

Programme of Work for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Report of the Chairman

Recommended:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme – March 2024, as shown in Annex 1 to the report, be approved.

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to enable members to keep the Committee's future work programme and recommendations update under review.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee approves a work programme every year, detailing selected issues that affect Test Valley or its residents. The work programme represents the work of scrutiny throughout the municipal year and is managed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The work programme is a rolling plan of in-depth reviews alongside standing items such as finance and performance.

2 Corporate Objectives and Priorities

- 2.1 Effective processes are used when selecting and prioritising review topics to ensure meaningful outcomes and tangible improvements. This involves including topics that are of community concern, contribute to the Council's Corporate Priorities, add value to the Council's overall performance, and have defined objectives and clear outcomes.

3 Conclusion and reasons for recommendation

- 3.1 Effective processes are used when selecting and prioritising review topics to ensure meaningful outcomes and tangible improvements. This involves including topics that are of community concern, contribute to the Council's Corporate Priorities, add value to the Council's overall performance, and have defined objectives and clear outcomes. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme is presented at Annex 1 for review and approval.
- 3.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for examining decisions made by the cabinet as a whole, and individual Portfolio Holders, as well as key decisions delegated to Senior Officers. With each agenda, the Committee receives copies of the Cabinet Work Programme. The Committee can then decide or use pre-scrutiny for forthcoming decisions on the Cabinet Work Programme. The Cabinet Work Programme is attached at Annex 2 for the Committee to consider.

- 3.3 Task and Finish Groups (panels) are small groups of members set up to examine specific issues in detail and report back to the Committee. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Panels update is attached at Annex 3.
- 3.4 For Overview and Scrutiny to have an impact, it is important that recommendations to Cabinet and Council are followed up. At each meeting the Committee considers follow up action on recommendations to Cabinet and Council as part of the review of the Work Programme. Also as part of the Work Programme the Committee considers actions arising from the previous meeting.

<u>Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)</u>			
None			
<u>Confidentiality</u>			
It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.			
No of Annexes:	3		
Author:	Councillor Jeffrey	Ext:	8014
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Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date:	6 March 2024