

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 26 SEPTEMBER 2018

REFRESH OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Summary

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) is asked to:
 - consider the reports from Panel Chairmen on Panels' discussions on potential work programme topics;
 - consider whether there are any issues which should be added to the OSPB's Work Programme
 - determine its Scrutiny Work Programme for 2018/19 to be considered by full Council.

Developing a Scrutiny Work Programme

2. The current 2017/18 Scrutiny Work Programme was agreed at Council in September 2017. It would now seem timely for the work programme to be refreshed for the coming year. The refreshed work programme will be considered by full Council in due course.
3. In preparation for the discussion on 26 September, Panel Chairmen have been asked to consult with their Panels on any amendments they would like to make to their work programme and draft Work Programmes for the Panels and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) are attached at Appendix 1.
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, whether there are any other issues that should be added to its Work Programme.
6. In determining its Scrutiny Work Programme, the Board needs to take into account 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.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1: Draft 2018/19 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme

Specific Contact Point for the 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 Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board, 10 September 2009, 19 June 2017 and 28 June 2018
- The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

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