

COUNCIL

25 APRIL 2019

REPORT ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITY

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

Author: Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services

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 2019.

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>31 January</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&Mid=4128&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:	Becoming a Single Use Plastic Free Council Outcome: The Committee agreed to: a) note the update on progress made to becoming a single use plastic free Council, and;

		<p>b) welcome the suggestion that an environmental audit be carried out across all of the Council's purchasing activities with a view to incorporating this into the procurement strategy.</p>
2.1.3	Report title:	<p>Medway Norse Update</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to note the report.</p>
2.1.4	Report title:	<p>Housing Revenue Account - Capital and Revenue Budgets 2019/2020</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to recommend the following to the Cabinet:</p> <p>a) a proposed rent decrease of 1% for the housing stock as set out in Appendix A to the report (based upon 53 collection weeks) with effect from 1 April 2019;</p> <p>b) a proposed average rent of £82.47 per week based on a 53 week rent cycle be agreed for the six new build one bedroom bungalows at Petham Green, Twydall (estimated let date Autumn 2019);</p> <p>c) the baseline garage rent for Council tenants be increased by £1 from £8.12 to £9.12 with effect from 1 April 2019 per week;</p> <p>d) a rent increase for all garage tenure types of 5% will be applied with effect from 1 April 2019 per week;</p> <p>e) that the service charges and increases as set out in Appendix B of the report for 2019/20 be approved;</p> <p>f) that the revenue budget for the HRA Service for 2019/20 as per Appendix C to the report be approved;</p> <p>g) that the proposed capital budget of £3.3m be approved for the fourth phase of new build programme on various garage sites to be funded from borrowing and 1-4-1 capital receipts as set out in sections 8.6.4 of the report;</p> <p>h) that the provision for the repayment debt based on annuity based payment on the HRA outstanding debt to be £0.326m for 2019/20 be approved, and;</p> <p>i) that members approve the revised 30 year HRA Business Plan model as attached at Appendix D of the report.</p>

		<p>Cabinet – 5 February 2019</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the comments of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>The Cabinet agreed recommended recommendations A to K to Full Council on 21 February 2019 for approval.</p>
2.1.5	Report title:	<p>Draft Capital and Revenue Budgets 2019/2020</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) note that Cabinet has instructed officers to continue to work with Portfolio Holders in formulating robust proposals to balance the budget for 2019/20 and beyond, and; b) note the proposals outlined in the draft capital and revenue budgets in so far as they relate to the services within the remit of this Committee. <p>Cabinet – 5 February 2019</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the comments from overview and scrutiny committees as summarised in Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p>13/2019 The Cabinet recommended to Council that the net revenue budget summarised at Appendix 2 to the report, should be set at £297.742 million, and that this should be funded by a 2.994% increase in Council Tax for 2019/20 with the equivalent Band D figure at £1,412.44. Final proposals to address the £661,000 deficit would be reported to Council on 21 February 2019.</p> <p>14/2019 The Cabinet recommended to Council the capital budget proposals, as set out in Appendix 4 to the report.</p> <p>15/2019 The Cabinet recommended to Council the fees and charges set out at Appendix 6 to the report, subject to the removal of a number of the proposed increases including some bulky waste collection increases and some parking charge increases which would be recommended to Special Council on 21 February 2019.</p>

		<p>16/2019 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 21 February 2019.</p> <p>17/2019 The Cabinet recommended to Council to agree to delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader and relevant Portfolio Holder, to vary existing fees and charges and introduce new fees charges during the financial year on the basis set out in paragraphs 10.3 and 10.4 of the report.</p>
2.1.6	Report title:	<p>Draft Capital and Revenue Budget Proposals 2019/2020 (Report back from other Overview & Scrutiny Committees)</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed:</p> <p>a) 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 9, be forwarded to Cabinet on 5 February 2018, and;</p> <p>b) to recommend to Cabinet that the Council's mod.gov e-petition scheme not be upgraded until such time as additional funds become available.</p> <p>Cabinet – 5 February 2019</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>As set out in 2.1.5 above.</p>
2.1.7	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Refresh 2019/20</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <p>a) note the revised measures as set out in paragraph 1.2 above;</p> <p>b) note the proposed changes to programmes and measures of success as listed above and in Appendix 1 to the report at agenda item no. 11 and recommend to Cabinet that an additional measure is added to the Council Plan aimed at reflecting the overall direction of travel regarding children in temporary accommodation, and;</p>

		<p>c) note that, with regard to those Council Plan measures still awaiting a proposed target that Full Council will be asked to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources, to agree the final measures.</p> <p>Cabinet – 5 February 2019</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the comments and recommendation of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee set out in the addendum report, which would be taken into consideration.</p> <p>11/2019 The Cabinet recommended to Full Council to approve the proposed changes to programmes and measures of success summarised in paragraph 3.2 of the report and as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, noting there would be further work on Council Plan measures relating to schools.</p> <p>12/2019 The Cabinet recommended that Full Council agree to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources, to approve the final measures of success as set out in paragraph 3.4 to the report and as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report once further information is received.</p>
2.1.8	Report title:	<p>Work programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <p>a) note the work programme set out in Appendix 1 to the report and also to move the capacity of the voluntary sector in Medway item in the date to be determined section of the work programme to the July meeting.</p> <p>b) note the work programmes of the other overview and scrutiny committees set out in Appendix 2 to the report;</p> <p>c) add to the work programme for the July meeting a report setting out all Council services which have been transferred to Medway Commercial Group and Medway Norse which have come back to the Council, together with details of what action the Council subsequently took;</p> <p>d) agree to start the next Task Group in the Summer and note that, at the July meeting, Members will be asked to select a topic for the next Task Group from the three</p>

		<p>listed in paragraph 3.4.1 of the report and to also launch the process for selecting the next round of review topics, and;</p> <p>e) request that the Chairmen and Opposition Spokespersons on the Business Support and Regeneration, Culture and Environment O&S Committees be invited to a meeting to discuss the future high streets fund bid.</p>
3.	Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
3.1	<p><u>7 March</u></p> <p>https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=378&Mid=4143&Ver=4</p>	
3.1.1	Report title:	<p>Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services - Lead Member (Statutory Responsibility)</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee thanked the Portfolio Holder for Children Services – Lead Member for his attendance.</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 Educational Attainment and Improvement for his attendance.</p>
3.1.3	Report title:	<p>Annual Report on School Performance 2017-18</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the report and thanked the Deputy Director from the Regional Schools Commissioner's Office for his attendance.</p>
3.1.4	Report title:	<p>Medway Youth Council - Annual Conference Findings</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the report and thanked the Medway Youth Council for their work.</p>
3.1.5	Report title:	<p>Proposed Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the proposed timeline for consultation and approval set out at paragraph 7.2 of the report.</p>

3.1.6	Report title:	<p>Draft Medway Children and Young People's Plan 2019-2024</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the planned consultation with children and young people and other stakeholders as outlined in section 5 of the report, which would be reported back to the Cabinet when it considers a final CYPP for approval.</p> <p>Cabinet – 9 April 2019</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Cabinet noted the comments of the Health and Wellbeing Board, as set out in Section 6 of the report. The Cabinet noted the comments of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in Section 7 of the report.</p> <p>47/2019</p> <p>The Cabinet agreed that the draft Children and Young People's Plan, attached at Appendix 1, be consulted on as set out at Section 5 of the report, before being reported back to the Cabinet for final approval.</p>
3.1.7	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2018/19</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the report.</p>
3.1.8	Report title:	<p>Outcome of Ofsted's Focused Visit</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the report.</p>
3.1.9	Report title:	<p>Work Programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The Committee agreed the work programme as set out at Appendix 1 to the report. (2) The Committee recommended the Council to appoint Geoffrey Matthews to the position for a non-voting Teacher on the Committee for a two year term.

4.	Special – Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
4.1	<u>12 March</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=4366&Ver=4	
4.1.1	Report title:	<p>Outcome of NHS Consultation on Acute and Hyper-Acute Stroke Services in Kent and Medway</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To exercise the power to report to the Secretary of State for Health about the proposed establishment of Hyper Acute Stroke Units (HASUs) at Darent Valley Hospital, Dartford, Maidstone Hospital and William Harvey Hospital Ashford (consultation Option B) and resulting removal of acute stroke services from other hospitals in Kent and Medway, including Medway Maritime, for the reasons set out in paragraph 6.2 and on the basis that the requirement to take practical steps to reach agreement with the NHS on this matter have been taken, as set out in paragraph 10.4. ii) delegate authority to the Director of Public Health and Head of Democratic Services (who is the Council's Designated Scrutiny Officer) to take the necessary steps to produce and submit the report to the Secretary of State for Health, based on the rationale set out in paragraph 6.2, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Opposition Spokesperson of this Committee. iii) To formally notify the Joint Committee of Clinical Commissioning Groups for Stroke Services of the decision to report to the Secretary of State.
5.	Health and Adult Social Care Overview And Scrutiny Committee	
5.1	<u>14 March</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=4365&Ver=4	
5.1.1	Report title:	<p>Member Item - Kent and Medway Wheelchair Service</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Noted and commented on the Member item and the report provided by Thanet NHS Clinical Commissioning Group.

		<p>ii) Requested that further information be provided to the Committee in writing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The number of Millbrook Healthcare employees who were delivering the Kent and Medway Wheelchair service. b. Data in relation to the Complaints Review due to be completed in May. <p>iii) Requested that a further report be presented to the Committee at a future meeting.</p>
5.1.2	Report title:	<p>Medway NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) Update</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted and commented on the report and requested that staff survey data be provided to the Committee.</p>
5.1.3	Report title:	<p>Variation in Provision of Health Service - Improving Outpatient Service in Medway and Swale in Line With the Medway Model and Community Service Redesign</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Considered and commented on the report and proposed development or variation to the health service, as set out in the report and Appendix 1. ii) In consideration of Medway NHS CCG's assessment of the proposal, determined that the proposal does represent a substantial development of, or variation to, the health service in Medway. iii) Requested that a further update be provided to the Committee and that the Consult and Connect team attend this meeting to demonstrate telecare provision.
5.1.4	Report title:	<p>Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) Update</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Noted and commented on the report. ii) Agreed that a service user of the Mental Health Community Outreach team be invited to address a future meeting of the Committee.

5.1.5	Report title:	<p>Kent and Medway Transformation - Update on Integrated Care Systems and Kent and Medway System Commissioner</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted and commented on the update provided.</p>
5.1.6	Report title:	<p>Draft Medway Joint Carers' Strategy</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee commented on the Medway Joint Carers' Strategy, provided feedback to improve the content and delivery of the strategy outcomes and noted the timetable for approval, as set out in paragraph 5.5 of the report.</p>
5.1.7	Report title:	<p>Scrutiny of the Council's Transformation Programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee considered the report and the project update report provided.</p>
5.1.8	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2018/19</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee considered the quarter 3 performance of the measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities.</p>
5.1.9	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 the following changes to the Work Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reports on Medway NHS Clinical Commissioning Group's Operational Plan and a further report on Outpatient Services in Medway be added to the Work Programme for the June 2019 meeting.

		<p>b. A report on Suicide Prevention and, subject to confirmation by officers from Public Health, a report on ensuring a good pregnancy, be added to Work Programme for the June 2019 meeting.</p> <p>c. Further update reports on the Kent and Medway Wheelchair Service, from Medway Foundation Trust and from Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust be added to the Work Programme for the August 2019 meeting.</p> <p>d. The Director of Public Health Annual Report be added to the Work Programme for the October 2019 meeting.</p>
6.	Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview And Scrutiny Committee	
6.1	<u>28 March</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=437&MId=4149&Ver=4	
6.1.1	Report title:	<p>Petitions</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) noted the petition response and appropriate officer action as set out in paragraph 3 of the report.</p> <p>b) thanked Ms Stamp for attending the meeting and noted that the possible provision of passing places in Albany Road, Gillingham would be placed on the 2019/20 parking programme for consideration as a matter of priority.</p>
6.1.2	Report title:	<p>Attendance by the Portfolio Holder for Business Management</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) thanked the Portfolio Holder for attending the meeting and answering Member's questions;</p> <p>b) requested that a Briefing Note be supplied on the expenditure of the £210,000 Brexit related funding allocated to the Council by the Government.</p>

		<p>c) noted that the Portfolio Holder has offered to discuss with the Leader of the Council and officers, the inclusion of information on the Council's website signposting people to relevant Brexit weblinks.</p> <p>d) requested that all Luton and Wayfield Ward Councillors be provided with an update as to the current position concerning the area of Luton which was subject of a flood in 2018.</p>
6.1.3	Report title:	<p>Attendance by the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) thanked the Portfolio Holder for attending the meeting and answering questions.</p> <p>b) noted that the Portfolio Holder was happy to investigate alternative uses of the ground floor units at the Innovation Studios Medway.</p> <p>c) requested that a briefing note be provided on the outcome of the Local Growth Fund bid for Britton Farm, Gillingham.</p> <p>d) noted that the final Medway Local Plan was anticipated to be ready in Spring 2020.</p> <p>e) noted that the Portfolio Holder has offered to support Members in any representations for a free to use ATM machine in Rochester High Street.</p>
6.1.4	Report title:	<p>Gateway 5 Report: Annual Review of Waste Contracts Contract Year: October 2017 to September 2018</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) thanked Kim Savill from Veolia, Andrew Mann from Medway Norse and the Head of Environmental Services for their presentations and comprehensive response to Member's questions.</p> <p>b) noted that work is underway with the Council's Communications Team to refresh publicity covering all areas of the Environmental Services.</p>

		<p>c) agreed that a report be included on the agenda for the June meeting of the Committee providing an update concerning the Council's response to the introduction of charges by Kent County Council at its household waste recycling centres so as to protect use of Medway's sites for Medway residents.</p>
6.1.5	Report title:	<p>Update on CCTV Review</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) agreed that a report updating progress on the current CCTV improvement programme be included on the Committee's work programme.</p> <p>b) agreed that a report be submitted to the Committee in June 2019 setting out expenditure to date on the current CCTV Improvement Programme.</p> <p>c) agreed that a report also be included on the Committee's work programme enabling the Committee to have an oversight of future programmes of CCTV provision in Medway.</p> <p>d) requested that details of the Medway Council element of the MCG Business Plan be provided to Members of this Committee when available.</p>
6.1.6	Report title:	<p>Transformation Update</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the significant progress made in the transformation and digital journey for the Council.</p>
6.1.7	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Monitoring 2018/19 Quarter 3</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the Quarter 3 performance of measures used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities.</p>
6.1.8	Report title:	<p>Work programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the current work programme and agreed that the following reports be added to the Committee's work programme arising from discussions at this meeting:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For June 2019 - a report providing an update concerning the Council's response to the introduction of charges by Kent County Council at its household waste recycling centres so as to protect use of Medway's sites for Medway residents. • A report updating progress on the current CCTV improvement programme. • For June 2019 a report setting out expenditure to date on the CCTV Improvement Programme. • A report enabling the Committee to have an oversight of future programmes of CCTV provision in Medway.
7.	Business Support Overview And Scrutiny Committee	
7.1	<u>4 April</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=123&Mid=4151&Ver=4	
7.1.1	Report title:	Attendance of the Leader of the Council
7.1.2	Report title:	Universal Credit and Welfare Reforms – Six Monthly Progress Report
7.1.3	Report title:	Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 3
7.1.4	Report title:	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Quarter 3
7.1.5	Report title:	Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 – Quarter 3
7.1.6	Report title:	Six Monthly Review of the Corporate Risk Register
7.1.7	Report title:	Work programme
<p>The above reports were considered by the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 4 April 2019 and are listed here to enable the Council to discuss any issues arising at this meeting as the minutes are not yet available.</p>		

Contact for further details:

Julie Keith, Head of Democratic Services
Telephone: 01634 332760 Email: julie.keith@medway.gov.uk

Appendices

None.

Background papers

None.