

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY - 17 OCTOBER 2017

REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

WARD(S) AFFECTED: *none*

Purpose/Summary of Report

- To review and determine Overview and Scrutiny (OS) Committee's future work programme

RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION:

That:

(A)	the work programme shown in this report, be agreed
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1.0 Background

1.1 Items previously required, identified or suggested for the OS work programme are set out in **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**.

1.2 Scrutiny committees have the power of influence and are entitled to review and scrutinise the decisions and functions of the Council and the Executive. The Committee serves as a 'critical friend' and can make recommendations to the Executive.

2.0 Report

2.1 The draft agenda for 2017/18 meetings of OS Committee is shown in **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**. The timing of some items shown may have to change depending on availability of essential data (eg. from central government) and officers.

2.2 A work planning workshop was held on the 12 July 2017 and Members suggested the following topics, among others, for potential inclusion: review of existing health and wellbeing strategy

with emphasis on 'prevention' approach to save money and improve outcomes, impact of the night time economy on health and emergency services, stress testing of the emergency planning process, effective communications, and business engagement/economic development. An email containing notes of this meeting was sent to all OS Members on the 16 August 2017.

- 2.3 Scrutiny Officers will liaise with lead officers on how to best address each topic. Some topics, such as the effective communications item, require a Scrutiny Proposal Form (**Essential Reference Paper 'C'**) to be completed by Members in order to provide officers with sufficient information to ensure their specific questions are addressed.
- 2.4 Members are asked whether there are any additional topics they wish to propose for consideration by Scrutiny. Suggestions can be made at the meeting or by completing a Scrutiny Proposal Form and submitting to the Scrutiny Officer.
- 2.5 Members agreed to extend an invitation to the following Executive Members to provide an overview on their portfolio, followed by questions from the Committee at the following meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Executive Member</u>
12 September 2017	Cllr Rutland-Barsby, Development Management and Council Support
17 October 2017	Cllr Buckmaster, Health and Wellbeing
12 December 2017	Cllr McAndrew, Environment and the Public Space
20 February 2018	Cllr Jones, Economic Development
17 April 2018	Cllr Haysey, Leader of the Council

Cllr Williamson, Executive Member for Finance and Support Services will be invited to present his portfolio and answer Member questions at the Performance, Audit and Governance Scrutiny Committee meeting on 16 January 2018 which OS Committee Members are welcome to attend

2.6 Members are asked whether there is any training relevant to scrutiny or to the function and remit of the OS Committee which they wish to suggest.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers: none

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