

COUNCIL

22 JULY 2021

REPORT ON OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITY

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive
Author: Wayne Hemingway, 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 22 April 2021.

1. Budget and policy 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. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 9 June 2021
 - 2.1. Findings from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.
 - 2.2. Youth Justice Plan - Refresh 2021- 2022

Outcome:

The Committee recommended the Cabinet to recommend Full Council to approve the refresh Youth Justice Partnership Strategy Plan 2020-23, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

2.3. Medway Parenting Support Strategy

Outcome:

The Committee recommended the Medway Parenting Support Strategy to the Cabinet for approval.

2.4. Medway Early Help Strategy

Outcome:

The Committee recommended the Medway Early Help Strategy, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, to the Cabinet for approval.

2.5. Council Plan Performance Monitoring and Risk Register Review Quarter 4 2020/21

Outcome:

The Committee noted the report.

2.6. Work Programme

Outcome:

The Committee:

- 1) Agreed the work programme as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, subject to the additions listed in italics being added and the addition of a report on the secure school.
- 2) Recommended that a member briefing be set to provide members with information about iThrive.

3. Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 10 June 2021

3.1. Member's item - Closure of the University for the Creative Arts

Outcome:

The Committee noted the Director's comments in response to the Member's item and that he will pursue the possibility of arranging an informal meeting between Members of the Council and the Vice Chancellor of the University of the Creative Arts.

3.2. Call-in - Splashes Leisure Centre

Outcome:

The Committee accepted the Cabinet decisions 56/2021, 57/2021 and 58/2021 and agreed to take no further action.

In accordance with Council rule 12.6 Councillors Browne, Curry and Hubbard requested that their votes against be recorded.

3.3. Council Plan Performance Monitoring and Risk Register Review Quarter 4 2020/21

Outcome:

The Committee:

- a) noted the Quarter 4 2020/21 performance against the measures used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities and the amended risk register set out at appendix 3 to the report.
- b) agreed that a briefing note be circulated setting out the projects/works to benefit from the £9.5 million award from the Future High Street Fund.
- c) requested that the Assistant Director Front Line Services discuss with the Member concerned the issue of litter clearance in alleyways in Strood North Ward and the issues that he has raised concerning Medway Norse's street cleansing sacks.
- d) noted that the Democratic Services Officer will recirculate the 2018 briefing note outlining the routes used for performance indicator NI167 – average journey times along 5 routes in Medway.
- e) noted that the Director of Place and Deputy Chief Executive will request that officers build into cycle route provision preventative measures to deter use by motorised bikes/off road bikes.
- f) noted that the Corporate Head of Performance and Business Intelligence has offered to discuss with the Member concerned the Council's Smart City data plans accompanied by the Smart City Project Officer.

3.4. Petitions

Outcome:

The Committee noted the petition responses and appropriate officer action set out at paragraph 3 of the report.

3.5. Work Programme

Outcome:

The Committee:

- a) noted the current work programme.
- b) agreed that the following items be included on the work programme:
 - Economic Development Strategy in Medway
 - City Status Competition

4. Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 15 June 2021

4.1. Medway NHS Foundation Trust – Update on Care Quality Commission Inspections

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to note the report and request a further update in the next 3-4 months on the next steps identified following the CQC inspection, including the Patient First programme and also details of where people attending the Emergency Department originate from.

4.2. Covid - 19 Update

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to note the report.

4.3. Transforming Mental Health and Dementia Services in Kent and Medway

Outcome:

The Committee:

- a) agreed to note the progress update in the report.
- b) agreed that regular updates on Kent and Medway's mental health and dementia improvement programme continue to be brought to the Committee, including details of numbers and outcomes for the programme.

4.4. Transforming Mental Health Services in Kent and Medway - Eradicating Dormitory Wards

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to:

- a) note the draft consultation plan.
- b) request that updates be brought to the August and October meetings on the outcome of the consultation before the Committee submitted its response.

4.5. Adult Social Care Strategy

Outcome:

The Committee agreed to note the report and forward its comments to Cabinet.

4.6. Work Programme

Outcome:

The Committee agreed:

- a) that the update from Medway Community Healthcare be submitted to the August meeting.
- b) that a proposal to add to the work programme the outcome of a Government consultation on the development of a Women's Health Strategy and look at local women's health services be considered at the next agenda planning meeting.

5. Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee –
1 July 2021

5.1. The following reports were considered by the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 1 July 2021 and are listed here to enable the Council to discuss any issues arising at this meeting as the minutes are not yet available:

5.2. Attendance of the Leader of the Council

5.3. Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Business Management

5.4. Findings from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman

5.5. Petition

5.6. Work programme

6. Recommendation

6.1. It is recommended that Council notes the report in relation to Overview and Scrutiny activity.

Contact for further details

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Appendices

None

Background papers

[Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 9 June 2021](https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=5038&Ver=4)
<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=378&MId=5038&Ver=4>

[Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 10 June 2021](https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=437&MId=5039&Ver=4)
<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=437&MId=5039&Ver=4>

[Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 15 June 2021](https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=5040&Ver=4)
<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=5040&Ver=4>

[Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 1 July 2021](https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=5046&Ver=4)
<https://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=5046&Ver=4>