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| Report of the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Communities & Services)ToOverview & Scrutiny Committee (Communities & Services)On26 April 2022 |
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| **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (COMMUNITIES AND SERVICES) WORK PROGRAMME 2022/2023** |

**1. SUMMARY**

1.1 The proposed Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Community & Services) 2022/2023 work programme is attached at Appendix 1.

1.2 The attached issues are suggestions on topics that would merit Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Community & Services) involvement, and have been compiled by Officers.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

(i) That the attached Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Communities & Services) work programme for 2022/2023 (Appendix 1) be noted and that further issues be suggested by Members and agreed for inclusion in the work programme that are within the Committee’s remit.

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Officers have produced a draft work programme (Appendix 1), which is within the remit of Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Communities & Services)

 This report would benefit from the involvement of the Committee. Members are requested to consider whether the proposed items should be included in the Committee’s 2022/2023 work programme.

3.2 For each topic officers will undertake any necessary research and provide the requisite background information which will help inform the issue under consideration. The officers responsible for each topic will, however, continue to encourage Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Communities & Services input to not only gather opinion from elected Members, but to receive more informed feedback and comment on the proposals and issues in hand.

3.3 Members may wish to suggest additional areas of work that are within the remit of the Committee. Similarly, the work programme may be amended at a later date if Members feel there is the capacity to do so or if an Executive decision within the remit of the Committee is called-in.

**4. OPTIONS AVAILABLE**

4.1 The options for the work programme are for review and for Members to suggest additional topics for consideration.

**5. RISK ASSESSMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND OPTIONS**

5.1 Without a comprehensive work programme the Committee may not effectively comply with its role and functions as stated in the Council’s Constitution, as well as Scrutiny’s objectives of transparency, accountability and effectiveness in Local Government.

**6. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

6.1 An effective Overview & Scrutiny work programme will enhance the delivery of the Council’s Priorities & Vision.

**7. IMPLICATIONS**

(a) Relevant Legislation – Overview and Scrutiny is established as a function of Council by virtue of the Local Government Act 2000 and subsequent supplementary legislation.

(b) Human Rights – no direct implications

(c) Equality and Diversity – no direct implications

(d) Climate change and environmental sustainability – no direct implications

(e) Crime and Disorder – no direct implications

(f) Budget/Resource – no direct implications.

**8. COMMENTS OF STATUTORY OFFICERS**

1. Head of Paid Service -. The role of Overview and Scrutiny is a vital part of the council’s governance arrangements and is important in holding decision makers to account. It is fundamentally important to the successful functioning of local democracy and the council recognising the important role that it plays it should therefore ensure that the work programme reflects this.

(b) Deputy Monitoring Officer – a full and comprehensive work programme for the Committee strengthens governance and decision-making throughout the Council.

(c) Section 151 Officer – none.

**9. CONSULTATION**

The Head of Health and Communities and the Head of Housing.

**10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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