

Ward: N/A

Adur and Worthing Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 2014/15

Report by the Chief Executive

1.0 Summary

1.1 This report outlines progress on the work contained in the 2014/15 Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme.

2.0 Background

2.1 The current Joint Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme is a 'rolling' Programme which the Committee reviews at each meeting.

2.2 The Work Programme for 2014/15 was previously reviewed by the Committee at its meeting on 31 July 2014.

3.0 Progress with the Work Programme for the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2014/15

3.1 Detailed progress with the Work Programme is set out in the Appendix to this report. The Programme includes details of any changes to work and dates made since it was last reported to the Committee and as requested by the Committee it now includes a 'date' column advising when the item will be reported. The Committee have the option to include other issues in the rolling programme, in particular, the Committee may wish to include policy development issues and/or scrutiny reviews on issues which are important to the communities.

4.0 Proposals

4.1 To note the progress in implementing the Work Programme for 2014/15.

5.0 Legal

5.1 Under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the power to do anything to facilitate or which is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of their functions.

- 5.2 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides a Local Authority to do anything that individuals generally may do (subject to any current restrictions or limitations prescribed in existing legislation).
- 5.3 Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 1999 (LGA 1999) contains a general duty on a best value authority to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness
- 5.4 Section 1 Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997 empowers the Council to enter into a contract in relation to any of its functions.

6.0 Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no known financial implications arising from this report but some of the recommendations arising from the issues being considered in the Work Programme may have financial implications.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 **That the progress in implementing the Work Programme for 2014/15 be noted; and**
- 7.2 **That the Committee considers any other issues/reviews which it would like to be included as part of the 2014/15 Work Programme.**

Background Papers:

None.

Contact Officer:

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28 August 2014

Schedule of other matters

1.0 Council Priority

1.1 Matter considered and issues related to Council Priorities identified.

2.0 Specific Action Plans

2.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

3.0 Sustainability Issues

3.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

4.0 Equality Issues

4.1 Matter considered. Some of the issues to be considered by the Committee may impact on equality issues.

5.0 Community Safety issues (Section 17)

5.1 Matter considered. Issues relating to crime and disorder are contained in the Work Programme.

6.0 Human Rights Issues

6.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

7.0 Reputation

7.1 Matter considered and no issues identified. Outcomes from the discussion of the issues can help to improve the reputation of the Councils.

8.0 Consultations

8.1 Matter considered. Some of the issues identified in the Work Programme may involve some form of consultation.

9.0 Risk assessment

9.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

10.0 Health & Safety Issues

10.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

11.0 Procurement Strategy

11.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

12.0 Partnership working

- 12.1 Matter considered. Some of the issues identified do involve working together and also in partnership with other Councils.

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Forward Work Programme 2014/15

Subject Area	Officer(s) Responsible	Comments/ Progress	Date for next report to JOSC
<p>Scrutiny Reviews – Monitoring Outcomes</p> <p>Economic Recovery Review update</p>	<p>Director for the Economy/Policy Officer (ML)</p>	<p>To look at how the Councils can support businesses, the community and housing toward economic recovery.</p> <p>Review undertaken in 2010. Monitoring report to be reported to JOSC.</p>	<p>September 2014</p>
<p>Fuel Poverty Review update</p>	<p>Director for Communities/Policy Officer (ML)</p>	<p>To consider the Councils involvement with fuel poverty in deprived areas.</p> <p>Monitoring report presented to JOSC in March 2014. Further update now planned for JOSC.</p>	<p>March 2015</p>
<p>Review of Planning Enforcement</p>	<p>Director for Customer Services/Policy Officer (ML)</p>	<p>Report from the Working Group chaired by Councillor Michael Donin presented to JOSC on 14 November 2013. Report to be considered by JOSC on the effectiveness of the scheme six months after implementation.</p>	<p>November 2015</p>
<p>Review of Allotments (Worthing)</p>	<p>Director for Communities and Parks and</p>	<p>Worthing Cabinet Member for the Environment attended JOSC on 14 November 2013 to address the issues relating to a lack</p>	<p>September 2014</p>

	Foreshore Manager	of progress with the development of an allotments strategy/policy. A report reviewing an allotments policy will be submitted to JOSC.	
Review of public recreation facilities for the children and youth in Adur/Worthing	Policy Officer (ML)	A report on the Open Spaces Play study to be discussed at Member Workshop followed by report to JOSC.	November 2014
Worthing Age of School Transfer	Policy Officer (ML)	Findings from the Working Group were reported to JOSC on 31 January 2013 and subsequently agreed at Worthing Council meeting on 19 February. Recommendations subsequently submitted to West Sussex County Council. The West Sussex Cabinet Member for Education and Schools attended JOSC in September 2013 to report on the progress with his work. A further update on progress with the consultation and other issues was presented to JOSC on 30 January 2014. It is intended that further updates will be presented to JOSC in due course.	March 2015
Interviews with Leaders and Cabinet Members from Adur and Worthing	Policy Officer (TC)	Leaders and Cabinet Members to be interviewed at meetings between June 2014 and March 2015. Report detailing progress with the Cabinet Member's priorities to be considered by the	Cabinet Members for Customer Services – September 2014 Cabinet Members for Resources – November

		Committee as part of each interview.	2014 Cabinet Members for the Environment – January 2015 Cabinet Members for Health and Wellbeing – March 2015
Adur and Worthing Budgets 2015/16	Director for Digital and Resources/Chief Financial Officer	Medium Term Financial Plan – 31 July 2014 Revenue Budget proposals – November 2014 and January 2015. (Worthing only)	July 2014 November 2014 and January 2015
Review of the effectiveness of the 2013/14 Budgets	Directors of the Service	Review of previous budget to assess its effectiveness – 31 July 2014. Further updates on the Scrutiny of the relevant parts of the budget to be presented to JOSC in due course as requested.	Worthing Leisure Centre sites performance – November 2014 Beach Huts in Adur and Worthing – November 2014 ICT issues and spend on ICT – November 2014 Grounds Maintenance in Adur and Worthing – January 2015 Staff sickness issues – Note to be circulated to

			JOSC members
Annual Report 2013/14	Policy Officer (ML)	Annual report for 2013/14 considered and agreed by JOSC on 3 July and subsequently endorsed by Adur and Worthing Council meetings.	Issue complete
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny	Director for Communities/Policy Officer (ML)	Report advising on crime and disorder issues and the work of the Adur and Worthing Safer Communities Partnership presented to JOSC at least once a year. Update report presented to JOSC on 14 November 2013 and further report to be made during 2014/15.	September 2014
Local Strategic Partnership/Waves Ahead Scrutiny	Community Wellbeing/Policy Officer (ML)	Update performance reports on the work of the Local Strategic Partnership/Waves Ahead – Two reports per year to be circulated to all as information items. Last update report circulated in March 2014. Further report to be circulated in 2014.	September 2014
Updates on the work of the West Sussex Health and Social Care Committee	Council representatives on the Committee	Quarterly. To be circulated as information items.	October 2014
September 2012 Sewage Spill and local flooding issues	Policy Officer(ML)	Representatives from Southern Water attended JOSC in November 2013 to address the issues of flooding in East Worthing.	To be confirmed.

		Environment Agency to attend JOSC in 2014/15 when legal issues have been resolved.	
ICT Failure	Director for Digital and Resources	<p>JOSC considered the report on the ICT failure at its meeting on 11 April 2013. It was agreed that JOSC would receive the minutes of the Census Committee to continue to monitor the implementation/progress with the action plan set up to ensure that the ICT failure did not happen again.</p> <p>Update report presented to JOSC on 11 July 2013 and further report presented on 14 November 2013.</p> <p>JOSC will consider a further update report in 2014.</p>	November 2014
Joint West Sussex County review of flooding issues	Joint County Task and Finish Group	<p>Joint County review of flooding issues reported to JOSC/JSC in January and February 2014 respectively.</p> <p>The West Sussex Joint Scrutiny Steering Group to reconsider the outcomes from the review at a meeting in late 2014 with a view to reconstituting the Task and Finish Group to undertake further work on flooding.</p>	Late 2014

Review of the Procurement Process	Director for Digital and Resources	An update on the ongoing review of the Procurement process will be provided to JOSC Members.	By March 2015.
Emergency/Urgency powers of the Chief Executive	Chief Executive/Solicitor to the Council	At the request of JOSC the Chief Executive attended the JOSC meeting on 31 July 2014 to explain how his emergency/urgency powers are made and under which circumstances they apply.	Issue complete.
Letting and management of commercial contracts and perceived weaknesses	Director for Digital and Resources	A report to be presented to JOSC on the letting and management of commercial contracts.	September 2014
Joint West Sussex Community Legal Services review	Policy Officer (ML)	The final report from the Task and Finish Group which is reviewing the revised specification and approach to tendering for the Community Legal Services contract will be circulated to JOSC Members for any comment prior to consideration by JSC.	September 2014/October 2014.
Worthing Theatres Budgets Review	Director for the Economy/Policy Officer (ML)	JOSC agreed to set up a Working Group of Adur and Worthing Members to look at the Worthing theatres budgeting situation. Initial pre meeting held with JOSC Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen, Worthing Leader and Worthing Cabinet Member for Customer Services on 17 July to discuss and agree terms of reference for the review. First meeting of Working Group being held on 4 September. Final	November 2014.

		report from Working Group to be presented to JOSC.	
Provision of community beds in the Adur District	Policy Officer (ML)/Clinical Commissioning Group	Representatives from the Clinical Commissioning Group attending JOSC regarding the provision of community beds in the Adur District.	November 2014.
Review of Core Strategies	Director for the Economy/Head of Planning & Regeneration	Report on the review of the Core Strategies and how relevant national guidance is being interpreted.	November 2014.