

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2014

COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2014/2015

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

(Contact: Andrew Tucker, Tel: (01993) 861621)

(The decisions on this matter will be resolutions)

1. PURPOSE

To provide the Committee with an update on the Work Programme for 2014/2015.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee notes the progress with regard to the Work Programme for 2014/2015.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. At the meeting of the Committee in July 2014 initial consideration was given to the Work Programme for the year having regard to the approach to scrutiny work adopted by Council, 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 2014/2015 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: 10 November 2014

Background Papers

None

Appendix

	Work Area	Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
1	RAF Brize Norton	Meetings of the Liaison Group are on-going with the last meeting being held on 19 June 2014.	On-going for periodic updates	E & S
2	Quality of Care in Hospitals	Members will be aware there are significant changes taking place in the delivery of health services. It was agreed it would be beneficial to receive updates from the council representative on the County Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding issues of concern.	On-going	E & S
3	Police, Community Safety and CDRP	Representatives of the Community Safety Partnership are required to attend the committee and provide an update. The committee received an update from the Thames Valley Police Area Commander at the last meeting. The scrutiny of individual organisations in the CDRP is a separate issue.	Annual On-going as required	Council
4	Elements of the Local Development Framework (LDF) as appropriate	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 most recently on 13 th November. The Local Plan Monitoring Report is received by the committee each year.	On-going as required Annual	E & S

	Work Area	Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
5	Meeting the needs of an ageing population	<p>The committee has previously looked at issues regarding the impact of an ageing population and received input from Age UK and Oxfordshire County Council.</p> <p>At the April 2014 meeting it was agreed that it would be beneficial to look at the work being undertaken to help dementia sufferers and their families.</p>	TBA	E & S
6	Marriotts Walk	<p>A Review Group was established to review the impact of Marriotts Walk from an economic development perspective on Witney and the surrounding area.</p> <p>A report summarising the work of the group is included on the agenda for this meeting.</p>	November 2014	E & S
7	Leisure Contract	The Committee has previously requested to receive updates in respect of progress against the recommendations of the Leisure Contract Review Group.	On-going	E & S
8	Provision of Youth Services	Following changes in the delivery of some youth services from September 2011 onwards the Committee agreed to keep the issue on the work programme and monitor the situation.	On-going	E & S
9	Welfare Reform Act	<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> <p>The committee has suggested a meeting with RSL's operating in the district to discuss any housing issues arising from changes in the benefits system.</p>	On-going	E & S

	Work Area	Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
10	Integration of Public Transport	<p>It was suggested at a previous meeting that it may be pertinent for the committee to look at issues of bus services in the district integrating with other public transport more effectively.</p> <p>The committee has requested a representative from Oxfordshire County Council to attend a future meeting.</p>		E & S