

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**THURSDAY 24 APRIL 2014**

**COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2013/2014**

**REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR**

**(Contact: Andrew Tucker, Tel: (01993) 861721)**

(The decisions on this matter will be resolutions)

**1. PURPOSE**

To provide the Committee with an update on the Work Programme for 2013/2014.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Committee notes the progress with regard to the Work Programme for 2013/2014.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1. At the meeting of the Committee in May 2013 initial consideration was given to the Work Programme for the year having regard to the approach to scrutiny work adopted by Council on 22 October 2008, the intention of which was that work programmes should comprise fewer more strategic issues. These would probably be key policy areas either reviewing implemented policies or input to future policy development which the Committee would investigate over several meetings with the aim of adding value.
- 3.2. At that time it was agreed to adopt a “toolkit” approach in deciding whether a major review or Working Party should be implemented. This would initially be completed by the relevant Chairman, Vice Chairman and Strategic Director so as to ensure that all suggested reviews would be subject to a series of criteria before they could proceed.
- 3.3. It is not intended that the ‘toolkit’ be used for small reviews requiring only a brief report. There will still be the opportunity to bring forward one-off reports/papers on particular issues of interest to the Committee outside of the normal Work Programme but it will also be necessary to maintain a general overview of the ways in which external agencies are responding to community concerns including when necessary inviting representatives to attend meetings of the Committee. The inclusion of a standing agenda item for Members questions also provides the opportunity for Members to raise ‘hot topics’.
- 3.4. The Committee is invited to consider progress in respect of the agreed Work Programme for 2013/2014 which is attached as an [Appendix](#) to this report.

**4. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS**

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.

**5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

## 6. REASONS

To enable the Committee to review its Work Programme.

Andrew Tucker  
Strategic Director

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Date: 1 April 2014

Background Papers  
None

	<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Originator</b>
<b>1</b>	RAF Brize Norton	<p>The transfer of operations and personnel from RAF Lyneham is well underway. Meetings of the Liaison Group are ongoing.</p> <p>It was agreed that a report be submitted regarding the measures to be taken to reduce the noise levels experienced following the transfer of the Hercules force from RAF Lyneham.</p> <p>The Committee also agreed to consider the impact of the increase in RAF personnel upon the availability and rent levels of accommodation in the private rented sector.</p>	<p>Ongoing for periodic updates</p> <p>A briefing note considered by the RAF Brize Norton Liaison Committee was received at the May 2013 meeting</p> <p>Information on housing impacts will be reported to a future meeting</p>	E & S
<b>2</b>	Quality of Care in Hospitals	<p>Members will be aware there are significant changes taking place in the delivery of health services.</p> <p>It was agreed that the report to the County Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee prepared by the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group detailing the new structure and responsibilities would be submitted to this Committee.</p>	<p>An update report on the development of the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group was considered at the May 2013 meeting</p>	E & S

	<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Originator</b>
<b>3</b>	Police, Community Safety and CDRP	<p>Representatives of the Community Safety Partnership are required to attend the committee and provide an update.</p> <p>Members can also give notice of areas of performance they may wish to explore in more detail.</p> <p>The scrutiny of individual organisations in the CDRP is a separate issue.</p>	Ongoing as required	Council
<b>4</b>	Elements of the Local Development Framework (LDF) as appropriate	<p>The approval of the LDF is a statutory process. It may be appropriate for this Committee to consider specific aspects. A series of workshops for Members in respect of the LDF have been held with further sessions to be arranged.</p> <p>The Local Plan Monitoring Report for 2012/2013 was considered at the last meeting.</p>	<p>Ongoing as required</p> <p>January 2014</p>	E & S
<b>5</b>	Meeting the needs of an ageing population	Age UK and the Oxfordshire County Council attended the September 2013 meeting of the Committee to discuss the impact on the elderly of the reduction in adult social care services.	September 2013	E & S
<b>6</b>	Marriotts Walk	<p>At the May 2013 meeting a Review Group was established to review the impact of the development from an economic development perspective on Witney and the surrounding area.</p> <p>The first meetings of the Group have been held and a scope and timetable has been agreed and the group has considered retail data and information.</p>	July 2014	E & S

	<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Originator</b>
<b>7</b>	Leisure Contract	<p>The final recommendations of the Review Group were approved at the January 2013 meeting.</p> <p>The Committee received a report and update from Representatives of GLL Better at the last meeting.</p>	Completed	E & S
<b>8</b>	Provision of Youth Services	<p>Oxfordshire County Council has changed the delivery of some youth services from September 2011 onwards. This involves hubs based in major towns, including Witney, and provides services to surrounding communities.</p> <p>The manager of the Witney Hub attended a previous meeting to provide details of the centre's work. The Committee agreed to keep the issue on the work programme and monitor the situation.</p>	Ongoing	E & S
<b>9</b>	Welfare Reform Act	<p>At a previous meeting it was agreed that a report on the impact of the Act upon local residents be submitted to the Committee.</p> <p>A report was received at a previous meeting and the committee agreed that it would be beneficial to receive updates as further changes were implemented.</p>	Ongoing	E & S
<b>10</b>	Rural Broadband	<p>At the January 2014 meeting the committee agreed that it would be beneficial to receive an update in respect of the rollout of rural broadband in the district.</p> <p>A report is included on this agenda for consideration.</p>		