

Cherwell District Council
Overview and Scrutiny Committee

31 May 2016

Work Programme 2016/17

Report of Head of Law and Governance

This report is public

Purpose of report

To consider the outstanding items from the 2015-2016 Overview and Scrutiny work programme and determine whether they should be carried forward onto the 2016-2017 work programme

1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To decide whether to continue with the reviews started during the previous Municipal Year
- 1.2 To review the draft work programme (Appendix 1).
- 1.3 Identify any items from the Executive Work Programme to form part of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2016/17.
- 1.4 Identify any other possible future topics for scrutiny and consider whether these topics should have scoping documents produced, based on the considerations of risk and what value scrutiny can add through considering the issue.
- 1.5 To give consideration to the start time of future meetings being changed to 6:45pm, as per the request of the Committee Chairman.

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 As this is the first meeting of the new Municipal Year, it is a good time to review the whole work programme. At each subsequent meeting the Committee will be required to review and amend the Work Plan as necessary.

3.0 Report Details

Update on current Scrutiny review

Youth Engagement Review

- 3.1 The Youth Engagement Review was established in October 2014, and a scoping document was signed off by the Committee. Councillors Bryn Williams and Neil Prestidge were appointed to the working group, along with Councillor Dan Sames. Councillor Sames left the Committee in 2015.
- 3.2 At the meeting in April 2016, the [Group updated the Committee on progress of the review](#) (item 61 relates)
- 3.3 If the Committee agree to the continuation of the review, an end of review report date will need to be scheduled.

Performance Monitoring

- 3.4 As discussed at agenda item 7, the Committee receives performance monitoring data each quarter which details how the Council is performing against agreed measures. The Committee have the opportunity to refer any areas of concern to Cabinet for further discussion, or to request officer attendance to discuss issues in more detail.
- 3.5 Indicative dates for consideration of performance information are included on the draft work programme.

Executive Work Programme

- 3.6 As part of the monthly work programme report, the Committee reviews the Executive Work Programme to consider whether there are any issues which they would wish to look at in more detail in advance of the Executive discussion and decision. To facilitate a thorough consideration of the topic the Committee will need to identify the Executive Work Programme items at an early stage of the decision making process.
- 3.7 The Executive Work Programme is updated and published monthly; an electronic copy is available on the council's website and all councillors are sent a prompt containing the website link. Members of the Committee are encouraged to review the Executive Work Programme outside the committee meetings and to contact the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Democratic Services Officer if there is a topic that they wish to review.
- 3.8 The Committee will wish to note any items of interest in the current version of the Executive Work Programme and consider whether to include them on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2016/17.
- 3.9 At the time of writing this report, the current version of the Executive Work Programme is June to September 2016 and can be found on the following page of the website: [Cherwell Forward Plan](#)

Future meetings Schedule

- 3.10 The meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2016-2017 Municipal Year are listed below:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2016/17 31 May 2016, 6:30pm 12 July, 6:30pm 6 September, 6:30pm 11 October, 6:30pm 22 November, 6:30pm 10 January 2017, 6:30pm 21 February, 6:30pm 4 April, 6:30pm
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Start time of the meetings

- 3.10 The Chairman has requested that the Committee give consideration to the start time of future meetings being changed from 6:30pm to 6:45pm, due to his work commitments. This change in time would allow the Chairman to be briefed by officers before the meeting commences.

4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 The recommendations as set out in the report are believed to be in the best interests of the Council.

5.0 Consultation

None

6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 6.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Option 2: To amend the recommendations.

Option 3: Not to agree the recommendations.

7.0 Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The report of the individual scrutiny reviews will address any specific legal issue.

Comments checked by:

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Legal Implications

- 7.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. The report of the individual scrutiny reviews will address any specific financial issues.

Comments checked by: James Doble, Democratic and Elections Manager,
01295 221587, james.doble@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Risk Management

- 7.3 If too many items are included on the work programme there is a risk that scrutiny agenda become overloaded. This undermines effective scrutiny because Members are unable to concentrate on the key issues and officer resources are over-stretched. It may be necessary to hold further meetings during the year if the risk of not achieving the work programme becomes apparent. The reports of the individual scrutiny reviews will address any specific risk issues.

Comments checked by: James Doble, Democratic and Elections Manager,
01295 221587, james.doble@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

8.0 Decision Information

Wards Affected

Each scrutiny review will identify the wards affected.

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

Each Scrutiny Review will identify the relevant Corporate Plan and Policy framework links.

Lead Councillor

None

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
1	Draft Work Programme for 2016-17
Background Papers	
None	
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