

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4 February 2019

Date of Meeting:

Report of:

Head of Governance and Democratic Services

Subject/Title:

Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To review items in the 2017/2018 Work Programme listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

2.0 Recommendations

That the 2017/2018 work programme be reviewed and specific consideration be given to the matters raised in paragraph 11.3.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is good practice to agree and review the Work Programme to enable effective management of the Committee's business.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Carbon reduction - Health

- 6.1 Not known at this stage.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 Not known at this stage.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 None.

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9.0 Risk Management

9.1 There are no identifiable risks.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 The schedule attached has been updated to reflect the decisions taken by the Committee at its previous meeting.

10.2 Members are asked to review the schedule attached to this report, and if appropriate, add new items or delete items that no longer require any scrutiny activity.

10.3 When selecting potential topics, Members should have regard to the Council's new three year plan and also to the general criteria listed below, which should be applied to all potential items when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate.

10.4 The following questions should be asked in respect of each potential work programme item:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority;
- Is the issue of key interest to the public;
- Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation;
- Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends;
- Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
- Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service;

10.5 If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:

- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
- The matter is subjudice
- Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

11. Anti – Social Behaviour Task and Finish Group

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11.1 On 6 December 2018, Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendations from a task and finish Group on anti -social behaviour. The task and finish group had been set up to measure the impact of a decision taken by Peaks and Plains Housing Trust to remove its Neighbourhood and Anti-social Behaviour Unit.

The task and finish group wished to establish whether that decision had put greater pressure on the Council's services and those of Cheshire Police to deal with increased caseloads of low-level and high-level anti-social behaviour.

11.2 The recommendations of the task and Finish Group were:

- 1 That this case be used as a learning exercise for all community safety partners in Cheshire East, and a reminder of the need for improved consultation and communication between local community safety partners regarding proposed changes to community safety service provision, to minimise the potential impacts to residents.
- 2 That community safety partners endeavour to set a clear precedent for consultation on such matters, as well as collective information sharing agreements, to further encourage the partnership approach to develop and become a more effective function.
- 3 That Peaks and Plains Housing Trust, Guinness Partnership and Plus Dane Housing be asked to provide further evidence to the council's Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – the scrutiny body now responsible for community safety matters – to inform of current and future planned arrangements for how anti-social behaviour cases are dealt with, and performance in this area.
- 4 That the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee endeavour to be involved in the development and production of future strategies and policies in relation to anti-social behaviour.
- 5 That this report be shared with all partners within the Safer Cheshire East Partnership, to inform of the findings, lessons learned and recommendations that arose from this review

11.3 The Committee is invited note recommendation 3 to give consideration to recommendation 4 above with a view to adding an appropriate item to the Committees work programme .

12 ***Access to Information***

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting

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