

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Environmental Health</b>
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<b>Portfolio Leader:</b>	<b>Cllr Carl Bennett</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Report Track:</b>	<b>CS Scrutiny Committee 25.07.16</b>

**COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016****WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016-17****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To seek approval of the Community Safety Scrutiny Committees work programme for 2016 - 17

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Committee review the draft work programme for 2016-17 and advise on what they wish to include for the forthcoming year (see Appendix 1);

**3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The scrutiny structure has been designed to ensure effective accountability for the delivery against the Council's key outcomes set out in the Council's Corporate Plan 2015-18.
- 3.2 The Community Safety Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising the priority for cleaner and safer environments, working with partners to foster safer and stronger communities.
- 3.3 The Scrutiny Committee is encouraged to identify issues that relate to this priority and/or are a priority for local people and communities. If a matter is a recurring issue for the people you, as Councillors, represent, the likelihood is that it is something that the Committee should consider. The more relevant the issue is to local communities then the greater the likelihood of engaging those communities in the scrutiny process and of producing outcomes that will be visible to those communities you represent.

- 3.4 Members are encouraged to propose issues that could be included for consideration in the work programme. The work programme may be revised during the year as necessary.
- 3.5 Members are invited to comment on the attached draft Work Programme (Appendix 1).

## **4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 This report supports the Council's Corporate Priorities as follows:
- (i) Cleaner and safer environments – working with partners to foster safer and stronger communities.

## **5 Report Detail**

### **Background**

- 5.1 The Community Safety Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising the priority for cleaner and safer environments.
- 5.2 The Council has identified four strategic objectives for this priority. The Committee has responsibility for holding the relevant Cabinet Member to account in regard to delivering the following strategic objectives:
- Early Intervention
  - Supporting Victims and Witnesses
  - Managing Offenders
  - Increase Public Confidence

### **Developing the Work Programme**

- 5.3 To support Members in their Scrutiny role and in particular in developing a work programme a Scrutiny Toolkit has been produced; a copy is attached at Appendix 2.
- 5.4 In developing the work programme Members are encouraged to consider the following questions:
- Is the matter a concern to local people? (You may wish to reflect on topics raised with you when canvassing).
  - Is the issue an identified priority for the Council or partners?
  - Does the issue relate to an area of service with a trend in weak performance?

- What difference could scrutiny make?
- What would happen if you did not look at this issue?

5.5 To further assist Members in developing the work programme:

- A copy of the Community Safety Delivery Plan is attached at Appendix 3.

5.6 Whilst the Work Programme can be revised during the year to reflect emerging priorities, it is important to plan ahead and allow time for reports to be prepared and invitations to be sent to relevant parties.

5.7 Whilst it is for the Committee to determine what they do and do not want to include in the Work Programme, there are some issues carried over from last year that the Committee may want to include. The draft Work Programme attached as Appendix 2 to this report also includes some items that have been proposed for inclusion by the Cabinet Member and/or Senior Officers on which the Committee views are sought prior to a decision being taken.

### **Undertaking the Scrutiny reviews**

5.7 Once Members have identified the matters they wish to scrutinise, consideration should be given to scoping the subject in more detail including the timing and method of scrutiny to be used. Support in this process will be given by the Lead Officer for the Scrutiny Committee.

5.8 Members may wish to:

- Consider an item at a single meeting;
- Consider an item over a series of meetings;
- Allocate the work to a small working group of Members to investigate the issue over a period of 2-3 months (this may involve visits to see how services are working in practice);
- Invite expert witnesses to give their views;
- Seeking the views of service users and/or the general public.

5.9 Members should also consider what they can do to support the review eg:

- Undertaking research eg via the internet;
- Seeking the views of ward members or specific interest groups

### **Reporting on Scrutiny Reviews**

5.10 In addition to reporting to the Committee on the outcome of any reviews, the Committee may wish to make recommendations to Cabinet or another Committee.

5.11 At the year end, the Chair of the Committee will prepare a report for Council on the outcome of the Committee's Work Programme.

## **6 Implications**

### **6.1 Financial**

Any costs to be incurred in undertaking any review will need to be contained within existing budgets.

### **6.2 Legal**

### **6.3 Human Resources**

None.

### **6.4 Section 17 (Crime Prevention)**

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires responsible authorities to consider crime and disorder (including antisocial behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the exercise of all their duties, activities and decision-making. This means that in all policies, strategies and service delivery there is a need to consider the likely impact on crime and disorder.

### **6.5 Human Rights Act**

None.

### **6.6 Data Protection**

None.

### **6.7 Risk Management**

The key aspects of risk management in regard to scrutiny work programmes are:

- ensuring that there are clear outcomes from the scrutiny process that impact positively upon the services users/communities within the District and link to corporate priorities; and
- that there is adequate capacity for the committee to complete the work that has been agreed.

### **6.8 Equality & Diversity**

The Council has a responsibility to undertake adequate Equality Impact Assessments to ensure services do not have a negative impact on any one section of the community and the scrutiny committees have a role in ensuring that this

responsibility is fulfilled, particularly in regard to health impact. Scrutiny as a function must also comply with the relevant legislation. When considering work programme items, especially when undertaking reviews of policy, the scrutiny committees must always consider whether their recommendations may impact differently on various individuals/sections of the community.

### 6.9 **Best Value**

Work programmes which are effectively prioritised will ensure that scrutiny activity is focused where it can be of greatest benefit.

## **7 Appendices to the Report**

Appendix 1	Scrutiny Toolkit
Appendix 2	Draft Work Programme
Appendix 3	Community Safety Delivery Plan 2016/17

### **Previous Consideration**

None

### **Background Papers**