

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMMES 2019/20

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 future priorities and monitor performance against key targets
3.	Scrutinising the development of the new Borough Plan together with the underpinning priorities and the Quarterly Performance Management Report
4.	Reviewing implementation of the Council's 21 st Century Council programme and the successor Continuous Improvement Programme
5.	Scrutinising the impact of Brexit on the Borough;
6.	Scrutinising the delivery of the Strategic Development Locations (SDLs) and progress relating to the Local Plan Update and the 5 year land supply
7.	Reviewing the Assets Review Programme and the operation of the Council's Property Portfolio Investment Fund
8.	Reviewing progress of the council's Grounds Maintenance service following the Committee's Scrutiny review in 2018;
9.	Scrutinising the Council's Housing services to ensure that the needs of local residents are being met
10.	Monitoring the operation and performance of the Council-owned companies and the Council's Shared Service arrangements
11.	Scrutinising the Council's Economic Development Strategy and the impact of the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership
12.	Reviewing the Government's updated Statutory Guidance on the operation of Overview and Scrutiny and considering the implications for WBC;
13.	Scrutinising the Council's approach to public consultation and compliance with its statutory duties under the Equality Act 2010
14.	Approving the annual Overview and Scrutiny report to Council
15.	Undertaking Call-In reviews of Executive decisions
15.	Appointing Task and Finish Groups as appropriate
16.	Reviewing the effectiveness of the Overview and Scrutiny function and the underpinning support and training provided for Officers and 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.	Scrutinising 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 and the successor Continuous Improvement Programme on Children's Services
9.	Scrutinising progress of key strategic initiatives such as the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
10.	Considering the annual report of the Corporate Parenting Board
11.	Reviewing the Education Vision Strategy
12.	Reviewing the Strategy for children with special educational needs and disabilities
13.	Input into new policies through pre-decision scrutiny of draft proposals relating to Children's Services
14.	Call-In of Executive decisions relating to Children's Services
15.	Appointing Task and Finish Groups as appropriate

3. Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1.	Reviewing the work of the Community Safety Partnership, the effectiveness of local policing and fire and rescue services
2.	Exercising the Council's flood risk management responsibilities by monitoring flood risk activities and partnership working with Towns and Parishes
3.	Scrutinising the Council's Budget development process and the draft Budget for 2020/21
4.	Scrutinising the Wokingham Town Centre regeneration programme, including the Safety and Financial Audits relating to the Market Place highways project
5.	Reviewing the effectiveness of the Council's partnerships with Town and Parish Councils and the voluntary sector
6.	Scrutinising service and policy developments relating to the Council's public facing services and its in-house support services
7.	Reviewing highways and transport issues including the new highways contracts, customer service, car parking and cycling facilities
8.	Reviewing the Business Case supporting the development of the Coppid Beech Park and Ride site
9.	Scrutinising the implementation of Civil Parking Enforcement across the Borough
10.	Scrutinising burial capacity across the Borough and the Council's plans to ensure future capacity
11.	Input into new policies through pre-decision scrutiny of draft proposals
12.	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.	Call-In of Executive decisions relating to adult social care
10.	Input into new policies through pre-decision scrutiny of draft proposals relating to adult social care
11.	Appointing Task and Finish Groups as appropriate

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes 2019/20

Scrutiny Suggestions from Residents

<p>1.</p>	<p>There is no safe (and by safe I mean suitable for a child) cycle route from Finchampstead to Wokingham. You can get from Finchampstead to the Ford garage (Barkham Ride to the Ford garage roundabout) but then the cycle lane stops.</p> <p>Given the huge volumes of traffic which sit on this road, much of which is presumably school traffic, this seems like a really important corridor to build to encourage more people to cycle and get cars off the road.</p> <p>The inspiration can be taken from the fantastic new greenway from FBC to Arborfield - a fully segregated safe place for anyone to cycle.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Disabled parking spaces in the Market Place - Wokingham</p> <p>The signing on the Denmark Street side outside W H Smiths and other shops etc. is signed for disabled and also unloading of goods vehicles plus similar signing for vehicles leading towards Broad Street.</p> <p>There are no other markings on those areas to indicate where each type of parking starts and ends although the relevant legislation does designate the restriction. The effect of the lack of such marking renders the traffic orders unenforceable.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Cycle lanes in the A329 Reading Road</p> <p>The new cycle lane scheme recently introduced along parts of the Reading Road raises some concerns. The original shared cycle/footway facility remains for a substantial length of the route and is signed as such. The new facility takes the cycle route off the shared facility in some lengths but then back onto the shared facility in some places thus introducing some degree of inconsistency and potentially increasing the risk to both cyclists and pedestrians.</p> <p>A further point it that whilst some suitable signing has been erected some of the shared facility sign remains in place which is likely to cause some confusion and risk to users.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Old Woosehill Lane footway widening</p> <p>Some years ago the footway on Woosehill Lane from the junction with Reading Road to Chestnut Avenue was widened resulting in a much narrower carriageway width which had an adverse effect for moving vehicles entering from Chestnut Avenue and especially when vehicles are parked along Woosehill Lane.</p>

	<p>I raised this at the time and a member of the Traffic Management team advised me that the widened footway was to be considered for converting into a shared footway/cycleway. This has not happened.</p> <p>Parking along the affected length has increased over the years but the main problem is that the footway close to the exit from the petrol filling station is used as a parking area to such an extent on occasions that two cars are parked side by side rendering it almost impossible for a pushchair or wheelchair to pass. This practice is totally unsafe but even a single vehicle parked on the footway is unacceptable I would suggest.</p>
5.	<p>Twyford Road speed limit signing</p> <p>Housing developments are taking place between the A329 and the A329M with some existing roads passing through the area of the developments.</p> <p>Some of the existing roads had an existing speed limit with appropriate signing in place. It became apparent that the restrictions had been extended in places and/or the speed limit signed differently to the speed limit order in place and repeater signs had not been erected in places where they should be in accordance with the relevant speed limit regulations.</p> <p>When I raised this matter I was advised that this was a matter being dealt with by the developer(s). As far as I am aware, the highway authority has the overall responsibility for maintaining the appropriate signing and to ensure this is done irrespective of the developer's actions.</p> <p>In relation to items 2 to 5 above - these items raise a question in my mind as to whether the required Safety Audits have been carried out at the various stages and if so why these items have not been resolved during the stages of audits.</p> <p>I also query as to whether the auditors, if any, are completely independent of the designers and Traffic Management Department of Wokingham Council.</p>