

This Report will be made public on 14 April 2022



Report Number **OS/21/16**

To: Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 26 April 2022
Status: Non executive decision
Responsible Officer: Susan Priest, Chief Executive

SUBJECT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME
22-23

SUMMARY: This report sets out a proposed work programme for Overview and Scrutiny work for the municipal year 22/23.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To receive and note report OS/21/16.
2. To adopt and implement the Scrutiny work programme, set out in paragraph 1.3 of the report, for the municipal year 22/23.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In January 2022, suggestions for Scrutiny topics were sought from various sources, with the criteria that only issues which affected residents across the whole district would be considered.

In addition, the following topics would not be considered:

- Individual service complaints.
- Topics outside of the remit of the council, where the council has no powers or influence.
- Issues where Scrutiny has considered in the last 12 months.
- Areas relating to quasi-judicial functions, ie Planning and Licensing.

The final list of topics included Member and officer suggestions, community concerns, policies which were due for renewal, and topics rolled over from the previous year's Scrutiny work plan.

1.2 These suggestions were then circulated to Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, who were invited to score each item from 1-5 (5 highest, 1 lowest), based on each of the following criteria:

- High general public concern,
- Critical to council priorities and plans,
- High financial value,
- Risks in successful delivery.

1.3 Based on this, the nine highest scoring items were selected for the Scrutiny workplan. Nine items would make up the main workplan, with an additional four in 'reserve' for the Committee. These 'reserve' items will allow for some flexibility in the workplan, in the event that the Committee is required to consider other urgent matters.

The selections are shown in the table below.

Item no	Topic	High general public concern	Critical to council priorities and plans	High financial value	Risks to the council in successful delivery	Total
1	Otterpool Park LLP business plan	23	29	28	26	106
2	Otterpool Park stewardship	25	28	23	25	101
3	FOLCA phase 2	26	21	23	25	95
4	Regeneration of former gas works (Ship Street)	22	24	23	23	92
5	HRA Business Plan	22	27	22	20	91

6	Civic centre relocation	24	22	24	21	91
7	Levelling up fund bid	17	27	26	20	90
8	Review progress of climate emergency action plan	21	24	20	21	86
9	Decarbonisation plan for the HRA	20	22	22	21	85
The items below will be held in reserve:						
10	Parking in the district, and enforcement	27	20	20	18	85
11	Economic development strategy	18	24	22	20	84
12	UKSPF investment plan	17	22	24	20	83
13	Allocation of CIL monies	19	23	23	18	83
The items below are statutory items and items referred from Council:						
14	PREVENT & Safeguarding (statutory item)					
15	Review of current situation for self-contained holiday lets (advertised on Airbnb and other such websites (Opposition business 24 November 21)					
16	Renewal of Statement for Community Involvement (Opposition Business 30 March 22)					

1.4 In addition to the items selected, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a statutory requirement to act as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee and to meet for that purpose at least once a year. This item will also form part of the Committee's work programme.

1.5 There are also two items of business which have been added to the Scrutiny work plan as a result of Opposition Business referred from Full Council. Both items will also form part of the Committee's work programme.

1.6 The work plan is drawn up on the basis that the Committee would consider two to three items per meeting, although there must be flexibility in the programme, to allow for any urgent items to be considered.

1.7 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to endorse the Scrutiny Workplan, prior to its consideration and endorsement at the Annual meeting of the Council on 4 May 2022.

2. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

2.1 Legal Officer's Comments (AK)

It is important for Overview and Scrutiny Committee to establish and agree a work programme. This will enable the Overview and Scrutiny committee to fulfil its constitutional and legal function.

2.2 Finance Officer's Comments (RH)

There are no financial implications to this report.

2.3 Diversities and Equalities Implications (GE)

There are no equalities implications directly arising from this report.

3. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting

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The following background documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

None.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – scores for all items.

Appendix 2 - summary of each item