

Agenda

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

Wednesday, 22 July 2020, 10.00 am

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, Worcestershire County Council will be holding this meeting in accordance with the relevant legislative arrangements for remote meetings of a local authority. For more information please refer to: Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Please note that this is a public meeting, conducted remotely by video conferencing between invited participants and live streamed for general access via a link on the Council's website to the Council's You Tube [Channel](#)

The Agenda papers and background papers can be accessed electronically on the Council's website. Members of the public and press are permitted to report on the proceedings.

This document can be provided in alternative formats such as Large Print, an audio recording or Braille; it can also be emailed as a Microsoft Word attachment. Please contact Democratic Services on telephone number 01905 844963 or by emailing democraticservices@worcestershire.gov.uk

DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:
'Disclosable pecuniary interests' and **'other disclosable interests'**

WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3rd party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
 - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI

WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests OR** relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
 - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board Wednesday, 22 July 2020, 10.00 am, Online only

Membership

Councillors:

Mr R M Udall (Chairman), Mrs E A Eyre (Vice Chairman), Mr A A J Adams, Mrs J A Brunner, Mr A D Kent, Mrs F M Oborski, Mr P A Tuthill and Mrs R Vale

Co-opted Church Representatives (for education matters)

Mr B Allbut (Church of England)

Parent Governor Representatives (for education matters)

Vacancy (Secondary)

Agenda

Item No	Subject	Page No
1	Apologies and Welcome	
2	Declaration of Interest and of any Party Whip	
3	Public Participation Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance in writing or by e-mail indicating the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case 21 July 2020). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/e-mail address below.	
4	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting	To follow
5	Interim COVID-19 Worcestershire County Council Community Safety Update Report	1 - 6
6	Scrutiny Proposal: The County Council's Energy Purchasing Arrangements	7 - 12
7	Refresh of the Scrutiny Work Programme	13 - 14

Agenda produced and published by the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda, please contact Alyson Grice (01905 844962)/Samantha Morris 01905 844963 email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website [here](#)

Item No	Subject	Page No
8	Performance and 2019/20 Year-End Budget Monitoring	15 - 16
9	Member Update and Cabinet Forward Plan	17 - 20

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 22 JULY 2020

INTERIM COVID-19 WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE REPORT

Summary

1. This Report sets out some of the ways in which the COVID-19 pandemic has been impacting upon the community safety work supported by Worcestershire County Council (the Council) and its key partners and to update the Board on how this has been managed to date.
2. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility (CMR) for Health and Wellbeing, the Director of Public Health and the Senior Public Health Practitioner have been invited to the Meeting.

Background

3. The Board has been designated by the Council as its statutory Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee and is responsible for the consideration of Crime and Disorder matters. As part of this responsibility, the Board usually meets on an annual basis with Crime and Disorder partners, to discuss issues of mutual interest.
4. Due to COVID-19, this has been deferred until later in the year and the Board is being provided with interim report, briefly setting out some of the current issues and summarising how key areas of work are being managed across the partnerships and how some activities have been adapting to help keep people safe.

Issues for the Panel to Consider

5. All parts of the Council have been adapting to manage the consequences of COVID-19 and this has significantly impacted on Public Health, where staff have been redeployed to lead and manage the emergency response. Staff who ordinarily work on community safety have and still are required to support the emergency planning response, managing advice and support, including to care homes and schools and providing daily data and analysis on COVID-19 to a range of leadership groups. Whilst some work is returning to “business as usual”, there is still a requirement to support the wider COVID-19 work and some areas of community work have been delayed or are in abeyance, although as set out below, the system supporting community safety has adapted well to these very challenging circumstances.
6. During the early response and at the height of the pandemic, usual working arrangements were impacted, with the instant move to remote working by the majority of staff and the suspension of much of the partnership governance arrangements, although front line operational services such as the Worcestershire Children’s First (WCF) Family Front Door and adult social care remained active.

7. More recently, there has been a move back to running shorter virtual partnership meetings, primarily focusing on the impact and response to COVID-19 across the partnership. This has included two meetings of both the Domestic Abuse Forum (14 May and 1 July 2020), the Prevent Strategy Group (5 June and 9 July 2020) and the Safer Communities Board (SCB) (28 May and 7 July 2020), with single meetings to date of the Serious Organised Crime Joint Action Group (4 July 2020), the West Mercia Crime Reduction Board (24 June 2020) and the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel (15 June 2020). The two Community Safety Partnerships have also been very active in their District areas.

8. Strategic Action Plans for the SCB and its key subgroups have been streamlined and made more accessible taking a “plan on a page” approach.

9. Although the annual community safety report will provide more detail to the Board later in the year, there are some areas that warrant further information to be provided now. Domestic Abuse is one of those issues that has received much publicity and comment in terms of the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on victims and their families and this is the topic which is primarily highlighted here.

Domestic Abuse

10. The Domestic Abuse Forum, which is chaired by Public Health, was prioritised and has met twice and will do so again during the summer before resuming its normal meetings cycle. It has received briefings from all key agencies on their recent experiences. The broad trend highlighted has been that reported incidents of domestic abuse and collated crime data was lower than usual in March and April, but the Police, Women’s Aid, WCF and the DAWN project all report that this has begun to change recently, and cases and referrals to services have begun to rise. This reduction was anticipated and coincided with the closure of schools and the full lockdown requirements being imposed in March. This appears slightly different to some of the national reporting on the increased numbers of domestic abuse cases, but the local position is being monitored closely by all agencies as suppression of reporting was likely.

11. In the South Worcestershire area, police records indicate in the year to date (as at 22 July 2020), there have been 1516 recorded domestic incidents which is a 12.5% increase on the same period last year, where 1347 incidents were recorded. In the same period in North Worcestershire there have been 1547 recorded domestic incidents which is a 6.6% increase from the same period last year where 1451 incidents were recorded.

12. The Police report good capacity to respond quickly to cases and Women’s Aid have been able to manage to support victims through remote services and have seen improved approaches through the use of technology and social media, which they will blend with face to face services when they finally resume.

13. There has been the sharing and publicising on social media and webpages in Worcestershire throughout lockdown, messaging that domestic abuse can and should be reported and was one of the few exemptions allowing people to leave their accommodation with children if affected, by domestic abuse. Also new tools and techniques have been provided and highlighted to allow victims to hide their

calls or web searches to domestic abuse support sites from perpetrators, to increase their safety and confidence in reporting. The use of IT has proved successful in continuing to provide services and link to victims and survivors and group sessions and the Freedom programme for domestic abuse survivors are now being run remotely. This approach is a great advantage for people with childcare responsibilities or who live in more remote areas.

14. The Refuges and safe accommodation having at one point not been full are now back at full capacity but are managing and Women's Aid are currently exploring how to expand their access to additional emergency accommodation with local Housing Associations in particular. District Councils currently report that there is no significant increase in reporting of homelessness due to domestic abuse, but again will be closely monitoring post lockdown and as economic challenges are faced in local communities.

15. The Domestic Abuse Bill that is currently going through the House of Commons will place new duties on the Council to assess the need for emergency and safe accommodation for victims of domestic abuse and for the Authority to commission such arrangements. It will also require a local Partnership Board to formulate strategic plans and report back to the Home Office on this work. It is expected that the Bill will be enacted this year.

16. Probation services have maintained distanced contact with offenders through the use of IT and have gained some useful insights through the use of video conferencing.

17. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is about to publish a comprehensive Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment and new Strategy which, will focus on how services can best be jointly commissioned and to focus in on extending the work with perpetrators that has been operating through the DRIVE Programme, which is jointly commissioned with Public Health. This will assist to underpin the well-established partnership work on domestic abuse in Worcestershire.

18. There has also been recent additional grant funding of £75,000 secured by Public Health via the Home Office, to assist victims and their families manage better in temporary accommodation. The PCC has received £434,000 funding through the Ministry of Justice to support domestic abuse and sexual violence services to manage additional pressures arising from COVID-19, with a significant proportion of the funding being utilised in Worcestershire.

19. Agencies have evolved and adapted domestic abuse services, particularly using IT to improve access and information and it is likely that many of these changes will be evaluated and adopted on a more permanent basis.

20. Sadly, there is a new Domestic Homicide Review case, which will consider the death of a female in Bromsgrove. Two other Domestic Homicide Reviews that had begun have by agreement been in abeyance during the height of the pandemic but are now being recommenced.

21. Other areas of work have continued across the Council, WCF and the wider partnership and set out below are other examples of the issues highlighted during

the COVID-19 period. The Safer Communities Board, which oversees the Domestic Abuse Forum and the Prevent Strategy Group has also met and received brief agency updates. A similar pattern emerges of agencies managing effectively and using new IT methods under very difficult circumstances, with most crime levels dipping during lockdown but now starting to increase again. Anti-social behaviour being one area that has been challenging in some places, but with a local response through the police local neighbourhood teams and Community Safety Partnerships.

Prevent

22. The Prevent Partnership group has received the Annual Counter Terrorism Local profile for Worcestershire. From this, a new annual action plan has been developed with the main focus this year being to ensure there is a good understanding at District level of community cohesion and where there are issues that require intervention or support, with some concerns about a growing threat from the far right. Also, to review awareness raising and the new prevent training modules that are being developed by the Home Office. There have been no referrals to the Channel Panel recently, which in part will be explained by schools and colleges not being fully operational to make referrals.

Serious Organised Crime

23. A virtual meeting of the Serious Organised Crime Joint Action Group took place on 4 July 2020. The broad consensus was that criminal activity at that time had reduced and the opportunity had been taken to proactively deal with areas of concern. For instance, West Mercia Police had visited farms and agricultural sector businesses to ascertain the effects of COVID. Farm labour is seeing a shortage of available workers and there were concerns over an influx of migrant workers from Eastern Europe to fill these vacancies. However, this appears not to have been the case. Concerns were raised that those workers who had decided not to return home and remain in the UK could potentially be at risk of exploitation through being displaced into other areas of low-skilled high demand work, unfamiliar to them. There is no evidence to suggest that this is the case either locally, regionally or nationally.

Child Exploitation

24. Get Safe Strategic and Operational meetings have been taking place and work against the action plan has progressed. An updated Get Safe Strategy was agreed at the last board meeting in June. The CLIMB, Diversionary Project (led by The Children's Society), commissioned by the PCC, was delayed in launching, but they have been receiving (phone) referrals since June. Over 20 briefings, across West Mercia, to front line practitioners have now been delivered to raise awareness of the Service. Early indications are positive that front line staff across the multi-agency sector are understanding the concept of the Project. This is evidenced through the submission of over 40 referral forms that have been accepted onto the cohort and case workers are now engaging those vulnerable to exploitation. The new Get Safe exploitation tool was launched on schedule in June and the "one Year on" launch took place. Children missing officers were initially dealing with cases remotely but have been back into face-to-face contact from the beginning of June, on a prioritised basis.

Trading Standards

25. Worcestershire Regulatory Services have been focusing on alerting the public to scams via social media and the Council's Communications Team are supporting Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) manufacturers and importers with advice in terms of meeting relevant standards. Also working with the Police to offer advice to licenced premises post lockdown to reduce the risks of possible infection spread and anti-social behaviour. The Police report little incidence of problems within public houses on the first weekend of reopening.

Conclusion

26. The Council continues to meet its own duties relating to community safety as far as it reasonably can during the COVID-19 pandemic. Notwithstanding interim changes in some staffing responsibilities and the move to home and distanced working, officers across the Authority and in commissioned services, have endeavoured to maintain front line, strategic and support services to assist and support those who are most at risk and vulnerable.

27. There will be considerable adaption still ahead, including to working practises and it is unclear what the full direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 will be in the longer term. Some early understanding and learning is being applied and this may result in different ways of service delivery going forward.

Purpose of the Meeting

28. The Board is asked to:

- consider and comment on the interim report and consider any specific aspects it may wish to focus upon for the full annual community safety report and
- determine whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Contact Point

Tim Rice. Senior Public Health Practitioner (Public Health Directorate) (01905) 843107
Email: TRice@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Public Health) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

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

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 22 JULY 2020

SCRUTINY PROPOSAL: THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S ENERGY PURCHASING ARRANGEMENTS

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to consider the scrutiny proposal: The County Council's Energy Purchasing Arrangements.

Background

2. On 21 November 2019, the Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel was advised of a cost pressure relating to street lighting and it was agreed that the Corporate & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel would look into the Council's energy purchasing arrangements.
3. Accordingly, at its meeting on 10 December 2019 the Corporate & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel received a report from the Director of Commercial and Commissioning about the Council's current purchasing arrangements from West Mercia Energy (WME). At that time, the County Council was purchasing c.£6m of electricity and gas from West Mercia Energy (WME) each year split as follows:
 - c £2.7m un-metered electricity supply (UMS) for street lighting
 - c £800k gas
 - c £2.5m metered electricity for the Council's estate and managed schools.
4. A small group of Panel Members were asked to gather some further detailed information and report back to the Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel.
5. The proposed Terms of Reference are: To review the Council's energy purchasing arrangements from West Mercia Energy to ensure best value for Worcestershire County Council.
6. It is proposed that Councillor Adam Kent, Chairman of the Corporate & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel be asked to lead this Task Group.
7. A Scrutiny Proposal is attached at Appendix 1.

Issues Suitable for Scrutiny

8. The OSPB agreed to use a set of criteria (listed below) to help determine its scrutiny programme. A topic does not need to meet all of these criteria to be scrutinised, but they are intended as a guide for prioritisation.
 - Is the issue a priority area for the Council?
 - Is it a key issue for local people?

- Will it be practicable to implement the outcomes of the scrutiny?
- Are improvements for local people likely?
- Does it examine a poor performing service?
- Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?
- Is it related to new Government guidance or legislation?

Next Steps

9. Other points which need to be considered when considering whether to review a particular issue are:

- is the subject specific? – to ensure that task groups understand exactly what they are scrutinising; and
- is it achievable within a realistic timescale?

10. Members are asked to consider issues raised above and:

- (a) determine whether they wish to set up a scrutiny task group to look at the County Council's energy purchasing arrangements and, if so,
- (b) consider, comment on and agree the terms of reference and scrutiny proposal and the timing of the Task Group.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Proposal: The County Council's Energy Purchasing Arrangements

Specific Contact Points for this Report

Alyson Grice and Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, 01905 844962/844963, scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director of Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and minutes of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on [21 November 2019](#)
- Agenda and minutes of the Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on [10 December 2019](#)

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

Scrutiny Proposal

Topic: The County Council's Energy Purchasing Arrangements			
Background to the issue (what is it and why is it being considered for scrutiny)	<p>The Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 21 November 2019 were advised of a cost pressure relating to street lighting and it was agreed that the Corporate & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel would look into the Council's energy purchasing arrangements.</p> <p>Accordingly, at its meeting on 10 December 2019 the Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel received a report from the Director of Commercial and Commissioning about the Council's current purchasing arrangements from West Mercia Energy (WME). At that time, the County Council was purchasing c.£6m of electricity and gas from West Mercia Energy (WME) each year split as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • c £2.7m un-metered electricity supply (UMS) for street lighting • c £800k gas • c £2.5m metered electricity for the Council's estate and managed schools. <p>A small group of Panel Members were asked to gather some further detailed information and report back to the Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel.</p>		
Terms of reference	To review the Council's energy purchasing arrangements from West Mercia Energy to ensure best value for Worcestershire County Council.		
Suitability for scrutiny. Which of the following criteria does it meet?			
<i>Is the issue a priority area for the Council?</i>	Yes	<i>Does it examine a poorly performing service?</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
<i>Is it a key issue for local people?</i>	Yes	<i>Has it been prompted by new Government guidance or legislation?</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Will the scrutiny have a clear impact on services?</i>	Yes	<i>Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?</i>	<i>Potentially</i>
<i>Are improvements for local people likely as a result?</i>	<i>Potentially</i>		

<p>Scope of scrutiny (what issues will it cover and what won't it cover)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing and understanding the terms and conditions of the West Mercia Joint Agreement between Shropshire Council, Herefordshire Council, Telford and Wrekin Council and Worcestershire County Council • Reviewing and understanding the West Mercia Business Plan • Reviewing the comparative prices paid for energy as part of the agreement v the market price • Understanding the customer base of West Mercia Energy • Looking at the best practice of other County Councils including the alternative purchasing models and their respective merits <p><i>N.B. O&S has committed to ensure that the following are considered in all scrutiny reviews as appropriate</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equality and diversity issues • commissioning • localism
<p>Advantages to conducting scrutiny & Indicators of success (ie how will you know a good scrutiny has been done?)</p>	<p>Understanding the West Mercia Energy agreement and ensuring that the Council is receiving the best value for money.</p>
<p>Has anyone else examined the issue?</p>	<p>Unsure</p>
<p>Any disadvantages or pitfalls to conducting this scrutiny?</p>	<p>Carrying out Scrutiny in this area will potentially create sensitivity for all parties involved.</p>
<p>INFORMATION NEEDS</p>	
<p>Key Documents, Reports & Data required</p>	<p>Cabinet Report and minutes - 27 September 2012 Joint Agreement Business Plan Analysis of turnover and surplus/deficit since 2012 Details of the customer base Amount of surplus paid to each owning authority since 2012</p>
<p>Is an expert adviser needed?</p>	<p>Unsure</p>
<p>Possible interviewees</p>	<p>Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Adult Services (the Councils Representative on West Mercia Energy Joint Committee) Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Public Health (the Councils Representative on West Mercia Energy Joint Committee) Strategic Director for Commercial and Change Assistant Director for Legal and Governance Chief Accountant, Worcestershire County Council Director of West Mercia Energy</p>

Is this an issue that young people would be interested in? If so, ask Youth Cabinet for evidence.	No
Site Visits	Unlikely
Types of meeting/ consultation needed? (eg workshops/ focus groups/ public meetings/ questionnaires etc)	Meetings online
Any meetings to be held outside of County Hall?	No
Media & publicity needs?	No
OUTLINE TIMETABLE	
Proposal to OSPB	22 July 2020
Evidence Gathering	July-November 2020
Scrutiny Report to OSPB	January 2021
Scrutiny Report to Cabinet	February 2021

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 22 JULY 2020

REFRESH OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to consider the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2020/21.

Developing a Scrutiny Work Programme

2. The current 2019/20 Scrutiny Work Programme was agreed at Council in September 2019. It would now seem timely for the work programme to be refreshed for the coming year. The refreshed work programme, including any necessary revisions in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, will be considered by full Council on 10 September 2020.
3. In preparation for this meeting, Panel Chairmen have consulted with their Panels on any amendments they would like to make to their work programme. Draft Work Programmes for the Panels and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) are attached at Appendix 1. (To follow)
4. Members are reminded that the Council's Constitution includes a requirement for the OSPB (using the Panels where appropriate) to receive, comment and advise on the Council's policy framework.
5. The Board is also asked to consider whether, in addition to the Policy Framework and standing items it considers, there are any other issues that should be added to its Work Programme.
6. In determining its Scrutiny Work Programme, the Board needs to consider a number of points.

Issues suitable for scrutiny

7. On 19 June 2017, the OSPB agreed to continue using the set of criteria listed below to help determine its scrutiny programme. A topic does not need to meet all of these criteria in order to be scrutinised, but they are intended as a guide for prioritisation.

- Is the issue a priority area for the Council?
- Is it a key issue for local people?
- Will it be practicable to implement the outcomes of the scrutiny?
- Are improvements for local people likely?
- Does it examine a poor performing service?
- Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?
- Is it related to new Government guidance or legislation?

8. In considering the proposed work programme Members should also aim for it to be:

- balanced, in terms of some topics being of longer duration and some being suitable for shorter study
- Mixed in terms of covering different topics/directorates
- Not so onerous that there is no flexibility and room left for smaller, additional items such as Call-ins, to be added in at a later time if the OSPB regards it as a priority, and
- Taking account of the resources available to support scrutiny.

Directorate Specific Information

9. Cabinet Member and Director Briefings attended by scrutiny lead members will also help identify suitable items for Scrutiny Panels to follow up, for example, forthcoming important public consultations.

Purpose of the Meeting

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

- consider the reports from Panel Chairmen on potential work programme topics;
- consider whether there are any issues which should be added to the OSPB's Work Programme;
- determine the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2020/21 to be considered by full Council.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1: Draft 2020/21 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme (To follow)

Specific Contact Point for the Report

Alyson Grice/Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Officers

Tel: 01905 844962/844963

Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board, 10 September 2009, 19 June 2017, 28 June 2018 and 24 July 2019.
- The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

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

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 22 JULY 2020

PERFORMANCE AND 2019/20 YEAR-END BUDGET MONITORING

Summary

1. The Board is asked to consider the feedback provided by Scrutiny Panel Chairmen following the discussion of Quarter 4 (January – March 2020) performance monitoring and financial information for 2019/20 financial outturn.

Background

2. Performance and financial monitoring are part of the Scrutiny Panels' role in maintaining oversight of service provision and a key role for Scrutiny.
3. As previously agreed by the Board, Scrutiny Panels will carry out quarterly performance and financial monitoring, and then report to the Board by exception any areas of concern or suggestions for further scrutiny.

Performance Information

4. At the July Scrutiny Panel meetings, Members were provided with performance information reports. The Panels welcomed the information and gave both general and panel specific feedback which is being considered (and incorporated where possible) for future reports.

Financial Information

5. The Panels considered 2019/20 year-end financial information. The Cabinet report relating to the 2019/20 year-end budget information is available [on the Council's website](#) and each Scrutiny Panel was provided with information relevant to its remit in the form of presentation slides.

Purpose of the Meeting

6. The Board is asked to:
 - consider and comment on the feedback from Scrutiny Panel Chairmen following the discussion of Quarter 4 (January – March 2020) performance monitoring and 2019/20 year-end budget monitoring information; and
 - determine whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Contact Point for this Report

Samantha Morris/Alyson Grice, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844963/
844962

Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director of Legal and Governance) the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and minutes of:

- Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 17 July 2020
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 20 July 2020
- Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 21 July 2020
- Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 21 July 2020
- Adult Care and Well-Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 27 July 2020

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

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 22 JULY 2020

MEMBER UPDATE AND CABINET FORWARD PLAN

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to:
 - (a) Receive an update on emerging issues and developments within the remit of each Member of the OSPB, including an update on each Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Task Group;
 - (b) Consider the Council's latest Forward Plan to identify:
 - any items it would wish to consider further at a future meeting; and
 - any items it would wish to refer to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel for further consideration.

Member Updates

2. In order to ensure that Members of the OSPB are fully informed about issues relating to scrutiny in Worcestershire, communication between Members is essential. To assist in this, it has been agreed that an item will be placed periodically on the OSPB agenda to enable each member to feed back on emerging issues and developments within their remit. This will also provide an opportunity to highlight possible future agenda items. Regard for the Council's statutory requirements in relation to access to information will be critical.

3. Board Members' areas of responsibility are as follows:

- Adult Care and Well-Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Juliet Brunner
- Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Fran Oborski
- Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Alistair Adams
- Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Adam Kent
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – Paul Tuthill
- Crime and Disorder – Rebecca Vale
- Quality Assurance – Liz Eyre

4. As part of their role, it was agreed by the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) that scrutiny lead members should receive regular briefings from the Directorates they are shadowing. These briefings, alongside the Forward Plan (see below), can be used to help identify any emerging issues that may be appropriate for future scrutiny. Recognising that work across the County Council is of interest and value to all OSPB members, the notes from these briefings (where produced) are available to all members electronically.

5. Members may also be leading scrutiny task groups. It will be important for Members of OSPB to be aware of how each scrutiny is developing so that they can fully consider the final report.

6. Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairmen are asked to feedback on:

- **progress on the work of their Panels and any scrutiny task groups they are leading;**
- **key issues from the Directorate that may be appropriate for future scrutiny;**
- **performance information they have queries or concerns about;**
- **items in the Forward Plan which they consider may be possible issues to scrutinise; and**
- **any other issue which they feel is relevant/of interest to the OSPB.**

Cabinet Forward Plan

12. The Board will wish to consider any issues arising from the Council's Forward Plan which is attached at Appendix 1.

13. The latest version of the Plan available at the time of Agenda despatch is routinely considered at each meeting of OSPB.

14. The Board is asked to consider the Council's latest Forward Plan in order to identify:

- **Any items that it would wish to consider further at a future meeting;**
- **Any items that it would wish to refer to the relevant overview and scrutiny panel for further consideration.**

Supporting Information

Appendix 1: Forward Plan (as at 14 July 2020)

Contact Point for the Report

Alyson Grice/Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Officers
Tel: 01905 844962/844963
Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director of Legal and Governance) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

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

FORWARD PLAN

**FORMAL NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN BY, AND PRIVATE MEETINGS
OF, CABINET (OR OTHER EXECUTIVE DECISION-MAKING BODY OR PERSON)**

Forward Plan	Expected Date of Decision	Page No.
Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme (2020) Key Decision	24 September 2020	4
'Called In' Decisions or Scrutiny Reports Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	5
Notices of Motion Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	6

All entries will be for decision by Cabinet unless otherwise indicated

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