



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Name and date of Committee	Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Thursday 17 September 2020
Report Number	Agenda Item No. 6
Subject	Committee Work Programme 2020/2021
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Cllr Andrew Beaney Chairman Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee Email: andrew.beaney@westoxon.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Keith Butler Head of Democratic Services Tel: 01993 861521 Email: keith.butler@westoxon.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	To provide the Committee with an update on the recent review of the Work Programme for 2019/2020.
Annexes	Annex 1 – Approved work programme for 2019/20 Annex 2 - Work Programme for 2020/21
Recommendation	That the Committee notes the progress with regard to its 2020/2021 Work Programme.
Corporate priorities	To enable the Committee to review its Work Programme and support the Council's priorities to protect the environment whilst supporting the local economy, to meet the current and future needs of residents and to provide efficient and value for money services, whilst delivering quality front line services.
Key Decision	No
Exempt	No
Consultees/ Consultation	None

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. At the Committee's meeting in May 2019 it gave consideration to the development of its Work Programme for the year 2019/2020 having regard to the changes to the approach to scrutiny work adopted by Council on 22 October 2008.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1. 2.1 Following a number of cancelled meetings earlier in the year due to Covid-19, officers have taken the opportunity to look at the work programmes for each scrutiny committee with a view to making them more focused and relevant.
- 2.2. It had become apparent that there were a number of 'historic' items that may no longer be relevant or there was little that could be done to influence them.
- 2.3. In addition, officers hoped to enable Members to recognise the influence that scrutiny could have on decision making, particularly with a large number of projects and recovery programmes moving forwards.
- 2.4. Attached at [Annex 1](#) is the old style Work Programme for 2019/2020 for discussion and explanation as to which items can be removed and/or progressed further.
- 2.5. Attached at [Annex 2](#) is a new style Work Programme for 2020/2021 for discussion and approval.
- 2.6. In addition to the items contained in the Work Programme there will still be the opportunity to bring forward one-off reports and papers on particular issues of interest to the Committee but it will also be necessary to maintain a general overview of the ways in which external agencies are responding to community concerns. The inclusion of a standing agenda item for Members' questions also provides the opportunity to raise relevant issues.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. None

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 5.1. Not applicable

6. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Whilst there may be climate change implications arising from specific items within the Work Programme, there are none arising directly from this report.

7. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

- 7.1. In accordance with the Constitution of the Council, Committee has the power to investigate any matters it considers relevant to its work area, and to make recommendations to the Council, the Executive or any other Committee or Sub-Committee of the Council as it sees fit.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1. None

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
1	RAF Brize Norton	<p>Meetings of the Liaison Group are on-going. Update reports will be submitted as appropriate, particularly in respect of the redevelopment of the Forces Accommodation at REEMA North.</p> <p>The business model proposed for the housing to be provided on this site is currently progressing through the necessary parliamentary process, which is expected to take several months. A progress update was given to officers on 3 December 2019. This was briefly reported on at the meeting of the Committee on 23 January 2020 and as promised at that meeting a briefing note was emailed to members of the Committee on 10 February.</p> <p>Add to 'As Required'</p>	On-going for periodic updates	E & S
2	Health Care Provision in Oxfordshire	<p>Reports will be submitted as appropriate.</p> <p>This could remain as an update for Covid Recovery Purposes</p>	On-going for periodic updates	E & S

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
3	Leisure Management Contract Working Party	<p>At the conclusion of consideration of the procurement of the leisure management contract and delivery of the current service it was agreed that the Working Party would be held in abeyance but that further meetings could be arranged to address specific issues on a 'task and finish' basis should the need arise.</p> <p>Remove - this can be added should there be a need to update Members in the future, bearing in mind the recent issues raised following Covid.</p>	In abeyance	E & S
4	Oxfordshire Garden Village Area Action Plan	<p>The Committee considered the Oxfordshire Garden Village Area Action Plan Issues Paper at the June 2018 meeting and the preferred options consultation paper at a special meeting held on 10 October 2019.</p> <p>The Committee considered an update report at its meeting on 27 February 2020, and the pre-submission draft Garden Village Area Action Plan will be considered by the Cabinet and Council in April.</p> <p>As requested at the February meeting, a member briefing has been arranged prior to the Cabinet and Council consideration, which is scheduled for Tuesday 7 April. All Councillors have been invited.</p> <p>Remove - completed</p>	Completed	E & S

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
5	Citizens Advice West Oxfordshire	<p>At the meeting on 28 June 2018 it was agreed that the Committee give consideration to the work of Citizens Advice West Oxfordshire and the impact of the Council's adoption of a commissioning approach to funding the organisation.</p> <p>Cabinet agreed in October 2019 to a further tendering exercise for the services provided by CAWO, as the current contract expires on 31 March 2020, and agreed to award the contract to CAWO at its meeting on 18 March 2020. It is suggested that this Committee's consideration of the impact of this approach should therefore be postponed until later in 2020.</p> <p>Update from relevant officer to conclude, then remove</p>	Autumn 2020	E & S

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
6	Community Infrastructure Levy	<p>At the meeting on 28 June 2018 it was agreed that progress on the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy and arrangements for determining the distribution of funds be included within the Work Programme.</p> <p>A briefing note was provided to members in relation to CIL in January 2019.</p> <p>Following a review of the viability assessment Council agreed on 26 February to undertake consultation on a revised charging schedule.</p> <p>The Committee will have the opportunity to have input into the implementation of CIL once the examination has taken place and the schedule has been approved.</p> <p>Remove - this can be considered at a future meeting prior to any reports going to Cabinet.</p>	To be considered in due course after the CIL charging schedule has been approved.	E & S
7	Affordable Housing	<p>At the meeting on 22 November 2018 the Committee asked for “a further report exploring potentially more innovative ways in which affordable housing could be delivered” to be presented to a future meeting.</p> <p>At the May 2019 meeting it was agreed that, rather than submit a report to this Committee, a series of seminars, open to all Members, would take place.</p> <p>Remove – seminars can be held as necessary</p>	The first of these seminars was held on 11 July and a further seminar on the ‘Blenheim Model’ took place on 30 October. A further seminar is expected to take place during 2020, possibly primarily relating to Community Land Trusts	E & S
8	Enforcement Powers in the Housing and Planning Act	In November 2018 it was agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting regarding the operation of the Council’s Policy in relation to its powers under	A report will be submitted at the appropriate juncture, likely to be in autumn 2020	E&S

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
		the Housing and Planning Act. Schedule for future meeting – need advice on how work on the Policy has been impacted due to Covid		
9	Vulnerable Persons' Resettlement Scheme	At the July meeting it was agreed to establish a Working Party to consider issues regarding the operation of the scheme. The Working Party met on 15 July and 10 September 2019 and 17 February 2020. An update report is included elsewhere on this agenda. Remove - completed	This will be the subject of periodic update reports.	E & S
10	Homes for All	Representatives of 'Homes for All' met with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee and Councillors Doughty and Graham, together with the appropriate Officers on 21 August. Deborah Robson-Grey of Homes for All attended the meeting of the Committee on 23 January 2020. Issues arising have been referred to the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Safety. Update and remove	Report to be submitted to the Committee later in 2020 following consideration of the issues raised.	E & S

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
11	Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2018-2023	<p>In March 2019 the Committee considered the call-in request relating to Cabinet minute no. 96 of 16 January 2019 in respect of the Council's response to the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2018-2023. It was agreed that consideration of the matter be deferred pending the receipt of further information and the item be added to the Committee Work Programme.</p> <p>Following publication of the Glover report, a meeting of the lead members from all local authorities in the AONB took place on 24 January and an update will be given at the meeting.</p>	Officers will continue to monitor the position and a report will be submitted once further information regarding the AONB Board's proposals becomes available.	E & S
12	Annual Local Plan Monitoring Report	<p>The Committee considers the Local Plan Monitoring Report on an annual basis, and a report is included elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.</p> <p>If annual reporting – add to relevant month</p>	Completed. (Next in early 2021)	
13	Police, Community Safety and CDRP	<p>The Committee receives an annual update from the local Police Area Commander regarding policing priorities for the area.</p> <p>If annual reporting – add to relevant month</p>	Superintendent Mark Johns and Chief Inspector John Batty attended the September 2019 meeting	
14	Equal Opportunities Policy	<p>At the October meeting it was agreed that consideration of the review of the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy be added to the Committee's Work Programme.</p> <p>In addition, Members were invited to raise any issues they may have in relation to the existing Policy with Officers, and the existing Policy was subsequently sent to all members of the Committee with that request on 11 February 2020.</p>	28 May / 2 July 2020	E&S

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
15	Oxford to Cambridge Expressway	<p>At the July meeting it was noted that Homes England was to conduct a public consultation on potential options in the autumn and agreed that the matter be considered as part of the consultation process.</p> <p>Whilst it was anticipated that a report would be brought to the November meeting, public consultation has been delayed. A report will be brought forward at the appropriate juncture, although it remains unclear as to whether or when there will be a consultation. Council resolved on 22 January 2020 to oppose an Expressway, whatever the proposed route.</p> <p>Move to 'As Required'.</p>	Removal from work programme suggested, in view of Council decision to oppose an Expressway	E&S
16	Domestic Violence	<p>At the September meeting it was noted that Members of the Committee had met with Officers to discuss issues relating to domestic violence. It was agreed that a report on the issues arising at that meeting in relation to the countywide provision of domestic abuse support should be included within the Committee's Work Programme.</p> <p>Sarah Carter, Strategic Lead Domestic Abuse at Oxfordshire County Council is due to give a presentation at this meeting; and arrangements are in hand for an all member awareness session to take place in June.</p> <p>Schedule for future meeting – need advice on how work on the Policy has been impacted due to Covid – update from officer & arrange all Member training</p>	April 2020	E&S

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
17	Strategic Review of the Council's Markets	<p>In 2019, the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered a report regarding the way in which the recommendations made by the review group established in 2012 to conduct a review of the Council's markets had been carried forward and requested this Committee to consider whether it would wish to recommend the allocation of resources to review and assess the future strategic direction of the markets. This is now suggested for the 28 May meeting, in view of the volume of business for this one.</p> <p>Schedule for future meeting – need advice on how work on the Policy has been impacted due to Covid – could form part of future recovery work</p>	28 May 2020	ENV
18	European Union Nationals – 'Settled Status'	<p>At the November 2019 meeting the Committee gave consideration to the Notice of Motion regarding European Union Nationals referred to the Committee by the Council.</p> <p>At that meeting it was agreed that a Working Party be established to undertake an audit of what action the Council was taking to advise European Union nationals to apply for 'Settled Status' and what was being done elsewhere.</p> <p>The Working Group met on 15 January and an update was given to the Committee on 23 January. A further meeting of the Working Party will be convened when updated Home Office guidance is available.</p> <p>Remove - completed</p>	Ongoing	E&S

Work Area		Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
19	Staffing Levels in Housing and Planning Enforcement Services	<p>At the last meeting it was agreed that a special meeting be held to undertake a review of staffing levels in the Housing and Planning Enforcement services. That meeting took place on 27 February</p> <p>Remove - completed</p>	Completed	
20	Presentation by representatives of GLL Better (Greenwich Leisure Limited), the Council's Leisure Services Provider.	<p>Arrangements were previously made for representatives of GLL Better (Greenwich Leisure Limited) to attend this meeting to provide performance information and respond to Members' questions.</p> <p>In view of the volume of business for this meeting, this is now intended for later in 2020.</p> <p>Request update from officers & remove – this can be considered at a future meeting prior to any reports going to Cabinet.</p>	28 May or 2 July 2020	E&S

New Style Work Programme – Economic and Social**SEPTEMBER 2020**

	Title	Format	Lead Officer / Cabinet Member	Next report / Anticipated Completion Date	Comments
1	Citizens Advice West Oxfordshire	Verbal Update	Jon Dearing / Mandy Fathers		To provide an update on the service
3	Enforcement Powers in the Housing and Planning Act	Verbal Update	Jon Dearing / Phil Shaw / Councillor Haine	Autumn 2020	In November 2018 it was agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting regarding the operation of the Council's Policy in relation to its powers under the Housing and Planning Act. Need advice on how work on the Policy has been impacted due to Covid
4	Presentation by representatives of GLL Better (Greenwich Leisure Limited), the Council's Leisure Services Provider.	Presentation & Q&A	Stuart Wilson / Councillor Mead		To update on work before, during & after Covid. (previously an annual update)
5	Approval of Equalities Policy	Cabinet Report			To consider the new policy due to be discussed at Cabinet on 23.09
6	Upgrade to WO public space CCTV provision & monitoring arrangements	Cabinet report	Councillor MacRae / Andy Barge	November 2020	NoM from Cllrs Enright & Carter to be included in discussion

NOVEMBER 2020

	Title	Format	Lead Officer / Cabinet Member	Next report / Anticipated Completion Date	Comments
1	Police, Community Safety and CDRP – Strategic Update	Presentation & Q&A	Councillor MacRae (Superintendent Mark Johns and Chief Inspector John Batty attended the September 2019 meeting)	Annual report	The Committee receives an annual update from the local Police Area Commander regarding policing priorities for the area – specific incidents are not to be discussed.
2	Policing in West Oxfordshire	Discussion	Councillor MacRae		This will enable the Committee to discuss the motion proposed at Council in February 2020 and make comments back to Council
3	Domestic Violence	Verbal update	Councillor MacRae / Heather McCulloch (Sarah Carter, Strategic Lead Domestic Abuse at Oxfordshire County Council was due to give a presentation at this meeting)	Future all Member Briefing to be arranged to raise awareness and guide Councillors.	Awaiting information on Commissioning details, homelessness statistics. Update since Covid and discussion of proposal from Emma Kennedy at February Council.
4	Strategic Review of the Council's Markets	Report	Was planned for 28 May 2020 Matt Shirley, ERS / PH		Committee to consider whether it would wish to recommend the allocation of resources to review and assess the future strategic direction of the markets. Need advice on how work has been impacted due to Covid.

New Style Work Programme – Economic and Social

	Title	Format	Lead Officer / Cabinet Member	Next report / Anticipated Completion Date	Comments
5	Health Care Provision in Oxfordshire	Verbal update		Ongoing	To provide an update on the impact since Covid and how it will be looked at in recovery work & impact of PHE removal in September

JANUARY 2021

	Title	Format	Lead Officer / Cabinet Member	Next report / Anticipated Completion Date	Comments
1	Annual Local Plan Monitoring Report	Written report	Phil Shaw / Councillor Haine	Annual report	The Committee considers the Local Plan Monitoring Report on an annual basis, and a report is included elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.

Other Reports

Report Title	Frequency	Reason
Council Priorities and Service Performance Report 2020-21 Quarter One	Quarterly	Quarter 1 – September Quarter 2 – tbc Quarter 3 – tbc Quarter 4 - tbc
RAF Brize Norton	As required	Business model for housing on site – last update given January 2020 and briefing note circulated February 2020.
Oxford to Cambridge Expressway	As required	