

TITLE	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes 2018-19
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 27 March 2018
WARD	None Specific
LEAD OFFICER	Andrew Moulton, Assistant Director, Governance

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Effective Overview and Scrutiny helps to improve services, holds decision makers to account and engages with local communities. In so doing it helps to demonstrate that the Council and other public service providers are open and transparent and are delivering high quality, value for money services.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is requested to:

- 1) agree the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes for 2018/19 (Annex A);
- 2) consider the additional Scrutiny request from Finchampstead Parish Council, (Annex B);
- 3) consider any other potential Scrutiny items.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Effective work programming is a Member-led process aimed at shortlisting and prioritising issues of community concern together with issues arising out of the Council Plan and major policy or service changes. It aims to:

- reflect local needs and concerns;
- prioritise topics for scrutiny which have the most impact or benefit;
- involve local residents and stakeholders;
- be flexible enough to respond to new or urgent issues.

Each year the Committee approves work programmes for itself and the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Recent discussions have indicated the need for the work programming process to be more robust and for greater engagement between Overview and Scrutiny and the Executive.

The Committee considered the draft work programmes for 2018/19 at its meeting on 21 February 2018. An additional Scrutiny request has been received from Finchampstead Parish Council. This is attached for Members to consider.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	0	NA	NA
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	0		
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	0		

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
None

List of Background Papers
None

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Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes 2018/19

1. Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

1.	Development of the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes and coordination of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees
2.	Discussions with the Leader, Executive Members and Chief Executive to identify priorities and monitor performance against key targets
3.	Monitoring of the Council Plan and the Corporate Peer Review Action Plan
4.	Reviewing the quarterly Council Plan Performance Management report
5.	Reviewing implementation of the Council's 21 st Century Council programme
6.	Monitoring Strategic Development Location (SDL) delivery and progress relating to the Local Plan Update
7.	Reviewing the proposed £500m investment in infrastructure (including the SCAPE contract)
8.	Reviewing the Assets Review Programme and the operation of the Council's Property Portfolio Investment Fund
9.	Reviewing the Council's annual Budget Engagement exercise
10.	Monitoring the operation and performance of Council-owned companies
11.	Reviewing the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations
12.	Monitoring the outcomes delivered by the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership
13.	Reviewing the effectiveness of Planning processes relating to the implementation of planning conditions and tree preservation orders
14.	Monitoring the Council's compliance with the Equality Act 2010
15.	Approval of the annual Overview and Scrutiny report to Council
16.	Call-In review of Executive decisions
17.	Appointing Task and Finish Groups to investigate issues of local interest
18.	Reviewing the effectiveness of Overview and Scrutiny and the underpinning support and training provided for Members

2. Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1.	Monitoring the effective delivery of safeguarding services, including social worker recruitment, retention and training
2.	Reviewing services that contribute to the achievement of the Council's Vision and priorities for children and young people
3.	Reviewing progress in relation to narrowing the gap in educational attainment for children from disadvantaged backgrounds
4.	Reviewing key Children's Services performance indicators and major projects
5.	Reviewing school performance indicators and Ofsted reports
6.	Monitoring the performance of any schools causing concern
7.	Reviewing the allocation of school places across the Borough
8.	Monitoring the impact of the 21 st Century Council change programme on Children's Services
9.	Monitoring key strategic initiatives such as the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub and the development of the Wokingham Multi Academy Trust
10.	Considering the annual report of the Corporate Parenting Board
11.	Input into new policies through pre-decision scrutiny of draft proposals relating to Children's Services
12.	Call-In of Executive decisions relating to Children's Services
13.	Appointing Task and Finish Groups as appropriate

3. Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1.	Reviewing the work of the Community Safety Partnership and the effectiveness of local policing
2.	Exercising the Council's flood risk management responsibilities by monitoring flood risk activities and partnership working with towns and parishes
3.	Monitoring the Council's Capital and Revenue expenditure
4.	Monitoring the Wokingham Town Centre regeneration project (including car park provision) including an evidence session with the Federation of Small Businesses
5.	Reviewing the Council's partnerships with Town and Parish Councils and the voluntary sector
6.	Reviewing service developments relating to waste and recycling services
7.	Reviewing highways and transport issues including customer service, car parking and improvements to cycling facilities
8.	Reviewing the proposed development of the Coppid Beech Park and Ride site
9.	Monitoring the implementation of Civil Parking Enforcement
10.	Monitoring the impact of changes to train services
11.	Reviewing the process for setting fees and charges in the Public Protection service
12.	Input into new policies through pre-decision scrutiny of draft proposals
13.	Appointing Task and Finish Groups as appropriate

4. Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1.	Monitoring health and social care outcomes and the performance of the local NHS Foundation Trusts
2.	Reviewing progress on the integration of health and social care services
3.	Monitoring progress relating to the development of community hubs
4.	Considering reports and updates from Wokingham Healthwatch
5.	Reviewing the provision of community mental health services
6.	Considering updates on the work of the Wokingham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
7.	Reviewing access to primary care services within the Strategic Development Locations
8.	Joining West Berkshire, Reading, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Councils in joint scrutiny of the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Sustainability and Transformation Plan
9.	Monitoring proposals for the future delivery of Healthwatch
10.	Reviewing air quality monitoring across the Borough
11.	Call-In of Executive decisions relating to adult social care
12.	Input into new policies through pre-decision scrutiny of draft proposals relating to adult social care
13.	Appointing Task and Finish Groups as appropriate