

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2012/13

12 March 2013

Report of Head of Law and Governance

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents the Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme 2012/13 for consideration.

This report is public

Recommendations

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended:

- (1) To consider the Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme 2012/13 as set out at Appendix 1 of the attached report.
- (2) To note any items of interest in the Executive Work Programme and consider whether to include them on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2012/13.
- (3) To consider if there are any other items Members would like to include on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme.

Details

1 Draft Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2012/13

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2012/13 is attached at appendix 1.
- 1.2 At the request of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members and Members of the Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board, the work programmes of the two scrutiny committees have been separated. Members are invited to make any suggestions to improve the

appearance of the work programme.

- 1.3 Each future agenda item includes an overview of the item and reason for consideration by the Board.
- 1.4 In determining the work programme for 2012/13, the Committee will wish to take into account the terms of reference as laid out in the Constitution (Appendix 2).

2 Executive Work Programme

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 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 2012/13.
- 2.4 At the time of writing this report, the current version of the Executive Work Programme is March to June, 2013 and can be found at: www.cherwell.gov.uk

3 Updates on Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Items

Banbury Brighter Futures - Update from the Director of Community and Environment

- 3.1 'The 2012/13 Brighter Futures Programme priorities are established and multi agency work is on going. A review of performance indicators and data is underway due to the extent of change since the Brighter Futures Programme commenced. Funding support has been given to Banbury Street Pastors. The Thriving Families initiative is now integrated locally with Brighter Futures activities via the Banbury Hub at Woodgreen. Joint work has also commenced with local GPs regarding

a healthy eating project. A Banbury Councillors workshop was held on 25 October from which a number of programme developments were proposed and are being followed up.'

Draft Local Plan 2012

- 3.2 An update report has been submitted to the Executive for consideration at their 4 March 2013 meeting (available to view at [Agenda for Executive on Monday 4 March 2013](#)).
- 3.3 The report confirms that the Local Plan is its final stage of preparation. Consultation responses on the Proposed Submission Local Plan August 2012 have been considered by officers and the Council's evidence base is nearly complete.
- 3.4 Consideration of the new evidence and the comments received on the Plan has concluded that a small number of significant changes are required. The clear legal advice received by officers is that these changes need to be consulted upon alongside an updated Sustainability Appraisal. The SA will consider the effects of the changes and will take into account the final pieces of evidence.
- 3.5 The consultation will be a 'focused consultation' on the significant changes for a 6 week period. Other minor changes will be separately identified. Following the consultation, the representations received will be summarised and the Plan with final amendments will be presented to full Council for formal approval so that it can be submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination.

4 Potential Work Programme Items

- 4.1 Committee Members may wish to suggest other items for inclusion on the Work Programme 2012/13. Members are reminded that in considering the suggestions for the Work Programme and prioritising topics, it is important to consider the resources available to support the work and the timescales. The Committee should also reflect on the demands that scrutiny reviews place on the resources in the individual service areas.
- 4.2 The Committee will also wish to consider the priority checklist. The current, informal criteria applied to all suggestions for a scrutiny review are that it must:
 - be of concern to a group of people living within the Cherwell District;
 - relate to a service, event or issue in which the Council has a significant stake or over which the Council has an influence;
 - not be an issue which scrutiny has considered during the last 12 months;

- not relate to an individual service complaint;
- not relate to an individual planning or licensing application.

5 Future Meetings Schedule

5.1 The future meeting dates for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board are listed below.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee	23 April 2013, 6.30pm 2013/14 Municipal Year 04 June 2013, 6.30pm 16 July 2013, 6.30pm 10 September 2013, 6.30pm 22 October 2013, 6.30pm 03 December 2013, 6.30pm 21 January 2014, 6.30pm 04 March 2014, 6.30pm 15 April 2014, 6.30pm
Resources & Performance Scrutiny Board	16 April 2013, 6.30pm 2013/14 Municipal Year 28 May 2013, 6.30pm 09 July 2013, 6.30pm 03 September 2013, 6.30pm 08 October 2013, 6.30pm 10 December 2013, 6.30pm 14 January 2014, 6.30pm 25 February 2014, 6.30pm 08 April 2014, 6.30pm

Implications

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

Comments checked by Sarah Best, Service Accountant, 01295 221982

Legal: 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 Paul Manning, Solicitor Advocate 01295 221691

Risk Management: If too many items are included on the work programme there is a risk that scrutiny agendas 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 report of the individual scrutiny reviews will address any specific risk issues.

Comments checked by James Doble, Democratic and Elections Manager, 01295 221587

Wards Affected

Each scrutiny review will identify the wards affected

Corporate Plan Themes

Each scrutiny review will identify the relevant corporate plan themes

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2012/13
Appendix 2	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference
Background Papers	
None	
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