



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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Name and date of Committee	Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee 30 September 2021
Report Number	Agenda Item No. 7
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. Local Lead Flood Authority – update

At the last meeting, the Chairman requested that Officers contact Mr Cotton at OCC and remind him of the five commitments he agreed to at the previous meeting. Despite several attempts by Democratic Services to contact Mr Cotton, the most recent returned saying he was on leave until Monday 27 September 2021. Post publishing of the 30 September Agenda, if any further update is forthcoming, the Committee will be informed at the meeting.

A site visit was due to occur with Councillor Sudbury on 5 August 2021.

Environment Agency Representative

The Senior Strategic Support Officer advised that invitations had been extended and a response received from the Area Director – Thames. She agreed that it may be possible for a representative to attend a future meeting be requested clarity on what was required. In response, we included the minutes from previous meetings which covered the context and advised that the Committee would like clarification on the EA's role, particularly in the context of the flooding at Christmas. We were given the details for one of the Flood Risk Team Leaders and have extended an invitation. As yet, we are awaiting a response but will advise of any further progress at the meeting.

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.

September 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	The Cabinet member, Councillor MacRae reported that he had written to colleagues at the County Council and requested updates accordingly. Democratic Staff made several attempts to contact Mr Cotton, with no response.
2	Riparian Ownership and flood risk WODC owned land	Verbal update	Bill Oddy / Councillor MacRae	Move to September 2021	Site visit occurred 5th August 2021.
3	Approval of Charges for the Delivery of Waste & Recycling Containers	Cabinet Report	Bill Oddy / Councillor MacRae / Scott Williams	Report due to Cabinet 13 Oct 2021	Committee decides whether to express a view to the Cabinet Committee due on 13 October 2021.
4	Approval of Charges for New Street Toilets	Cabinet Report	Councillor MacRae / Maria Wheatley	Report due to Cabinet 13 Oct 2021	Committee decides whether to express a view to the Cabinet Committee due on 13 October 2021.

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

Suggestions for future workstreams:

I.	The Local Nature Partnership	Verbal Update	Councillor Coles	Update due September	Councillor Coles introduced the report and requested that an additional item relating to the Local Nature Partnership be added to the September programme prior to the project's 'go live' date. Update from Clare Mowbray - Giles Hughes of WODC is on the Steering Group of the LNP so may be able to give the Committee an update.
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