

COUNCIL

26 APRIL 2018

REPORT ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITY

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

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Summary

This report provides a summary of the work of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees since the last report to Council on 25 January 2018.

1. Policy and Budget Framework

- 1.1 The Council's Constitution provides for the activities of Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committees to be reported to Council meetings. The following is a high-level summary of business conducted. For further detail please refer to the minutes of each Committee which are published on the Council's website using the web links under each section.

2.	Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
2.1	<u>30 January 2018</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=3953&Ver=4	
2.1.1	Report title:	Attendance of the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services Outcome: The Committee thanked the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services for his attendance.
2.1.2	Report title:	Medway Nurse Update Outcome: The Committee noted the report.

2.1.3	Report title:	<p>Housing Revenue Account - Capital and Revenue Budgets 2018/2019</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee recommended to the Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A proposed rent decrease of 1% for the housing stock as set out in Appendix A to the report (based upon 52 collection weeks) with effect from 2 April 2018. b) The baseline garage rent for Council tenants be increased by £1 from £6.73 to £7.73 with effect from 2 April 2018 per week. c) A rent increase for all garage tenure types of 5% will be applied with effect from 2 April 2018 per week. d) With effect from 2 April 2018 it is proposed that all new void garage lettings will be charged the same baseline rent regardless of residential tenure type (this will be £9.41 per week) for 2018/19. e) That the service charges and increases as set out in Appendix B of the report for 2018/19 be approved. f) That the revenue budget for the HRA Service for 2018/19 as per Appendix C of the report be approved. g) That the provision for the repayment debt based on annuity based payment on the HRA outstanding debt to be £0.313 million for 2018/19 be approved. h) That the proposed three year Planned Maintenance Capital Programme as set out in paragraph 8.6.3 of the report be approved. i) To use 30% of allowable expenditure of small third phase of new build programme from the retained 1-4-1RTB capital receipts as set out in section 8.6.4 of the report to be approved. j) To use funds for a further small third phase of new build programme from revenue reserves as set out in section 8.6.4 of the report to be approved. k) That Members approve the revised 30 year HRA Business Plan model as attached at Appendix D to the report. <p>Cabinet – 6 February 2018</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the comments of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>The Cabinet agreed recommendations a) to k) above</p>
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2.1.4	Report title:	<p>Draft Capital and Revenue Budget 2018/2019</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted that Cabinet had instructed officers to continue to work with Portfolio Holders in formulating robust proposals to balance the budget for 2018/19 and beyond. b) noted and commented on the proposals outlined in the draft capital and revenue budgets in so far as they related to the areas for which the committee was responsible. <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the comments from overview and scrutiny committees as summarised in Appendix 1 of this report.</p> <p>17/2018 The Cabinet recommended to Council that the net revenue budget summarised at Appendix 2 to the report, amounting to £290.003 million, should be adopted and that this be funded by a 5.994% increase in Council Tax for 2018/19 with the equivalent Band D figure at £1,374.28. Final proposals to address the £114,700 deficit would be reported to Council on 22 February 2018.</p> <p>18/2018 The Cabinet recommended to Council the capital budget proposals, as set out in Appendix 4 to the report.</p> <p>19/2018 The Cabinet recommended to Council the fees and charges set out at Appendix 6 to this report.</p> <p>20/2018 The Cabinet agreed that the Chief Finance Officer be requested to calculate the formal requirements under Sections 30 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for resolution by Special Council on 22 February 2018.</p>
2.1.5	Report title:	<p>Draft Capital and Revenue Budget Proposals 2018/19 (Report back from other Overview and Scrutiny Committees)</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed that all the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny committees, as set out in Section 3 of the report, together with this Committee's comments under agenda item 8, be forwarded to Cabinet on 6 February 2018.</p> <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>As set out in 2.1.4</p>

2.1.6	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Refresh 2018/19</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted and commented on the proposed changes to the programmes, key measures of success and targets as summarised in Table A and Appendix A of the report, prior to formal consideration by Cabinet on 6 February 2018 and Full Council on 22 February 2018. b) Requested that the phrase ‘lifelong learning’ be incorporated into the Jobs, Skills and Employability Programme. <p>Cabinet:</p> <p>15/2018 The Cabinet noted the comments of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee and accepted the recommendation set out in paragraph 2.2 of the addendum report.</p> <p>16/2018 The Cabinet recommended to Full Council to approve the proposed changes to programmes summarised in table A at paragraph 3.2 of the report, as amended by decision no. 15/2018 above, and key measures of success and targets as detailed in Appendix A of the report.</p>
2.1.7	Report title:	<p>The Council's Petitions Scheme - E-petitions</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Officers explore the potential to develop the Council's e-petition facility so that it incorporated some of the functionality of other e-petition platforms and became petitioners' preferred e-petition platform. b) Full Council consider an amendment to the Council's Petition Scheme to accept e-petitions which did not include all of the personal details currently required by the scheme.
2.1.8	Report title:	<p>Shared Human Resources (HR) Service between Medway Council and Gravesham Borough Council</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the proposals to establish a shared HR service with Gravesham Borough Council.</p>

2.1.9	Report title:	<p>Work programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the Committee's work programme (Appendix 1 to the report). b) agreed the proposed changes to the work programme set out in paragraph 3 to the report. c) noted the work programmes of all overview and scrutiny committees (set out in Appendix 2 to the report).
3.	Children and Young People Overview And Scrutiny Committee	
3.1	<p><u>8 March 2018</u></p> <p>https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=4003&Ver=4</p>	
3.1.1	Report title:	<p>Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member)</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee thanked the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member) for his attendance and the answers he had provided.</p>
3.1.2	Report title:	<p>Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Educational Attainment and Improvement</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee thanked the Portfolio Holder for Education and Attainment for his attendance at the meeting and the answers he provided.</p>
3.1.3	Report title:	<p>Annual Report on School Performance 2017</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee thanked the School Challenge and Improvement Leads and noted the Annual Schools' Performance Report set out at Appendix 1 to the report.</p>

3.1.4	Report title:	<p>Outcome of Joint Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Inspection</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the outcome of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Local Area Inspection; and b) agreed that a regular update on the progress of the SEND Improvement Plan be presented to the Committee.
3.1.5	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2017/18</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the quarter 3 2017/2018 performance against the measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council priorities.</p>
3.1.6	Report title:	<p>Special Educational Needs (SEN) Home to School Transport Consultation and Policy Review</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the proposals to revise the existing Home to School Transport Policy and the outcome of the consultation set out in section 6 and 7 of the report; b) noted that officers would include a mechanism within the proposed Education Travel Assistance Policy to enable families to pay the required contribution towards travel assistance for 16 to 18 year olds in instalments; c) noted that officers would offer all Councillors training on the new Education Travel Assistance Policy should it be approved by Cabinet on 10 April 2018; and d) recommended the proposed Education Travel Assistance Policy, set out at Appendix 3 to the report, to the Cabinet for approval at its meeting on 10 April 2018. <p>Cabinet</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the comments of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in section 8 of the report.</p> <p>58/2018 The Cabinet approved the 'Education Travel</p>

		Assistance Policy', as set out in Appendix 3 to the report.
3.1.7	Report title:	<p>Ofsted Inspection of Aut Even</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the work of the service and improvements made and that an update report would be provided to the Committee following the next Inspection by Ofsted scheduled in 2018/19.</p>
3.1.8	Report title:	<p>Work programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed the work programme, as set out at Appendix 1, subject to adding:</p> <p>5 June 2018 (provisional date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report on the Children's Social Care Service • Female Genital Mutilation • School Place Sufficiency Strategy <p>31 July 2018 (provisional date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the transfer of the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) Service to the Health Visiting Service <p>7 March 2019 (provisional date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medway Safeguarding Children's Board <p>Date to be determined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on the Mind of My own (MoMo) app • Update on the NHS England Commissioned Childhood Immunisation Programme in Medway
4.	Special Meeting: Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview And Scrutiny Committee	
4.1	<p><u>12 March 2018</u></p> <p>https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=437&MId=4179&Ver=4</p>	
4.1.1	Report title:	<p>Call-in and Petition Referral: Closure of Deangate Ridge Golf Course</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) Agreed that in the light of the additional information seen by the Committee, decision 23/2018 be referred back to Cabinet for further consideration.</p>

- b) Agreed that decision 24/2018 also be referred back to Cabinet on the basis that this decision be deferred pending the Cabinet's decision on 23/2018.
- c) Noted that the report on decision 23/2018 to Cabinet will include an options appraisal and that Cabinet will be supplied with a copy of the matters raised by the petitioners.

Cabinet

46/2018 The Cabinet, taking into account the comments of the Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the campaigners, confirmed decision no. 23/2018 to approve the closure of Deangate Ridge Golf Course and associated golf facilities on the basis of ongoing substantial financial loss, which is unsustainable, and that the last day of operation will be on 14 April 2018 to enable end of year tournaments to be completed.

Note: In accordance with Council Rule 12.6, Councillor Filmer requested that his vote against decision 46/2018 be recorded in the record of decisions.

47/2018 The Cabinet, taking into account the comments of the Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the campaigners, confirmed decision no. 24/2018 to instruct officers to begin detailed planning for consultation and development of a new sports centre for the Hoo Peninsula.

Note: In accordance with Council Rule 12.6, Councillor Filmer requested that his vote against decision 47/2018 be recorded in the record of decisions.

48/2018 The Cabinet instructed officers to liaise with golf club officials to ensure memorials on the course are dealt with sensitively, taking into account the wishes of families.

Note: In accordance with Council Rule 12.6, Councillor Filmer requested that his abstention in respect of decision 48/2018 be recorded in the record of decisions.

49/2018 The Cabinet instructed officers to consider the expression of interest submitted by the Deangate Community Partnership and Mytime Active under the Community Right to Challenge (Localism Act 2011) to provide sports, leisure, and wellbeing facilities and activities at Deangate Ridge Golf and Sports Complex and to submit a report back to

		Cabinet to determine the application.
5.	Health and Adult Social Care Overview And Scrutiny Committee	
5.1	<u>15 March 2018</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=3713&Ver=4	
5.1.1	Report title:	<p>Transition from Children's to Adults' Services - Briefing Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Noted and commented on the report. ii) Requested that written information be circulated to the Committee to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The number of social workers employed by Medway and the staffing structure. b. The number of Continued Healthcare Assessments that were outstanding.
5.1.2	Report title:	<p>Member's Item: Future of the RVS Older People's Centre Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed that Cabinet be asked to fund the RVS Older People Centre for the full year [2018/19], making up for the lost grant, thus giving time for RVS, the Centre, the users, the volunteers and Council officers to work together on a new model while still providing the services everyone attending the Committee meeting needs so badly. This time next year, progress be reviewed and further support considered if things are going well.</p> <p>Cabinet</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the progress made with RVS in covering a matching grant to cover costs over the 12 month period 2018-2019.</p> <p>50/2018 The Cabinet agreed that Medway Council officers and other interested parties work with RVS in the preparation of a sustainable programme for RVS Medway.</p> <p>51/2018 The Cabinet agreed that a progress report be prepared and presented to Cabinet within 6 months.</p>
5.1.3	Report title:	<p>Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee notes that the PNA has been updated and will be published before the end of March 2018.</p>

5.1.4	Report title:	<p>Medway Clinical Commissioning Group Operational Plan</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the progress on the delivery of the Operational Plan.</p>
5.1.5	Report title:	<p>Kent and Medway Strategic Commissioner</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee requested that a more detailed report on the establishment of a Kent and Medway Strategic Commissioner be brought to the next meeting of the Committee and further requested that a representative of the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Partnership attend the Committee.</p>
5.1.6	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Quarter 3 2017/18 Performance Monitoring Report</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Considered the quarter 3 2017/18 performance against the measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities. ii) Requested that an update on the Three Conversations Model be provided to the June 2018 meeting of the Committee.
5.1.7	Report title:	<p>Work Programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Considered and agreed the Work Programme, including the changes set out in the report and agreed during the meeting. ii) Agreed that the Labour group nominations for membership of the Social Isolation Task Group would be Councillors McDonald and Shaw and that nominations for the Conservative group membership of the Task Group would be put forward following the meeting for these appointments to be approved through the Council's committee membership appointment process.

6.	Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview And Scrutiny Committee	
6.1	28 March 2018 - (minutes not yet published so may need to amend) https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=437&MId=4013&Ver=4	
6.1.1	Report title:	<p>Petitions</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) thanked the lead petitioner for attending the meeting to address the Committee on her petition. b) noted the petition response and appropriate office action set out in the report, including that for the referred petition. c) noted that the Acting Integrated Transport Manager will liaise with the Parking Manager for the mobile enforcement vehicle to visit Ordnance Street in Chatham to assist with alleviating the problem of anti-social and illegal parking until the bollards are in place.
6.1.2	Report title:	<p>Attendance by the Portfolio Holder for Business Management</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) thanked the Portfolio Holder for attending the meeting and answering Member's questions. b) noted that the Portfolio Holder agreed to provide the following information to the individual Members concerned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of Community Wardens employed by the Council • The updated costs associated with the Medway Crematorium contract. c) noted that the Portfolio Holder will be investigating alternative web notification platforms for use by the Community Wardens.

6.1.3	Report title:	<p>Annual Review of Waste Contracts - Contract Year: October 2016 - September 2017</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee thanked the representatives from Veolia and Medway NORSE for attending the meeting and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) noted that arrangements will be made by Veolia for staff to undergo Dementia Awareness training.b) requested that Officers discuss with Communications, appropriate methods of communicating the suspension of refuse collections when there is snow taking into account that not all individuals have access to social media.c) requested that Officers supply further information on the level of reduced landfill tonnage as a result of changes to the shift patterns of staff at the Transfer Station to ensure that they are available to sort materials and thus increase recycling.d) requested that Customer Contact be provided with information as to the types of vehicles permitted to enter the Council's household waste recycling centres so that this may be relayed this when receiving customer enquiries.e) requested that future reports include information on the calculation of recycling to underpin the figures contained within the report.f) requested that in 2019, the annual report include a more detailed breakdown of the type of flytipping in Medway e.g. household, bulky or commercial waste and information on prosecutions.
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6.1.4	Report title:	<p>Member's Item: Ban on Alcohol being brought into the Rochester Castle Concerts</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) thanked Councillor Paterson for his Member's item. b) noted that the position for the 2018 Castle Concerts remain unchanged. c) noted that the Director of Regeneration, Culture, Environment and Transformation and Deputy Chief Executive will provide a copy of the Safety Advisory Group's advice to all Members of the Committee. d) noted that information will be supplied to direct to the Member concerned on the anticipated income levels received from the bar concessions, subject to such information not being commercially sensitive.
6.1.5	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2017/18</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the report and key measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council Plan 2017/18. b) noted that the Head of Performance and Intelligence will report direct to the Member concerned on the level of affordable housing delivered in the past year. c) noted that officers would supply information on the landscape masterplan for Jackson's Recreation Ground to the Member direct.

6.1.6	Report title:	<p>Work programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) noted the current work programme;</p> <p>b) noted that the report on the information on the levels of finance needed to be invested in the highways network in order to maintain current levels of technical performance had been rescheduled to August 2018.</p> <p>c) agreed that the report back on the Member's item concerning Parking in Gillingham North and South Wards be placed in the 'dates to be determined' section of the work programme on the basis that the Working Group has yet to meet.</p> <p>d) noted the information on the phasing out the use of unnecessary 'single use plastic' (SUP) products.</p>
7.	Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
7.1	<p><u>12 April 2018</u></p> <p>https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=3954&Ver=4</p>	
7.1.1	Report title:	Petition - Additional Parking Bays - Forge Lane Gillingham
7.1.2	Report title:	Attendance of the Leader of the Council
7.1.3	Report title:	Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Resources
7.1.4	Report title:	Universal Credit and Welfare Reforms – Six Monthly Progress Report
7.1.5	Report title:	Voluntary and Community Sector
7.1.6	Report title:	Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2017/18
7.1.7	Report title:	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2017/18 – Quarter 3
7.1.8	Report title:	Capital Budget Monitoring 2017/18 - Quarter 3
7.1.9	Report title:	Six Monthly Review of the Corporate Risk Register

7.1.10	Report title:	Community Governance Review - Review of Process
7.1.11	Report title:	Member's item - Land Disposal, Consultation and Access
7.1.12	Report title:	Corporate Peer Challenge
7.1.13	Report title:	Work Programme

The above reports were considered by the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 12 April 2018 and are listed here to enable the Council to discuss any issues arising at this meeting as the minutes are not yet available

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Appendices

None

Background papers

None