

Agenda

Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

Wednesday, 26 January 2022, 10.00 am
County Hall, Worcester

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

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 Scrutiny on telephone number 01905 844963 or by emailing scrutiny@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, 26 January 2022, 10.00 am, County Hall, Worcester

Membership

Councillors:

Cllr Tom Wells (Chairman), Cllr Richard Morris (Vice Chairman), Cllr Alastair Adams, Cllr Brandon Clayton, Cllr Kyle Daisley, Cllr Mike Rouse, Cllr Shirley Webb and Cllr Richard Udall

Co-opted Church Representatives (for education matters)

Mr T Reid (Church of England)

Parent Governor Representatives (for education matters)

Mr M Hughes

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 both the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case 25 January 2022). Further details are available on the Council's website. Enquiries can also be made through the telephone number/e-mail address listed in this agenda and on the website.	
4	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (previously circulated)	
5	Budget Scrutiny 2022-23	
6	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan	

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 [Council's Website](#)

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 26 JANUARY 2022

BUDGET SCRUTINY 2022/23

Summary

1. The Leader, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer have been invited to attend the meeting to update Members on the budget proposals and hear the feedback from Panel Chairmen following the Overview and Scrutiny Panels' discussions on the 2022/23 draft budget during the January Scrutiny meetings.
2. Following the discussion, the Board will agree comments to be considered by Cabinet on 3 February 2022.

Background

3. On 6 January 2022, the Council's draft Budget for 2022/23 was approved by Cabinet for consultation and is attached at Appendix 1.
4. As part of the Council's development of the 2022/23 Budget, the Overview and Scrutiny Panels have considered the budget proposals at their recent meetings.
5. Prior to this, Directorates were asked to set out the emerging pressures and challenges for services, which were discussed at the Scrutiny Panel meetings in November 2022 and a weblink is included in the background papers.
6. The Chairman of each Scrutiny Panel has been asked to share feedback with the OSPB and agreed comments will then be submitted to Cabinet and Council.
7. Comments from the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels are attached at Appendix 2 (to follow).
8. The final Budget will be agreed by County Council on 17 February 2022.

Purpose of the Meeting

Following discussion of the information provided, the Board is asked to:

- consider the feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Panels' discussions of the draft 2022/23 Budget and agree comments for consideration by Cabinet on 3 February 2022; and
- consider whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1: Draft 2022/23 Budget discussed by Cabinet on 6 January 2022 [Cabinet agenda report](#)

Appendix 2: Scrutiny of 2022/23 draft budget – comments from Overview and Scrutiny Panels (to follow).

Contact Points

Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator, Tel: 01905 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) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- [Agendas and Minutes](#) of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels in November 2021 and January 2022

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

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 26 JANUARY 2022

MEMBER UPDATE, WORK PROGRAMME 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 Work Programme and consider whether it would wish to make amendments;
 - (c) 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 feedback 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 – Shirley Webb
- Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Kyle Daisley
- Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Alastair Adams
- Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Mike Rouse
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) – Brandon Clayton
- Crime and Disorder – Richard Udall

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.**

Work Programme

7. From time to time the Board will review its work programme and consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.

8. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny, which is agreed by Council on an annual basis. The last programme was agreed on 9 September 2021

9. The main responsibilities of the OSPB are:

- Commissioning work for Scrutiny Panels
- Establishing Scrutiny Task Groups (agreeing Terms of reference and Reports)
- Advising on Council's Policy Framework ie Sustainable Community Strategy (if any), Corporate Plan, Children and Young People's Plan, Local Transport Plan, Youth Justice Plan, 'Act Local in Worcestershire' framework, such other plans and strategies as required by law to form part of the Policy Framework or which may be and have been adopted to be part of that Framework eg Corporate Plan, Budget
- Call-ins
- Designated by the Council as its statutory Crime and Disorder Committee and must meet at least annually.

10. 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?

11. The Board is asked to consider its 2022 Work Programme (attached at Appendix 1) and agree whether it would wish to make any amendments

Cabinet Forward Plan

12. The Board will wish to consider any issues arising from the Council's Forward Plan. The latest version of the Plan available at the time of Agenda despatch is routinely considered at each meeting of OSPB (attached at Appendix 2).

13. **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: OSPB 2022 Work Programme
- Appendix 2: Forward Plan (available at 18 January 2022) [Forward Plan 2022](#)

Contact Point for the Report

Samantha Morris, Scrutiny Co-ordinator/Tel: 01905 844963

Email: sjmorris@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.](#)

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Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board – 2022 Work Programme

Date of Meeting	Issue for Scrutiny	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
26 January 2022	Budget Scrutiny 2022/23	15 December 2021	Scrutiny comments to Cabinet
	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan	Each meeting	
23 March 2022	Quarterly Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring - Feedback from Scrutiny Panels (Q3 October to December/Period 9)	Quarterly	
	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan	Each meeting	
26 April 2022	Annual Update from Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) (2022 Update to include the WLEP's Climate Strategy)	21 July 2021	
	Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Report		Policy Framework Report
	Review of Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	30 September 2021	To be endorsed by Council in May 2022
	Member Update and Cabinet Forward Plan	Each meeting	
25 May 2022	Quarterly Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring - Feedback from Scrutiny Panels (Q4 January to March)	Quarterly	
29 June 2022	Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan (development plan document)		To be considered by Cabinet

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item(s)	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
	Member Update, Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan	Each meeting	
Possible Future Items			
TBC	Draft Scrutiny Report: Developer-Funded Highways Infrastructure and Section 278 Technical Approval	28 November 2018	Task Group started October 2021
TBC	Draft Scrutiny Report: Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)		Task Group started December 2021
TBC	Corporate Plan	2016	To be considered by Cabinet
TBC	Update on Community Speed Watch Schemes	17 November 2021	In 6 months' time (May 2022)
TBC	Income Generation		Suggested at 17 March 2020 meeting
TBC	Update on Trading Standards (including reporting mechanisms)		Suggested at 22 July 2020 meeting
TBC	The levelling up agenda and the impact on Worcestershire (including the Towns funding allocated to Worcester and Redditch)		Suggested at 30 September 2021 Meeting
TBC	Safety of Worcestershire Parks and open spaces (Crime and Disorder)		Suggested at 30 September 2021 Meeting
TBC	Community Safety Partnerships (Crime and Disorder)		Suggested at 21 October 2021 Meeting

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item(s)	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
TBC	Draft Scrutiny Report: Elective Home Education	10 December 2019	Scrutiny Task Group paused due to COVID-19
Standing Items			
November/January	Budget Scrutiny		
March/May July/November	Quarterly Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring - Feedback from Scrutiny Panels		
April	Review of Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme		To be endorsed by Council in February
July	Annual Crime and Disorder Meeting		
April	Annual Update from Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) (2022 Update to include the WLEP's Climate Strategy)		
As necessary	Call-ins		
As necessary	Commissioning work for Scrutiny Panels		
As necessary	Establishing Scrutiny Task Groups (agreeing Terms of reference and Reports)		
As necessary	Advising on Council's Policy Framework ie Sustainable Community Strategy (if any), Corporate Plan, Children and Young People's Plan, Local Transport Plan, Youth Justice Plan, 'Act Local in Worcestershire' framework, such other plans and strategies as required by law to form part of the Policy Framework		

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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.
Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for 2023/24 Key Decision	3 February 2022	4
2022/23 Budget and Council Tax	3 February 2022	5
Development of All Age Disability Service and the Transition of that Service into Worcestershire Children First(WCF) Key Decision	3 February 2022	6
Future of Redditch Library Key Decision	3 February 2022	7
Mental Health Aftercare Arrangements as required under section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983 Key Decision	3 February 2022	8
National Bus Strategy: Bus Service Improvement Plan, Worcestershire Enhanced Partnership (Plan and Scheme) and Worcestershire Zero Emission Bus Regional Area	3 February 2022	9
Pershore Education Planning Area Review Consultation Responses Key Decision	3 February 2022	10
Review of Adult Services Transport Policy Key Decision	3 February 2022	11
Domestic Abuse Act 2021 – Implementation	24 March 2022	12
Worcestershire Rail Investment Strategy Key Decision	24 March 2022	13
'Called In' Decisions or Scrutiny Reports Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	14
Notices of Motion Potentially Key Decision	Within the plan period	15

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