

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2014**

**COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2014/2015**

**REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR**

**(Contact: Frank Wilson, Tel: (01993) 861291)**

(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.

Frank Wilson  
Strategic Director

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Date: 8 September 2014

Background Papers

None

<b>FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW &amp; SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014/2015</b>				
	<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Originator</b>
<b>Items Originated by the Committee</b>				
1	Mitigation of Pension Fund Deficit Through Capitalisation		Potential for mitigating the pension fund deficit to be reviewed as a matter of course following periodic revaluation of the fund	FMOS
2	Service Efficiency Reviews	In February 2012 it was agreed that Service Heads be invited to attend Committee meetings to discuss the operation of their services.	Strategic Director to agree programme with Chairman.	FMOS The Joint Head of Revenues and Benefits, the Head of Housing, the Head of Leisure and Tourism, the Head of Community Services and the Shared Head of Customer Services attended meetings in 2012/13 – 2013/14  Those Service Heads yet to do so will attend the Committee during the current municipal year.

	<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Originator</b>
3	Investment with Green Deal Provider	To receive a report on the operation of the Green Deal scheme	At a previous meeting it was agreed that the Chief Executive of the Green Deal Together Community Interest Company be invited to attend to discuss its operation.	FMOS Brad Hook, the Chief Executive of the Green Deal Together Community Interest Company, gave a presentation at the July 2014 meeting.
4	Operation of the Council's Contract Register	To receive a report on the operation of the Council's contract register	A report on the Council's contract procedure was considered in October 2013. It was agreed that a report on the operation of the Council's contract register would be submitted as part of the Work Programme.	FMOS Information will be presented to the December Committee

	<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Originator</b>
5	Performance Indicators	To receive information on performance indicators relating to Corporate Resources, Business Information and Change, Customer Services, Revenues and Benefits, and Legal and Democratic Services.	Reports on Performance Indicators are considered on a quarterly basis.	
6	Treasury Management Activity and Performance	To receive information on treasury management and the performance of in-house and external fund managers' Activity.	Reports on treasury management activity and performance are considered on a quarterly basis.	
7	Budget	To consider the initial draft base budgets, draft fees and charges for and the latest Capital Programme for the current and future years.	December 2014	The Cabinet is required to consult Overview and Scrutiny Committees on its budget proposals in accordance with the Council's Constitution.
8	Medium Term Financial Strategy	To consider the annual refresh of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.	A report is submitted on an annual basis	Draft to be considered at December meeting

	<b>Work Area</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Originator</b>
9	Investment Property Review	To advise Members of current property investments and their performance since the last review.	A report is submitted on an annual basis	The annual report was received at the July 2014 meeting.
10	Use of Roof Space on Council Properties	To consider where appropriate the possibility of installing solar panels. Also to consider issues pursuant to the role of the committee on asset management.		FMOS
11	Rural Broadband	To monitor and review the project for high speed rural broadband.		FMOS On agenda for this meeting