

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PERFORMANCE BOARD 29 MARCH 2023

# REFRESH OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

### **Summary**

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board is asked to consider suggestions for its 2023/24 Work Programme prior to it being submitted to Council for approval.

## **Background**

- 2. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny. The Panel routinely reviews its work programme at each meeting to consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.
- 3. In addition, on an annual basis, the rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny is approved by Council.

## Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/24

- 4. The Scrutiny Work Programme for 2023/24 is now being refreshed. Board Members and other stakeholders have been invited to suggest topics for future scrutiny.
- Members are asked to consider the draft Work Programme and agree its priorities for 2023/24. Issues should be prioritised by using the scrutiny feasibility criteria agreed by the Board.
- The Board will receive feedback on the HOSC's and Scrutiny Panels'
  discussions and agree the final Scrutiny Work Programme at its 27 April
  meeting. Council will be asked to agree the Work Programme at its meeting on
  18 May.

#### **Feasibility Criteria**

- 7. The criteria (listed below) will help to determine the 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?

## Remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board

- 8. The main responsibilities of the Board 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.

#### **Dates of Future Meetings**

27 April 202326 June 202326 July 20236 September 202319 October 202319 December 2023

## **Purpose of the Meeting**

The Board is asked to consider and prioritise the draft 2023/24 Work
 Programme and consider whether it would wish to make any amendments. The
 Board will wish to retain the flexibility to take into account any urgent issues
 which may arise.

#### **Supporting Information**

Appendix 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board Work Programme 2023/24

#### **Contact Points**

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#### **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:

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