

## **Business Support and Digital Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**29 January 2026**

### **Work Programme**

Report from: Wayne Hemingway, Head of Democratic Services

Author: Steve Dickens, Democratic Services Officer

#### **Summary**

This report advises Members of the work programme and allows them to adjust it in the light of latest priorities, issues and circumstances and provides an opportunity to shape and direct the Committee's activities over the year.

#### **1. Recommendations**

- 1.1. The Committee is asked to agree the provisional work programme at Appendix 1 to the report.
- 1.2. The Committee is asked to note the work programmes of the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees at Appendix 2 to the report.

#### **2. Budget and Policy Framework**

- 2.1. Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the responsibility for setting its own work programme (Chapter 4 – Rules, paragraph 21.1 (xv) General terms of reference).

#### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Committee's provisional work programme is attached at Appendix 1. One of the Committee's functions is to provide guidance and leadership on the development and co-ordination of the scrutiny function for all Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Appendix 2 sets out the work programmes for other Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

#### **4. Agenda Planning Meeting**

- 4.1. Members will be aware that Overview and Scrutiny Committees hold agenda planning meetings on a regular basis. An agenda planning meeting took

place on 8 January 2026 attended by the Chairperson and Opposition Spokesperson.

4.2. At the meeting the following amendment to the work programme was proposed:

4.2.1. The review of the Petitions Scheme was deferred until March 2026.

## 5. Forward Plan

5.1. The latest Forward Plan of Cabinet decisions was published on 12 January 2026.

5.2. The items that are relevant to the Business Support and Digital O&S Committee are set out below so that Members have an opportunity to identify any further items they wish to consider as pre-decision scrutiny (where dates permit) other than those already programmed.

<b>Title of Decision</b>	<b>Anticipated Decision Date</b>
<b>Annual Review of the Risk Management Strategy 2026/27</b> This report will provide details of the annual review of the Council's Risk Management Strategy and Plan.  Scheduled to be considered by the Committee in January 2026	10 February 2026
<b>Capital Budget Monitoring - Round 3 2025 / 2026</b> This report will set out the latest monitoring position.  Scheduled to be considered by the Committee in March 2026	10 February 2026
<b>Revenue Budget Monitoring - Round 3 2025 / 2026</b> This report will set out the latest monitoring position.  Scheduled to be considered by the Committee in March 2026	10 February 2026
<b>Corporate Debt and Council Tax Discretionary Policies</b> This report will ask the Cabinet to recommend to Full Council agreement of discretionary Council Tax policies in relation to Corporate Debt, Care Leavers, Hardship and End of Life.	10 February 2026
<b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme</b> This report will seek the Cabinet's views on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2026/2027 prior to final consideration and approval at Full Council on 26 February 2026.	10 February 2026
<b>One Medway Council Plan 2026/27 Refresh</b> This report will provide details of a refresh of the Key Performance Indicators for the One Medway Council Plan for 2026/27. This report will be initially considered by the Business Support and Digital Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Council Plan will be referred to Full Council for consideration and decision on 26 February 2026.	10 February 2026

Scheduled to be considered by the Committee in January 2026	
<b>One Medway Council Plan Performance Monitoring and Risk Register Review - Quarter 3 2025/26</b> This report will provide details of performance for Quarter 3 2025/26 against the priorities set out in the One Medway Council Plan and will bring forward the latest risk management review.	10 February 2026
Scheduled to be considered by the Committee in March 2026	
<b>One Medway Financial Improvement and Transformation (FIT) Plan Monitoring - Round 3</b> This report will provide the Cabinet with an update on the development and implementation of the One Medway Financial Improvement and Transformation Plan.	10 February 2026
<b>Proposed Capital and Revenue Budgets 2026 / 2027</b> This report will set out the proposals for the 2026/27 capital and revenue budgets, including the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.	10 February 2026
Scheduled to be considered by the Committee in January 2026	
<b>Treasury Management Strategy 2026 / 2027</b> This report will provide details of the Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27.  The report will be considered by the Audit Committee on behalf of this Committee.	10 February 2026
<b>Brook Multi Storey Car Park Redevelopment</b> Subject to a successful Brownfield Land Release Fund (BLRF) grant application, this report will seek Cabinet approval of the contractor and project manager to deliver the Brook Multistorey redevelopment project, with a recommendation for Capital additions.	10 February 2026
<b>Crisis and Resilience Fund</b> This report will ask the Cabinet to agree allocations from the Crisis and Resilience Fund and to make a relevant delegation to officers.	10 March 2026

## 6. The Co-ordinating Role of the Business Support and Digital Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 6.1. This Committee has the overall responsibility to provide guidance and leadership on the development and co-ordination of the scrutiny function for all Overview and Scrutiny committees, including guidance on priorities for scrutiny activities (Constitution, Chapter 4 – Rules – paragraph 22.2 (xxiii)).
- 6.2. To assist the Committee in fulfilling this role, it has been agreed that a regular overview of business discussed by the other Overview and Scrutiny committees should be presented at these meetings. Whilst each Overview and Scrutiny committee is able to determine its own work programme, this Committee may wish to comment on common themes and the balance of business being covered by each Committee.

6.3. Appendix 2 to this report sets out the current work programmes of the other three Overview and Scrutiny committees.

## 7. Informal Meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons and Opposition Spokespersons

7.1. Informal meetings of Overview and Scrutiny Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons and Opposition Spokespersons take place on a six-monthly basis, with the next meeting of the group scheduled to take place on Tuesday 14 April 2026, on MS Teams.

## 8. Financial, legal and risk management implications

8.1. There are no financial, legal or risk management implications arising from this report.

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### Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Business Support and Digital O&S work programme

Appendix 2 - Other O&S Committees' work programmes

### Background papers:

None