

# REGENERATION, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

28 MARCH 2017

## WORK PROGRAMME

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

Author: Ellen Wright, 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 existing 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 9 March 2017.

3.2 The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Spokespersons were updated on the committee's current work programme and advised on the reports to be submitted to this meeting.

3.3 Arising from the pre-agenda meeting it is suggested that:

- The report on information on the levels of finance needed to be invested in the highways network in order to maintain current levels of technical performance be scheduled for report in August 2017.
- The Annual Review of Waste Contracts be submitted to Committee in March 2018 on the basis that this will be 12 months from the current report.
- A report on Street Licensing – Placing objects on the Highway be scheduled for the August meeting of the Committee

#### 4. Cabinet Forward Plan

- 4.1 The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 6 March 2017. 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>
Transfer of Chatham Waterfront Bus Station Information Service to Medway Norse	1 April 2017
Air Quality Management Area – Four Elms Hill	9 May 2017
Dementia Task Group – <i>This will be the subject of a report to RCE O&amp;S Committee on 28 March 2017</i>	9 May 2017
Medway Commercial Group Ltd First year Quarter 4 Report	6 June 2017

#### 5. Next Scrutiny Task Group – Employment Opportunities for 18-21 Year Olds (including apprenticeships)

- 5.1 At the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 3 December 2015 a list of scrutiny review topics were agreed, along with an order in which they should be completed. The last task group, “How far has Medway gone in becoming a dementia friendly community”, is currently in the final stages as its findings and recommendations are being reported to the relevant committees in March before being presented to Cabinet in May.
- 5.2 The next scrutiny review topic to be undertaken is employment opportunities for 18-21 year olds (including apprenticeships). This will be set up around May 2017, ahead of the next meeting of this Committee.
- 5.3 This topic is a cross-cutting topic which falls within the terms of reference of this committee and that of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It is therefore recommended that the membership of the task group be drawn from both committees on the basis of three Conservative Members and two Labour Group Members (as opposed to

3:1:1 as the UKIP Group do not wish to be represented on this Task Group). The membership could be increased by one to enable two Conservative Members from each Overview and Scrutiny Committee to participate if that is the wish of this Committee. The allocation of Members to the task group will be made in consultation with Group Whips, Chairmen and Opposition spokespersons of both committees.

## **6. Financial and legal implications**

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

## **7. Recommendations**

- 7.1
- a) The Committee is asked to note the current work programme and identify any additional items for inclusion in the work programme.
  - b) Agree the following changes to the work programme in line with the suggestions at the pre-agenda meeting:
    - The report on information on the levels of finance needed to be invested in the highways network in order to maintain current levels of technical performance be scheduled for report in August 2017.
    - The Annual Review of Waste Contracts be submitted to Committee in March 2018 on the basis that this will be 12 months from the current report.
    - A report on Street Licensing – Placing objects on the Highway be scheduled for the August meeting of the Committee
  - c) The Committee is requested to note that the next Scrutiny Task Group will review Employment Opportunities for 18 – 21 year olds including apprenticeships and to agree that the membership should be on the basis of 3 Conservative Group Members and 2 Labour Group Members (noting that the UKIP Group will not be taking up their place on this occasion).

## **Appendices**

Appendix A – Work programme

### **Lead officer contact**

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### **Background papers**

None.