

REGENERATION, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

21 MARCH 2023

WORK PROGRAMME

Report from/author: Jon Pitt, Democratic Services Officer

Summary

This item advises Members of the current work programme and allows them to adjust it in the light of latest priorities, issues and circumstances. It gives Members the opportunity to shape and direct the Committee's activities over the year.

1. Budget and policy framework
 - 1.1 Under Chapter 4, Part 5 of the Constitution – Overview and Scrutiny Rules, paragraph 21.1 (xv) General terms of reference, each overview and scrutiny committee has the responsibility for setting its own work programme.
2. Background
 - 2.1 Appendix A to this report sets out the proposed work programme for this Committee.
3. Agenda Planning Meeting
 - 3.1 Members will be aware that Overview and Scrutiny Committees hold agenda planning meetings on a regular basis. These give officers guidance on information Members wish them to provide when scrutinising an issue. An agenda planning meeting was held on 16 February 2023.
 - 3.2 At the pre-agenda meeting it was requested that a report on the Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan be added to the agenda for the March meeting to enable the Committee to consider year 2 fund proposals ahead of these being presented to Cabinet.
 - 3.3 It was also requested that the report relating to the Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Strategy be deferred from this meeting as the Strategy was not expected to be finalised until later in 2023.

- 3.4 At its last meeting, the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommended to the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees that they consider including in their next work programme report a review of last four years. This would include the structure and content of the work programme, an update on Task Groups and any outstanding matters and actions, to serve as a handover document to the new Committee after the elections. It is proposed that this is included in the Work Programme report for the June meeting.
- 3.5 At this meeting the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee also requested, during discussion of an update report from Medway Norse, that it be provided a report in relation to delayed building condition surveys and requested a further report on progress to bring the Council's building stock up to standard. As such a report would fall under this Committee's terms of reference, rather than Business Support O&S, the Committee is asked to consider this request and determine whether it wishes to receive the requested report. Officers request that any report is scheduled from August 2023 onwards to enable receipt and analysis of the building condition surveys.
- 3.6 Since the pre-agenda meeting, a Medway Norse Operational update report has been included on the Cabinet Forward Plan. The Committee has previously agreed that it would receive operational updates with the Business Support O&S Committee receiving strategic update reports. The relevant changes to the Terms of Reference of both Committees was agreed by Full Council on 19 January 2023. It is therefore proposed that a report be added to this Committee's Work Programme for consideration at the August 2023 meeting.
- 3.7 As agreed previously by this Committee, a list of briefing notes relevant to the work of this Committee which have been circulated in 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023 are attached as Appendices B to D.

4. Cabinet Forward Plan

- 4.1 The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 6 March 2023. Set out below is a list of items featuring on the Forward Plan that fall within the terms of reference of the Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee is asked to identify any items it wishes to consider before the Cabinet decision is taken (where dates permit), other than those already programmed in Appendix A.

<u>Title of Decision:</u>	<u>Anticipated Decision Date:</u>
Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan Submission – on agenda for this meeting	4 April 2023
Climate Change Action Plan Update	11 July 2023

Medway Development Company Ltd – Six Monthly Update and Business Plan	11 July 2023
Medway Norse Operational Update – on Work Programme for August 2023 meeting	11 July 2023

5. Financial and legal implications

5.1 There are no financial or legal implications arising from this report.

6. Recommendations

6.1 The Committee is asked to:

- a) Agree the proposed work programme, set out at Appendix A to the report.
- b) Identify any additional items for inclusion in the work programme.
- c) Consider the request of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out at paragraph 3.5 of the report, and determine whether it wishes to receive a report at its August 2023 meeting on building condition surveys and progress to bring the Council's building stock up to standard.

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Appendices

Appendix A – Work programme

Appendix B – Index of briefing notes 2021

Appendix C – Index of briefing notes 2022

Appendix D – Index of briefing notes 2023

Background papers

None