

COUNCIL

23 JANUARY 2020

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 10 October 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.	Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
2.1	<u>15 October</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&Mid=4403&Ver=4	
2.1.1	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 considered and commented on the report and requested that the following be circulated to the Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) A timeline of the Outpatient Improvement Programme. ii) The Programme Communications and Engagement Plan.

2.1.2	Report title:	<p>Proposed Development of the Health Service or Variation of the Health Service - Frank Lloyd Centre, Sittingbourne</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. ii) Requested that further information be presented to a future meeting of the Committee to enable it to determine whether it considered that the proposals amounted to a substantial development of or variation to the health service in Medway.
2.1.3	Report title:	<p>Impact of Development in Medway, with a Focus on Air Quality</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Noted the report as an update from the Planning department and Environmental Protection on the impact of development in Medway, with a focus on air quality. ii) Requested that information be provided to Councillors on how they could promote green travel to residents.
2.1.4	Report title:	<p>Draft Medway Joint Adult Learning Disability Strategy</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee commented on the draft Strategy prior to its consideration by the Health and Wellbeing Board and presentation to Cabinet for approval.</p>
2.1.5	Report title:	<p>Healthy Pregnancy in Medway</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Noted the offer families have to support them to have a healthy pregnancy. ii) Requested that an update report be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.

		<p>iii) Requested that further information be circulated to the Committee, as set out in the minutes.</p> <p>iv) Requested that a letter of thanks be sent on behalf of the Committee to those responsible for the 'Grow My Brain' campaign.</p>
2.1.6	Report title:	<p>Adult Social Care Annual Complaints and Compliments Report - April 2018 to 31 March 2019</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted and commented on the report and requested that a briefing note be provided to include information on Freedom of Information Requests relating to Adult Social Care, a summary of action take to address concerns raised via complaints and details of nutritional requirements in care homes.</p>
2.1.7	Report title:	<p>"Healthy Minds, Healthy People: Wellbeing Across the Life Course in Medway" Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2018-19</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the report, findings and recommendations.</p>
2.1.8	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Risk Register Review Quarter 1 2019/20</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee considered the quarter 4 and end of year 2018/19 performance of the measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities.</p>
2.1.9	Report title:	<p>Work Programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Considered and agreed the Work Programme, including the changes set out in the report. b) Agreed that the report in relation to the DMC Healthcare surgeries in Gillingham and Chatham should also include an update on Dermatology provision. c) Agreed that update reports on the Frank Lloyd Centre and Healthy Pregnancy be added to the Work Programme for consideration at a future meeting of the Committee.

3.	Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
3.1	<u>17 October</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=437&MIId=4422&Ver=4	
3.1.1	Report title:	<p>Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) thanked the Portfolio Holder for attending the meeting and answering Members' questions. b) noted that there will be an informal Member Briefing on Environmental Enforcement. c) noted that the Portfolio Holder will let the Member concerned know when the independent market review is received. d) noted that the Portfolio Holder will let the Member concerned know the types of businesses which have been awarded start up grants and whether ongoing support would be provided. e) noted that the flytip figures stated in paragraph 6.6.13 of the report will be clarified. f) noted that the Portfolio Holder will revisit the statistics identified by the Member concerned in the various paragraphs of the report and will respond to the Member direct. g) noted that action will be taken prior to the 2019 Rochester Christmas market to ensure that inappropriate items are not offered for sale.
3.1.2	Report title:	<p>Medway Commercial Group Ltd Further Scrutiny</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the report. b) requested that Ward Councillors be notified by Council officers before any CCTV cameras are removed. c) noted that officers will meet with the Member concerned to discuss the interpretation of the Information Commission Guidance and its relationship with the CSP.

3.1.3	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Risk Register Review Quarter 1 2019/20</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the Quarter 1 2019/20 performance against the measures used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities. b) noted that the Committee will receive regular updates on the HIF bid. c) noted that officers will consider possible opportunities for the introduction of free sessions at Eastgate House. d) noted that the Head of RCET Business Intelligence Hub will provide further information direct to the Member concerned on Community Payback projects.
3.1.4	Report title:	<p>Member's item - Speeding Restrictions for Luton Road, Chatham</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the detailed investigation proposed in section 3 of the report and the aspiration to improve road safety at this location. b) requested that officers investigate the possibility of increasing enforcement to prevent parking on double yellow lines in Luton Road.
3.1.5	Report title:	<p>Petitions</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the petition response set out in paragraph 3 of the report.</p>
3.1.6	Report title:	<p>Work Programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the current work programme; b) agreed the suggestion of the pre-agenda meeting set out at paragraph 3.3 in the report.

4.	Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
4.1	<u>24 October</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&Mid=4390&Ver=4	
4.1.1	Report title:	Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Business Management Outcome: The Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) thanked Councillor Turpin for his attendance, and b) recommended the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) that a clear message be added on the Council's website explaining why there is no general email address for the Council; ii) that the Head of Democratic Services be asked to further encourage new Members to switch to paperless working, and; iii) that the possibility of a dedicated telephone line for people who are socially isolated to contact the Council be investigated.
4.1.2	Report title:	Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2019-2024 Outcome: The Committee agreed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) note the report; b) forward Member's comments to Cabinet, and c) recommend that the Head of Housing takes steps to further raise awareness amongst relevant teams across the Council of the existence of the Council's rent deposit guarantee scheme for care leavers.
4.1.3	Report title:	Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Risk Register Review Quarter 1 2019/20 Outcome: The Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the Q1 2019/20 performance of the measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) noted the Q1 2019/20 review of the Strategic Risk Register; c) asked for a report on complaints handling at a future meeting, and; d) asked for a Briefing Note on the deep dive into adult social care.
4.1.4	Report title:	<p>Risk Strategy Annual Review</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) endorse the amendments proposed to the Risk Management Strategy, and; b) note that the Risk Management Strategy and Corporate Risk Register will be submitted to Cabinet on 19 November 2019 for approval.
4.1.5	Report title:	<p>Work Programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) agreed the proposed changes to the current work programme as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report, and; (b) noted the work programmes of the other overview and scrutiny committees.
4.1.6	Report title:	<p>Medway Development Company Ltd Update</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to note the report.</p>

5.	Children and Young People Overview And Scrutiny Committee (Special meeting)	
5.1	<u>11 November</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=4619&Ver=4	
5.1.1	Report title:	<p>Call-in: Review of The Old Vicarage Children's Home Provision</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) accept the Cabinet decision and take no further action; and (b) request that a briefing note be provided to Members on the placing of high dependency children and young people out of area.
6.	Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
6.1	<u>28 November</u> https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=4505&Ver=4	
6.1.1	Report title:	<p>Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Resources</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Thank Councillor Gulvin for his attendance, b) Ask that details of all Council properties (freehold and leasehold) be sent to all Members.
6.1.2	Report title:	<p>Procurement Strategy</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) note the progress made against the Procurement Strategy 2016-21, and; b) note the new proposed strategic objectives set out in Appendix 2, including progress against the 2 objectives carried forward, and refer Members' comments to Cabinet.

6.1.3	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Risk Register Review Quarter 2 2019/20</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) note the quarter 2 performance of the measures of success used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities; b) note the quarter 2 review of the Strategic Risk Register, and; c) request details of all Brexit risks (either directly related to Brexit or incidental to it) that are contained in the operational risk registers,
6.1.4	Report title:	<p>Revenue Budget Monitoring - Round 2 2019/20</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to note the results of the second round of revenue monitoring for 2019/2020 and that Portfolio Holders will work with senior officers to identify a range of measures to reduce expenditure within their portfolio areas.</p>
6.1.5	Report title:	<p>Capital Budget Monitoring - Round 2 2019/20</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) note the results of the second round of capital budget monitoring for 2019/20; b) note that Cabinet has recommended the following to Full Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) that the capital programme is increased by £102,259 in respect of the additional cost identified for Mercury Abatement as set out in paragraph 3.5 of the report, funded from borrowing; ii) that the budget for Command of the Heights is increased by £397,259 reflecting additional resources as set out in paragraph 3.6 of the report; iii) that the capital programme be increased by £22,942 in respect of the additional costs on Rochester Station Totem as set out in paragraph 3.8 of the report, to be funded from capital receipts;

		<p>iv) that the capital programme be increased by £4.1 million for the HRA new Build Phase live as set out in paragraph 3.11 above, to be funded 70% from borrowing and 30% from 'Right to Buy' capital receipts in line with the existing scheme;</p> <p>v) that the capital programme be increased by £300,000 to create the HRA Buy Back scheme, to be funded from HRA Reserves and Right to Buy receipts, as set out in paragraph 3.12 of the report, and;</p> <p>vi) that the Capital Programme be increased by £380,000 in respect of the ICT Data Centre works, to be funded from prudential borrowing as set out in paragraph 3.14 of the report.</p> <p>c) note that the Cabinet has agreed that £200,000 be vired from the Strood Town Centre SELEP funded scheme to the Medway City Estate Connectivity SELEP funded scheme.</p>
6.1.6	Report title:	<p>Draft Capital and Revenue Budget 2020/21</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <p>a) note that Cabinet has instructed officers to continue to work with Portfolio Holders in formulating robust proposals to balance the budget for 2020/21 and beyond, and;</p> <p>b) note the proposals outlined in the draft capital and revenue budgets and forward the proposals to the individual Overview and Scrutiny Committees.</p>
6.1.7	Report title:	<p>Work Programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed to:</p> <p>a) agree to the proposed changes to the Committee's work programme as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report, and;</p> <p>b) note the work programmes of all the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.</p>

6.1.8	Report title:	Medway Commercial Group - Progress Report Outcome: The Committee agreed to note the report.
7.	Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
7.1	3 December 2019 https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=4397&Ver=4	
7.1.1	Report title:	Emotional Health and Wellbeing Contract and the Local Transformation Plan (LTP) – Update Outcome: The Committee noted the report and requested an update in 12 months.
7.1.2	Report title:	Integrated Child Health Service – Update Outcome: The Committee noted the report.
7.1.3	Report title:	Draft Capital and Revenue Budget 2020/21 Outcome: The Committee noted that Cabinet had instructed officers to continue to work with Portfolio Holders in formulating robust proposals to balance the budget for 2020/21 and beyond and requested its comments to be forwarded on to the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January.
7.1.4	Report title:	Ofsted Inspection of Medway's Children's Services - Action Plan Outcome: The Committee noted the report and action plan and that the Director would liaise with the Independent Chair about her attendance at Committee in the future.
7.1.5	Report title:	Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Risk Register Review - Quarter 2 2019/2020 Outcome: The Committee noted the report.

7.1.6	Report title:	<p>School Admission Arrangements 2021</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the report and recommended the proposed 2021 admission arrangements and schemes to the Cabinet for approval.</p>
7.1.7	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, subject to accepting the proposed changes, outlined in italic text on Appendix 1. 2) The Committee noted that a Member Development session on the effective scrutiny of performance information would be set up in early 2020.
8.	Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
8.1	5 December 2019	
	https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=437&MId=4423&Ver=4	
8.1.1	Report title:	<p>Annual Scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership, Including an Update on the Community Safety Plan 2016 to 2020</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the findings of the strategic assessment, b) supported that the Community Safety Plan priorities be refreshed in the light of the strategic assessment findings.
8.1.2	Report title:	<p>Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Resources</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee thanked Councillor Gulvin for attending the meeting and answering questions and agreed that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Committee receive Briefing Notes on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcome of investigations into the Community Payback Project fee. • Environmental Enforcement Statistics and an update on the number of vehicles crushed as a

		<p>result of environmental enforcement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information as to whether it is considered that the decision by KCC to introduce charges for waste recycling has affected flytipping in Medway. <p>b) the Assistant Director Front Line Services expressed the Committee's appreciation to staff at Medway Norse for work undertaken in cleaning up after unauthorised traveller encampments on Beechings Green and other sites in Medway.</p>
8.1.3	Report title:	<p>Member's Item - Use of Herbicides on Green Space Assets</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed that it be recommended to Cabinet that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) due to conflicting opinion, glyphosate no longer be used in children's play areas. b) as the current product has been deemed safe to use by independent scientific experts working for the EU and UK Government, the service continue the adopted practice on all other green space assets. c) the service continue to review usage of glyphosate herbicides in greenspace/public areas within legislation guidelines. d) that for a period of one year, an uncut area of approximately 3ft be left untreated around the base of trees in public parks, with one cut during the season.
8.1.4	Report title:	<p>Castle Concerts Analysis and Future Options</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee agreed that it be recommended to Cabinet that the Council withdraw from the direct delivery of the Rochester Castle Concerts and officers work with a third-party (option 3) to deliver a commercial music concert series in Medway removing the Council from future financial risk.</p>

8.1.5	Report title:	<p>Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Risk Register Review Quarter 2 2019/2020</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) noted the Quarter 2 2019/20 performance against the measures used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities.</p> <p>b) noted the amended Strategic Risk Register as set out at Appendix 3.</p>
8.1.6	Report title:	<p>Draft Capital and Revenue Budget 2020/21</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted that Cabinet has instructed officers to continue to work with Portfolio Holders in formulating robust proposals to balance the budget for 2020/21 and beyond.</p>
8.1.7	Report title:	<p>Petitions</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee noted the petition response set out in paragraph 3 and 4.2 of the report.</p>
8.1.8	Report title:	<p>Work Programme</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>a) noted the current work programme;</p> <p>b) agreed the suggestion of the pre-agenda meeting set out at paragraph 3.3 in the report.</p>
9.	Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
9.1	<p>9 January 2020</p> <p>https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MIId=4398&Ver=4</p>	
9.1.1	Report title:	Outcomes of consultation on proposals to restructure Alternative Provision in Medway
9.1.2	Report title:	Medway Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) Annual Report 2018-19
9.1.3	Report title:	Review of the Old Vicarage Children's Home Provision

9.1.4	Report title:	Kent, Bexley and Medway Regional Adoption Agency (RAA)
9.1.5	Report title:	Annual Adoption Report
9.1.6	Report title:	Annual Fostering Report
9.1.7	Report title:	Sufficiency Report 2019-20
9.1.8	Report title:	Work programme
<p>The above reports were considered by the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 9 January 2020 and are listed here to enable the Council to discuss any issues arising at this meeting as the minutes are not yet available.</p>		
10.	Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
10.1	16 January 2020 https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&Mid=4405&Ver=4	
10.1.1	Report title:	Gillingham and Chatham GP Surgery Proposals Update and Response to Patient Concerns
10.1.2	Report title:	Dermatology Services
10.1.3	Report title:	Development of Single Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group
10.1.4	Report title:	Kent and Medway Wheelchair Service
10.1.5	Report title:	Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (KMSAB) Annual Report 2018-19
10.1.6	Report title:	Kent and Medway Five Year Plan
10.1.7	Report title:	Kent and Medway Neurodevelopmental Pathway
10.1.8	Report title:	Draft Capital and Revenue Budget 2020/21
10.1.9	Report title:	Council Plan Performance Monitoring Report and Risk Register Review - Quarter 2 2019/20
10.1.10	Report title:	Work Programme

The above reports were due to be considered by the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 16 January 2020 and are listed here to enable the Council to discuss any issues arising at this meeting as the minutes are not yet available.

11.	Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
11.1	21 January 2020 https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=437&MId=4424&Ver=4	
11.1.1	Report title:	Attendance by the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services
11.1.2	Report title:	Petitions
11.1.3	Report title:	Work Programme

The above reports were due to be considered by the Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 21 January 2020 and are listed here to enable the Council to discuss any issues arising at this meeting as the minutes are not yet available.

Contact for further details:

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

Appendices

None.

Background papers

None.