached as Appendix 1

Issues Incomplete from 2015/16 Work Programme

7. In addition, each Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Panel has items that were part of the 2015/16 Work Programme and are still to be completed. The Panel Chairmen are asked to consider whether priorities have changed and, as a result, which items should be taken forward to the 2016/17 Work Programme.

8. The outstanding issues are:

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board:

- Sexual Violence and Rape
- Climate Change

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire
- Administration/Patient Records
- Training/Recruitment of Clinicians

Adult Care and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

- Care Provider Market (work ongoing)

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

- Child Poverty and Health Inequalities
- Future Governance of Worcestershire Youth Music Service
- Supporting People System Work
- Private Children's Homes and Fostering Agencies

Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

- To consider how the County Council, with the help of other agencies, can provide help and assistance to the CAB in the County to ensure its future sustainability and survival
- Corporate Finance Issues and Processes

Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

- Highways Development Control Department – Section 278s
- Transport Planning
- Climate Change
- Abbey Bridge – Lessons Learned

Standard items

9. In addition, the Board and each Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Panel also has standard agenda items that it will need to include in its work planning. These are:

- Review of Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan (OSPB)
- Call-ins (OSPB)
- Panel/Committee Updates (OSPB)
- Leader of Council Q&A (OSPB)
- Crime and Disorder Annual meeting (OSPB)
- Performance Management (All Panels)
- Budget Scrutiny Process
- Substantial Variation considerations (HOSC)
- Quality Accounts (HOSC)
- Safeguarding (A&WB and C&F)
- Corporate Plan Refresh (All)

Next Steps

10. Now that a final set of topics/issues to be included in the Work Programme has been agreed by Council, the OSPB needs to consider how best to approach the topics agreed. The Chairman and Vice-chairman suggest that the Board considers the following suggestions for taking work forward:

Sexual Violence and Rape

11. This issue was added to the 2015/16 Work Programme and is one of the Key themes identified by Work Programme consultation exercise. It is therefore suggested that an initial discussion on this topic will be held as part of the OSPB's Annual Crime and Disorder meeting which will take place late summer with a view to further in-depth scrutiny being undertaken by a task group led by Councillor Bloore.

Can Worcestershire County Council do more around environmental mitigation?

12. A detailed scrutiny proposal will be developed and brought to a future meeting of OSPB. It is proposed that this Task Group is led by Councillor Tuthill.

Complaints Reporting

13. Scrutiny work on this topic will be led by Councillor Eyre (in the same way that work on quality assurance was undertaken) and the Board will be updated accordingly.

Commissioning

14. A detailed scrutiny proposal will be developed and brought to a future meeting of OSPB. It is proposed that this Task Group is led by Councillor Eyre.

Equalities and Disabilities

15. The Corporate Equality and Diversity Manager will be invited to a future meeting of OSPB, after which decisions will be made about the nature of any further in-depth scrutiny required.

Purpose of the Meeting

16. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to:

- note the 2016/17 final set of topics/issues to be included in the Work Programme as agreed by Council on 12 May;
- consider the issues not completed from the 2015/16 Work Programme and agree which issues should be carried forward to the 2016/17 programme; and
- consider and approve suggestions for taking the Work Programme forward.

17. Members of the Board should be mindful when deciding how to move the Work Programme forward that the Work Programme needs to remain flexible, so that it can adapt to changes throughout the year. A good Work Programme responds to issues that arise during the year and does not tie itself down to lengthy projects that may become less relevant because of an unexpected policy change or decision.

18. Finally in determining how to move the Work Programme forward it is important that members of the Board consider the following:

- Ensure that the Work Programme includes a balance of different types of work, including short-, medium- and long-term reviews. Issues could be considered at single meetings, or may need to be the subject of a longer term, more in-depth scrutiny review;
- Ensure that the OSPB and panels retain sufficient capacity to respond to issues that may crop up unexpectedly within the year, including call-ins;
- Take into account the resources available to support scrutiny.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1- 2016/17 topics/issues to be included in the Work Programme as agreed at full Council on 12 May

Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and minutes of the OSPB meetings on 21 April 2016
- Agenda and minutes of Council on 12 May 2016
- [All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board	
Task Group Reviews	<p>Sexual Violence and Rape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the responsibilities of the County Council and Partners? • Who provides support services and funding? • Could we provide a better service in Worcestershire? <p>Can Worcestershire County Council do more around environmental mitigation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buying future energy supply • Could we look to provide energy supply? • What is the culture of the organisation and how does WCC strategically mitigate environmental issues?
Priority Areas/Themes for the Work Programme:	
1.	<p>How effective are Worcestershire County Council communication mechanisms?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils use of social media • Highways • Communicating to Public, Officers and Councillors
2.	Equalities & Disability: How well do we meet our statutory duties?
3.	Complaints Reporting – is it fit for purpose?
4.	<p>Commissioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountability of commissioned services to the Council, Elected Members, service users and the Public • How is accountability address in the commissioning process? How is it covered in contracts and tendering? • Quality Assurance
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee:	
1.	<p>Is Mental Health provision in Worcestershire fit for purpose?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What treatments are provided? • Is local need identified and addressed? • What alternatives to medication are provided?
2.	<p>Health Accountability: CCGs, GPs and Health & Wellbeing Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is the CCGs held to account? • How are GPs in the County held to account? • How is the Health & Wellbeing Board held to account? • What is the role HOSC in holding these bodies to account?
3.	<p>Maternity, Neonatal and Gynaecology Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of 'temporary' change in service provision • Direction of travel • Is proposed service fit for purpose?
4.	<p>Public Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role can Public Health play in preventing and managing demand for social care and health services?

Adult Care and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	
1.	Care Provider Market – vital review continues
2.	Care Act Obligations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the Council meeting its obligations
3.	Technology in Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of successful IT across the health and care sector with a view to showing success against:- supporting people to stay at home, promoting independence, increasing quality of life, reducing the cost of care and protecting personal dignity. • The claim is always that IT increases the potential for loneliness, is this correct?
4.	Homecare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the current service provided by WCC and commissioned out services fit for purpose?
5.	Transition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of transition from Children Services to Adult Services

Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	
1.	Vulnerable Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child employment and labour • Education at home • CSE
2.	0-19 Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting well service • Children's centres • What will be future service provision?
3.	Pupil Referral Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of current provision of service and how it is delivered • Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties • Alternative provision
4.	Social Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues within current service provision • Performance of agency staff • Social Workers moral and support • Recruitment and retention • Caseloads
5.	How can Worcestershire County Council help improve the Educational Attainment of Children in Disadvantaged Areas
To note:	Home to school transport issue referred to the existing Bus Services Task Group Review

Corporate & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

1.	Worcestershire County Council Workforce <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What future skills/roles does the Council need?• What skills gap exists?• Does WCC pay and reward effectively?• Does WCC have a strong succession management system?• Does WCC recruit the required talent and behaviour?• Do WCC Managers support a performance driven culture based on achieving the best outcomes for the people of Worcestershire?• Are the corporate values embedded across the organisation?
2.	What can Worcestershire County Council do to maximise income generation?
3.	How can Worcestershire County Council support Local Business? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can Worcestershire County Council use Social Value Act to procure services locally?
4.	Worcestershire County Council use of Property <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accountability of the Place Partnership• How do we use our property?• Review of capital monies and property
5.	Culture: How can we utilise the Culture of Worcestershire to maximise the benefit to the County? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analysis of cultural offering and how it can be improved• Role of Council and partners• Funding opportunities – are they being utilised?

Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

1.	Annual review of the Worcestershire LEP's contribution to all sectors of Worcestershire's economy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accountability, remit, resources and performance• Relationship with partners• Agriculture and Tourism economies
2.	How to improve getting around the County <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Congestion• Roadwork's• Cycling, footways, footpaths and bridle paths• Public transport
3.	Flooding and External Partners <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Role of Severn Trent & Environment Agency