

AGENDA ITEM

**REPORT TO EXECUTIVE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

24 OCTOBER 2017

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18 – WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

SUMMARY

The report an update on the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2017/18.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be noted.

WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

1. The current programme (including in-year referrals) is summarised below. In year additions are in **bold**:

Select Committee	Review Topic	Reporting to Cabinet
Adult Services and Health	Defibrillators	November 2017
	Gambling	TBC
Children and Young People	SEND	November 2017
	Educational Role of the Council	April 2018 TBC
Crime and Disorder	Membership of Local Govt. Bodies (carried forward from 2016-17)	October 2017
	Security in Preston Park	March 2018
	CCTV	TBC
People	Sickness Absence	December 2017
	Mental Health and Wellbeing (carried forward from 2016-17)	April 2018
	Digital Optimisation	TBC
Place	Asylum Seekers (carried forward from 2016-17)	November 2017
	Fire Safety of High Rise Residential Buildings Task and Finish	July 2017

	Billingham Event Infrastructure/ BIFF	February 2018
	Management of Memorials	TBC
	Disabled Parking (Task and Finish Review)	TBC
	Food Hygiene (Task and Finish Review)	TBC
	Consolidation of Thirteen Group	TBC

2. In addition, Scrutiny Liaison Forum acknowledged that there may need to be a review of the operation of Community Participation Budgets (CPBs), subject to Council's budgetary decisions, and recommended that Executive Scrutiny Committee consider the need for a Task and Finish Review of this issue in due course.

OTHER SCRUTINY WORK

Overview and Monitoring

3. Recognising the overview role of the scrutiny function, annual overview meetings were established to provide Members with an overview of all the services reporting to the various Select Committees and to question Cabinet Members and Senior Officers on their performance and understand the challenges and issues arising ahead of the next year's programme. The format of these meetings has been reviewed regularly and it this year's meetings were aligned to corporate performance reporting timescales. It is proposed that next year performance reporting will go to each Select Committee following consideration by Executive Scrutiny Committee. This approach will reduce duplication whilst still enabling committee's to keep abreast of performance issues. Officers will then only need to report challenges, emerging issues and suggested scrutiny topics for the following year. In addition, Select Committees continue to receive progress reports in respect of the reviews which have concluded until they have been fully implemented.

Quality and Safety

4. In response to high profile cases in the media relating to the quality and safety of health, children's and social care services and the increased expectation on Councils to put in place internal mechanisms to undertake rigorous internal review and challenge, Children and Young People Select Committee now receive regular performance reports in respect of children's services. Adult Services and Health Select Committee also receive performance reports on adult social care issues and a range of other reports and updates are provided as part of the enhanced performance management arrangements in response to the Francis Report. These include Annual Reports from the Council, Trusts and CQC, NHS Local Accounts; CQC Inspection Reports; Healthwatch Enter and View Reports etc. Member site visits to frontline services take place on a rolling programme. The recent Ofsted Inspection recognised the work of Children and Young People Select Committee and, in particular, the extensive work to scrutinise frontline practice.

Health Services

5. Members continue to take part in the standing North East Regional and Tees Valley Health Committees. In addition this year, Stockton Council has representation on statutory Joint Committees set up to consider proposals for changes to NHS services. This year

Stockton Council has representation on the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership Joint Scrutiny Committee, and the Joint Committee considering proposals from the Tees Respite and Short Breaks consultation.

Crime and Disorder

6. Crime and Disorder Select Committee has been the designated statutory scrutiny committee to cover crime and disorder issues as legislatively required (including an annual update on crime and disorder as a minimum. The annual overview meeting fulfils the statutory required where there are no crime and disorder scrutiny related topics under review. However, last year the Committee examined the problems associated with School Parking, dog fouling enforcement and safety at rail level crossings and this year, the Committee have Security at Preston Park and CCTV included in their work programme.

Police and Crime Panel

7. Meetings of the Police and Crime Panel have also been set for the year and a work programme comprising:

- Shared Services - current review – final report submitted to Police and Crime Panel in September
- Off Road Motorcycling – to commence in the autumn
- Overall Budget Strategy – to report to panel in February 2018

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8. No financial or legal implications arising from this report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

9. There is a need to meet legislative requirements and for the Council to put in place internal mechanisms to ensure the safety and quality of key services in addition to deploying resources in the most effective way. The selection of appropriate topics for review can help to support service improvement; the selection of inappropriate topics will lead to the waste of officer and Member time and resources.

Deputy Chief Executive

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<u>Background Papers:</u>	None
<u>Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:</u>	Not Ward Specific
<u>Property Implications:</u>	None