



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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Name and date of Committee	Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee 15 July 2021
Report Number	Agenda Item No. 6
Subject	Committee Work Programme 2021/2022
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Cllr Alaa Al-Yousuf, Chairman Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Email: alaa.alyousuf@westoxon.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Amy Bridgewater-Carnall, Senior Strategic Support Officer Tel: 01993 861522 Email: democratic.services@westoxon.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	To provide the Committee with an update on its Work Programme 2021/22.
Annexes	Annex 1 - Work Programme for 2021/22
Recommendation	That the Committee notes the work programme, provides comment where needed.
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 May meeting the Committee gave consideration to the development of its Work Programme for the year having regard to the changes to the approach to scrutiny work adopted by Council on 22 October 2008.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1. Members are asked to consider the work programme, along with the Cabinet work programme, and decide if there are any items that they wish to scrutinise in particular.
- 2.2. Once considered, the Committee can decide whether to submit formal comments or recommendations to the Cabinet as they see fit.
- 2.3. 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.

- 2.4. Updates to the work programme include:

2.4.1 Riparian ownership

Officers have advised that Rachel Crookes, Biodiversity and Countryside Land Management Officer will be including the current watercourse management in the Baseline Land Management Plans, to include enhancement recommendations in the next stage of the plan process.

Rachel is consulting with Laurence King as the plans develop in case any of the enhancement proposals affect flooding and drainage dynamics. Work on the Land Management Plan has been reported to the CAWG and Informal Cabinet and a biannual report will be submitted to the next Council meeting.

Officers felt that as the work was in progress, it was too early to report anything further but ask that any specific concerns or site specific queries are emailed to jasmine.mcwilliams@publicagroup.uk which could then be incorporated into the current work.

2.4.2 Local Lead Flood Authority – update

Since the last meeting, Democratic Services have emailed OCC to enquire about an update on the Section 19 report following the Christmas floods in Witney. Unfortunately, we have not received an response as yet. We therefore recommend moving this item to the September meeting.

2.4.3 Environment Agency Representative

Officers have given us a number of email contacts for representatives at the Environment Agency but at the time of writing the report, we have not yet received a response.

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.

15 July 2021

	Title	Format	Lead Officer / Cabinet Member	Next report / Anticipated Completion Date	Comments
1	Review of OCC Section 19 relating to the Christmas Floods 2020	Written report	Bill Oddy / Councillor MacRae	Move to September 2021?	Representative from the Environment Agency to be invited
2	Riparian Ownership and flood risk WODC owned land	Verbal update	Bill Oddy / Councillor MacRae	Move to September 2021?	

September 2021

	Title	Format	Lead Officer / Cabinet Member	Next report / Anticipated Completion Date	Comments
3	Approval of Charges for the Delivery of Waste & Recycling Containers	Cabinet report	Bill Oddy / Councillor MacRae		

Regular Reports	Frequency	Next Meeting Date
Update on Carbon Action Plan – Ness Scott and Councillor Harvey (Cabinet Work Programme number 3)	Every meeting	May 2021 – to induct any new Members
Flood Prevention, Drainage & Sewerage Infrastructure Issues - Councillor MacRae / Laurence King	As required	

Air Quality	Annual report	TBC
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Suggestions for future workstreams

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