

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 30 MARCH 2017

COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2016/2017

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

(Contact: Christine Gore, Tel: (01285) 623605)

(The decisions on this matter will be resolutions)

1. PURPOSE

To provide the Committee with an update on the Work Programme for 2016/2017.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee notes the progress with regard to the Work Programme for 2016/2017.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1. At its meeting held on 29 September the Committee gave consideration to the development of its Work Programme for the year 2016/2017 having regard to the changes to the approach to scrutiny work adopted by Council on 22 October 2008.

3.2. Attached at Appendix A is the approved Work Programme for 2016/2017 incorporating items rolled forward from last year, taking account of the discussions at the last meeting and providing an update on progress in relation to each item.

3.3. 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.

3.4. The Committee is invited to consider progress in respect of the agreed Work Programme for 2016/2017 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.

Christine Gore
Strategic Director

(Author: Christine Gore, Tel: (01285) 623605; EMail: christine.gore@westoxon.gov.uk)
Date: 14 March 2017

Background Papers

None

	Work Area	Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
1	Waste Contract	<p>At its meeting held on 29 June the Council approved the design of the future waste and recycling collection service.</p> <p>The Head of Environment and Commercial Services provided an update on the Waste Transfer projects and arrangements for the Chargeable Garden Waste Service at the last meeting.</p>	Completed	ENV
2	Thames Water Flood Prevention and Infrastructure Issues	<p>The Committee has already undertaken significant work in respect of flooding issues.</p> <p>The Committee has received regular updates regarding drainage issues in the district including a presentation by Thames Water at the June meeting providing a progress report in respect of drainage strategies.</p> <p>Thames Water has agreed to keep the Committee updated on progress with the strategies.</p> <p>Representatives of both the strategic and operational management at Thames Water are to be invited to attend a future meeting.</p>	On-going	ENV

3	Open Space Grass Cutting	<p>Work with local councils to pilot the provision of maps showing responsibility for grass cutting in parishes is on-going.</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council has withdrawn funding for grass cutting and options for delivery of services by this council as a result will need to be considered.</p> <p>The council is also looking at options for a more coherent approach including collaborative working with town/parish councils.</p>	On-going	ENV
4	Low Carbon and Environmental Plan	<p>The WODC Low Carbon and Environmental Plan was approved in February 2014.</p> <p>Members receive regular updates on progress with actions in the plan. The latest update report was considered at the July meeting.</p>	On-going	ENV
5	Car Park Strategy	<p>The Committee has previously requested that it be kept advised of progress in respect of the strategy for off-street parking.</p> <p>Members received an update at the July 2015 meeting and the Head of Environment and Commercial Services provided an update on the outcome of the public consultation on the strategy at the last meeting.</p> <p>The strategy was approved and adopted by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 14 December 2016.</p>	Completed	

6	Environmental Regulations	At its meeting held on 21 July the Committee agreed to monitor the aftermath of Brexit and the dismantling of the Department for Energy and Climate Change in relation to environmental laws and regulations and, in particular, two issues with a direct bearing on West Oxfordshire; air quality and flood alleviation measures.	Ongoing	ENV
---	---------------------------	--	---------	-----