

REPORT TO: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: 12 JULY 2022

TITLE: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2022/23

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RECOMMENDED that the Committee:

- A** Approves the draft work plan attached as Appendix A to the report, subject to the addition of additional topics following discussion with the Leader.
- B** Notes the topic submission forms attached as Appendix B to the report.

BACKGROUND

1. The Scrutiny Committee approves its work plan at the first Committee meeting of the municipal year. It then has the opportunity to update its work plan at subsequent meetings in line with the Cabinet-Scrutiny Protocol
2. As set out in the protocol submission forms need to be submitted 28 days before the first meeting. These are then considered by the Senior Management Board who put together a draft work plan, which is then considered by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.
3. The Protocol also sets out that the Leader of the Council will be invited to the Committee's first meeting each year. This allows the Leader to set out their priorities for the following year along with areas they think the Committee's input would be beneficial. The Committee then has the opportunity to ask questions of the Leader and to identify areas it may wish to have pre-scrutiny of.
4. The Committee is invited to note the Cabinet Forward Plan (attached as Appendix C to the report) to aid its discussion with the Leader, as well as the current Corporate Strategy (attached as Appendix D).

ISSUES/PROPOSALS

5. In line with the process set out in paragraph 2 above, the draft work plan (attached as Appendix A to the report) has been produced. The Committee is invited to consider and approve this work plan in light of the review submission forms (attached as Appendix B to the report).

6. The Committee are also invited to consider items which may be included for pre-scrutiny following discussions with the Leader and consideration of the Forward Plan. Consideration should be given to the type of pre-scrutiny that the item needs, for example, light touch or in depth, as well as any SMART objectives which would be relevant for the item.
7. In terms of the items which were submitted but have not been allocated space on the work plan, the reasons in respect of each item are set out below:
 - a) Online Gambling – The Government is currently considering the introduction of legislation on this matter. Any review should follow this legislation.
 - b) GP Practices – The relevant scrutiny authority for this is Essex County Council. The Director of Communities and Environment will speak to Councillor Carter about the discussions which are already taking place between the Council and the CCG.
 - c) Parking Permits – It is recommended that this is instead dealt with by the Parking Steering Group
 - d) Hate Crime – This is to be incorporated in pre-scrutiny of the Community Safety Strategy. The Director of Communities and Environment will speak to Councillor Griggs about the actions the Council is already taking.
 - e) Veolia Contract – It is noted that this already forms part of the Audit and Standards Committee’s audit tracker. Relevant information will be supplied to Councillor Vince.
 - f) Garage e-charging – This can be incorporated into the emerging Garages Strategy.

IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Growth and Regeneration

None specific.

Author: Andrew Bramidge, Director of Strategic Growth and Regeneration

Finance

None specific.

Author: Simon Freeman, Deputy to the Chief Executive and Director of Finance

Housing

None specific.

Author: Andrew Murray, Director of Housing

Communities and Environment

None specific.

Author: Jane Greer, Director of Communities and Environment

Governance and Corporate Services

None specific.

Author: Simon Hill, Director of Governance and Corporate Services

Appendices

Appendix A – Draft Scrutiny Committee Work Plan

Appendix B – Scrutiny Committee Review Topic Submission Forms

Appendix C – Cabinet Forward Plan

Appendix D – Corporate Strategy

Background Papers

None.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

SMB – Senior Management Board