

Report of the Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on Thursday 25 January 2018

AB

Subject:

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme 2017/18

Summary statement:

This report includes the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2017/18.

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Chair – Corporate Overview and Scrutiny
Committee

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Portfolio:

**Corporate.
Safer and Stronger Communities**

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Corporate

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report includes the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2017/18, which is attached as appendix 1 to this report.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council constitution requires all Overview and Scrutiny Committees to produce a work programme.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the responsibility for “the strategies, plans, policies, functions and services directly relevant to the corporate priority about customer services and e-government, that improve the Councils ability to deliver, govern and change, community cohesion and all other corporate matters not falling within the responsibility of any other Overview and Scrutiny Committee.” (Council Constitution, Part 2, 6.2.1).

- 3.2 The remit of this Committee also includes:

- the co-ordination of the discharge of the Overview and Scrutiny role within the Council and in relation to external bodies;
- supporting the Executive through its contribution towards the improvement of the Council’s performance;
- co-ordinating the development of the Overview and Scrutiny role within the Council.

- 3.3 Best practice published by the Centre for Public Scrutiny suggests that “work programming should be a continuous process”. It is important to review work programmes, so that important or urgent issues that arise during the year are able to be scrutinised. Furthermore, at a time of limited resources, it should also be possible to remove areas of work which have become less relevant or timely. For this reason, it is proposed that the Committee’s work programme be regularly reviewed by members of the committee throughout the municipal year.

- 3.4 The work programme as agreed by the Committee will form the basis for the Committee’s work during the year, but will be amended as issues arise during the year.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 Maintaining and Overview of the Councils Financial position, is a key area of work for the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- 5.1 Risk Management is regularly scrutinised by this Committee.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

6.1 None.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Community Cohesion and Equalities related issues are part of the work remit for this Committee.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

None.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

A key priority of work for this Committee related to the Overview and Scrutiny of the strategies, plans, policies, functions and services directly relevant to the priority of Safer and Stronger Communities.

As well as this, the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee is also the authority's Crime and Disorder Committee under the provisions of Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

None.

7.6 TRADE UNION

None.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Work of this Overview and Scrutiny Committee has ward implications, but this depends on that nature of the topic.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

9. OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Committee may choose to add to or amend the topics included in the 2017-18 work programme for the committee.
- 4.2 Members may wish to consider any detailed scrutiny reviews that it may wish to conduct.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That members consider and comment on the areas of work included in the work programme.
- 9.2 That members consider any detailed scrutiny reviews that they may wish to conduct.

11. APPENDICES

Appendix One – 2017-18 Work Programme for the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Appendix Two – Unscheduled Topics.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Council Constitution.