2016/17 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board		Progress to date
Task Group Reviews	**Bus Transport Review** • Socially Necessary Services Definition • £1.6 Million Bus Subsidy • Diamond Bus Service • Recent Bus Service Cut • Transport Strategy **Sexual Violence and Rape** • What are the responsibilities of the County Council and Partners? • Who provides support services and funding? • Could we provide a better service in Worcestershire? **Can Worcestershire County Council do more around environmental mitigation?** • 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?	The Economy and Environment O&S Panel received a presentation on bus services in May 2016. An in depth scrutiny wasn't carried out as there was some work being carried out by Wychavon DC which the Vice-Chairman planned to update the Board on prior to carrying out further scrutiny. This issue was the focus of the annual crime and disorder meeting in September 2016, the Chairman and Vice-chairman agreed to consider whether this was a priority for further in-depth scrutiny being undertaken at a future date. Not done
Standing items	• **Review of Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan** • **Call-ins** • **Panel/Committee Updates** • **Leader of Council Q&A** • **Crime and Disorder Annual meeting** • **Corporate Plan Refresh** • **Budget Scrutiny Process**	At each OSPB meeting. 1 July and 21 October 2016 At each OSPB meeting. 21 April 2016 13 September 2016 12 October 2016 Scrutiny task group report agreed on 26 January 2017

	Priority Areas/Themes for the Work Programme:	
1.	**How effective are Worcestershire County Council communication mechanisms?** • Councils use of social media • Highways • Communicating to Public, Officers and Councillors	Work undertaken by Vice Chairman of OSPB.
2.	**Equalities & Disability: How well do we meet our statutory duties?**	Discussed by OSPB on 23 June 2016 and 18 January 2017.
3.	**Complaints Reporting – is it fit for purpose?**	Not done
4.	**Commissioning** • 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	Work undertaken by Vice Chairman of OSPB

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee:		
Issues c/f from 2015/16	• Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire • Administration/Patient Records to be included as part of GP appointments • Training/Recruitment of Clinicians • Process in relation to the closure of St Johns Dental Practice	Updates at meetings in April, July and September 2016, and February 2017 Processes around GP appointments / Access to Primary Care (April 2017) Not done Dentistry Services in Worcestershire, including lessons learned from St John's dental practice (December 2016). Update suggested for future date.
1.	**Is Mental Health provision in Worcestershire fit for purpose?** • What treatments are provided? • Is local need identified and addressed? • What alternatives to medication are provided?	Some elements discussed as part of plans for adult mental health transformation (March and July 2016)
2.	**Health Accountability: CCGs, GPs and Health & Wellbeing Board** • 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?	Not done, however processes for appointments with GPs were discussed in April 2017
3.	**Maternity, Neonatal and Gynaecology Services** • Review of 'temporary' change in service provision • Direction of travel • Is proposed service fit for purpose?	Covered during updates on the Future of Acute Hospital Services in Worcestershire (see above), and also updates about the quality of acute hospital services and impact of the temporary changes in April, July, and November 2016, and February 2017.
4.	**Public Health** • What role can Public Health play in preventing and managing demand for social care and health services?	No specific scrutiny but partly covered during discussions on: Reductions to the Public Health Ring-fenced Grant (June 2016), e-cigarettes (July 2016), Sexual Health Services (July 2016) fast food outlets, Dentistry and Pharmacy (December 2016)
Standing items	• **Substantial Variation considerations**	Temporary Changes to Inpatient Paediatric Services (July 2016), Community Specialist Rehabilitation Stroke Services (December 2016) Wyre Forest Community Unit (September 2016), Sexual Health Services (July 2016), Changes to Commissioning Policies affecting Hip and Knee Replacement Surgery (April 2017)

	• **Quality Accounts**	Not considered due to the number of changes in HOSC membership
Additional items (not on original work programme)	• **E-cigarettes** • **Public Health Ring-fenced Grant** • **Radiology – following Care Quality Commission unannounced inspection** • **Sustainability and Transformation Plans** • **Pharmacy Services in Worcestershire** • **Fast Food Outlets and Health** • **West Midlands Ambulance Service Update**	July 2016 June 2016 September 2016 November 2016 December 2016 December 2016 January 2017

Adult Care and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel:		
1.	**Care Provider Market** – vital review continues	Findings discussed in March 2016, with the Directorate and care providers
2.	**Care Act Obligations** • Is the Council meeting its obligations	Update provided in October 2016
3.	**Technology in Care** • 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?	No specific work, but an update on the Council's 'Your life your choice' website for Adult Services and Health was given in May 2016 and a further update suggested for 12 months' time.
4.	**Homecare** • Is the current service provided by WCC and commissioned out services fit for purpose?	No specific session, but some areas raised as part of discussions about Futurefit proposals and the review of the care market
5.	**Transition** • Review of transition from Children Services to Adult Services	Looked at on 21 June, jointly with the Children and Families OSP
Standing item	• **Performance Management** • **Corporate Plan Refresh** • **Safeguarding** • **Budget Scrutiny Process**	Specific session on performance relating to successful completion of treatment for opiate users in March 2016 Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board annual report in March FutureFit and Medium Term Financial Plan discussed in November
Additional items (not on original work programme)	• **Learning Disability Day Services** • **Social Impact Bonds** • **Employment opportunities for adults with learning disabilities** • **Social work with adults – strength-based approach**	May 2016 July 2016 – further update suggested for 12 months' time March 2017 March 2017

Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel:		
Issues c/f from 2015/16	• Child Poverty and Health Inequalities • Private Children's Homes and Fostering Agencies	Not done Not done
1.	**Vulnerable Children** • Child employment and labour • Education at home • CSE	Not done CSE discussed as part of WSCB Annual Report August 2016.
2.	**0-19 Agenda** • Starting well service • Children's centres • What will be future service provision?	Discussed on 15 July and 31 August 2016 and 13 March 2017.
3.	**Pupil Referral Units** • Review of current provision of service and how it is delivered • Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties • Alternative provision	Not done
4.	**Social Work** • Issues within current service provision • Performance of agency staff • Social Workers moral and support • Recruitment and retention • Caseloads	No specific scrutiny undertaken but issues discussed on 11 May (Update on Back to Basics Improvement Plan), 31 August (WSCB Annual Report) and 22 November (Children's Social Care Safeguarding Assurance Update).
5.	**How can Worcestershire County Council help improve the Educational Attainment of Children in Disadvantaged Areas**	Not done
Standing item	• **Performance Management** • **Corporate Plan Refresh** • **Safeguarding** • **Budget Scrutiny Process**	Discussed at OSPB on 12 October 2016 WSCB Annual Report considered 31 August 2016 FutureFit and MTFP discussed 22 November 2016
To note:	Home to school transport issue referred to the existing Bus Services Task Group Review	

Corporate & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel:		
Issues c/f from 2015/16	• 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	Not done Not done
1.	**Worcestershire County Council Workforce** • 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?	Not done
2.	**What can Worcestershire County Council do to maximise income generation?**	Not done
3.	**How can Worcestershire County Council support Local Business?** • Can Worcestershire County Council use Social Value Act to procure services locally?	Discussed on 24 January 2017. It was agreed that this was an area requiring more in-depth scrutiny and should be added to the post-election work programme.
4.	**Worcestershire County Council use of Property** • Accountability of the Place Partnership • How do we use our property? • Review of capital monies and property	28 September and 15 November 2016. It was agreed that a Scrutiny of Smallholdings, revisiting the purpose of smallholdings should be added to the Scrutiny Work Programme.
5.	**Culture: How can we utilise the Culture of Worcestershire to maximise the benefit to the County?** • Analysis of cultural offering and how it can be improved • Role of Council and partners • Funding opportunities – are they being utilised?	Not done.

Standing item	• **Performance Management** • **Corporate Plan Refresh** • **Budget Scrutiny Process**	Discussed at OSPB on 12 October. Discussed on 15 November 2016.
Additional items (not on original work programme)	• **Future Proposed Changes to Library Opening Hours** • **Information Technology – HP contract**	25 May and 13 July 2016 Suggested as an additional item on 25 May 2016 but not yet considered.

Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel:		
Issues c/f from 2015/16	• Highways Development Control Department – Section 278s/106's • Transport Planning • Abbey Bridge – Lessons Learned	Discussion in July 2016 and informal update in March 2017 Some elements discussed through January 2017 session on the draft Local Transport Plan 4 Not done
1.	**Annual review of the Worcestershire LEP's contribution to all sectors of Worcestershire's economy** • Accountability, remit, resources and performance • Relationship with partners • Agriculture and Tourism economies	To be arranged after elections
2.	**How to improve getting around the County** • Congestion • Roadwork's • Cycling, footways, footpaths and bridle paths • Public transport	Some elements covered as part of the update on major infrastructure schemes (May 2016) and the draft Local Transport Plan 4, in January 2017
3.	**Flooding and External Partners** • Role of Severn Trent & Environment Agency	November 2016
Standing item	• **Performance Management** • **Corporate Plan Refresh** • **Budget Scrutiny Process** • **Flood Risk Management Annual Report** • **Broadband Update**	FutureFit and Medium Term Financial Plan discussed in November 2016 November 2016 October 2016, and informal update in March 2017
Additional items (not on original work programme)	• **Transport and access to hospital – referred by the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee**	May 2016