



COUNCIL 14 SEPTEMBER 2017

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2017/2018

Recommendation

- 1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board recommends that the 2017/18 Scrutiny Work Programme be endorsed.**

Summary

2. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board has agreed a suggested 2017/18 Work Programme to be considered by Full Council. The work programme was developed following consultation with all scrutiny Members and is attached as an appendix.

Background

3. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for its Overview and Scrutiny function. The 2017/18 Work Programme has been developed by taking into account issues still to be completed from 2016/17, the views of Overview and Scrutiny Panel Members and the findings of the budget scrutiny process.
4. The 2016/17 Scrutiny Work Programme was used as a starting point for the development of this year's Work Programme. Members will recall that this was developed following an extensive public consultation exercise. However, Members were also free to suggest other priorities. The Work Programme was considered by Overview and Scrutiny Panel Members in June and agreed by the OSPB in July 2017.
5. Suggested issues have been prioritised using scrutiny feasibility criteria in order to ensure that Work Programme topics are selected objectively and the 'added value' of a review is considered right from the beginning.

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

County Council: 01905 763763

Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765

Specific Contact Points for this report

Chris Bloore and Liz Eyre, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

Sheena Jones, Democratic Governance and Scrutiny Manager, 01905 846011

Sjones19@worcestershire.gov.uk

Supporting Information

- Appendix - 2017/18 Scrutiny Work Programme

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 for the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board held on 23 March 2017 and 18 July 2017.

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

2017/18 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME - APPENDIX

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board	
Standing items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan • Call-ins • Panel/Committee Updates • Leader of Council Q&A • Crime and Disorder Annual meeting • Budget Scrutiny Process
Transitions	<p>On 21 June a joint meeting of the Adult Care and Well-being O&S Panel and the Children and Families O&S Panel was held to discuss issues relating to the transition between Children's and Adult Services. Following the meeting, Members expressed an interest in setting up a scrutiny task group to investigate further. The Chairmen of both Panels have met with Officers to start the scoping process.</p>

Adult Care and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	
1.	Three Conversation model (new model for social work)
2.	Outcome-based Commissioning – homecare and care providers
3.	Staffing – sickness, recruitment, retention and agency spend
4.	Isolation (including social isolation)
5.	Prevention work and its success in keeping people independent – possible task group
6.	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?
7.	Better Care Plans
Standing item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Management • Quality Assurance • Safeguarding • Budget Scrutiny Process

Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	
	<p>The main focus of the Panel's work is to follow up to the Ofsted report and the implementation of the Service Improvement Plan, and this will be a standing item on all agendas. In this context, Panel Members have highlighted the following particular concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The workload of social workers (including travel time and key workers); and • The need to consider comparative figures in relation to performance of agency staff, recruitment and retention, and caseloads.
1.	Vulnerable Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child employment and labour • Education at home
2.	0-19 Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's centres
3.	Alternative Provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil Referral Units • Review of current provision of service and how it is delivered • Babcock Prime • Migrant Children
4.	The performance of Babcock Prime (with a particular focus on performance at KS2)
5.	Assistive Technology
Standing item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Management • Quality Assurance • Safeguarding • Budget Scrutiny Process

Corporate & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	
1.	Worcestershire County Council - Property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountability of the Place Partnership • How do we use our property? • Review of capital monies and property
2.	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?
3.	What can Worcestershire County Council do to maximise income generation?
4.	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?
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?
6.	Councillor IT
7.	Information sharing with District Councils
8.	Road safety (particularly around schools)
9.	Commissioning – How do we manage and ensure value for money and quality service?
10.	Communications – How do we ensure residents have easy access and we communicate service levels? WCC brand and the postal service
11.	The Council's role in post-Brexit subsidy mechanisms for rural activities.
Standing item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Management • Quality Assurance • Budget Scrutiny Process

Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	
1.	Highways development control – improving joined-up working and include Highway's Engineers capacity (task group?)
2.	Footways – update on implementation of recommendations agreed from the interim scrutiny report (mini review)
3.	Cycle paths – how to improve getting around the county
4.	Local Transport Plan 4 – how plans are implemented
5.	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
6.	How to improve getting around the County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congestion • Roadwork's • Cycle Paths, footways, footpaths and bridle paths • Public transport • Transport and access to hospitals • Buses (task group?)
7.	Cleaning programme for gulleys and drains (mini review)
8.	Asset management – incorporating lessons learned from Evesham's Abbey Bridge
9.	Budget scrutiny (mini task group of panel members)
10.	Flood risk management
11.	Broadband update
12.	Transport and Access to hospitals
13.	Relationship with Highways England
14.	Residents zonal parking schemes and additional car parks
Standing item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Management • Quality Assurance • Budget Scrutiny Process

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee:	
1.	Implementation of the clinical model for the future of acute hospital services in Worcestershire – checking implementation and impacts
2.	Sustainability Transformation Plan (Partnership) – overview and continue to receive updates and check proposals arising from this
3.	Community hospitals and minor injuries units – roles of these and plans for the future
4.	Quality of acute hospital services – continue to be updated and check the implementation and impact of action being taken
4.	Mental Health: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older Adults – review following implementation of new ways of working as outlined in the briefing to HOSC members in August 2017 • Children including child and adolescent services - update
5.	Ambulance Services update
6.	Cancer Services – update since last discussion in 2015
Standing items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial Variation considerations • Quality Accounts