

East Herts Council Report

Performance Audit and Governance Oversight Committee

Date of Meeting: 17 March 2020

Report by: Chairman of Performance Audit and Governance Oversight Committee

Report title: Draft Work Programme 2019/20

Ward(s) affected: All

Summary

- To invite Members to review and determine the future work programme of Performance, Audit and Governance Oversight Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, that:

- (a) the main agenda items for the next meeting be agreed;
- (b) the draft work programme, as amended, at Appendix A, for the remainder of the year be agreed.

1.0 Proposal(s)

- 1.1 Items previously required, identified or suggested for the PAGO work programme are set out in **Appendix A**.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The draft agenda for the next PAGO Committee is shown in **Appendix A**. Members are asked to confirm that these are

the key items they wish to consider.

- 2.2 **Appendix A** also sets out provisional items for future meetings of the committee. Whilst the timing of some items shown may have to change depending on availability of essential data (eg. from central government), members are asked to consider the future programme and add, remove or move items as they see fit.
- 2.3 Members are asked whether there is any training relevant to the function and remit of the PAG Oversight Committee that they wish to suggest and advise the Scrutiny Officer.

3.0 Reason(s)

- 3.1 While PAGO is not a Scrutiny Committee, it has a specific role of monitoring the budget and oversees the performance of services by considering a range of information such as performance indicators, inspection reports and action plan monitoring. It approves the Council's Statement of Accounts and is also the Council's Audit Committee and carries out Treasury Management functions. As a result, the work programme helps provide structure and identifies a clear reporting timeframe for those reports.

4.0 Options

- 4.1 Members have the option to include or exclude any items on the proposed work programme, however, officers recommend approval of the listed items as consideration will fulfil the council's audit functions and the items reflect the issues previously raised by PAGO members. Members should be aware that this is a draft work programme which is continually reviewed and will evolve as the work programme develops triggered by external and internal influences.

5.0 Risks

- 5.1 If the PAGO Committee chose not to consider the various audit and financial reports in the proposed work programme, subject to the Legal observations made later in this report, the council could potentially be at risk of not identifying potential issues and risks to the authority and thus taking mitigating actions.

6.0 Implications/Consultations

- 6.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within the body of this report.

Community Safety

No

Data Protection

No

Equalities

No

Environmental Sustainability

No

Financial

None applicable to this report apart from the benefits, as discussed above, of member oversight of the council's key financial practices and policies.

Health and Safety

No

Human Resources

No

Human Rights

No

Legal

None applicable to this report but PAGO is required to receive and consider reports and agree such reports as required by statute and agreed timeframes. These include for example, the Treasury Management Statement and Statement of Accounts.

Specific Wards – All wards

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

7.1 Not applicable.

Contact Member Mark Pope, Chairman of Performance Audit and Governance Oversight Committee
mark.pope@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer James Ellis
Head of Legal and Democratic Services
James.ellis@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author Lorraine Blackburn, Scrutiny Officer.
Lorraine.blackburn@eastherts.gov.uk