

Adur and Worthing Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 2015/16

Report by the Director for Digital and Resources

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines progress on the work contained in the 2015/16 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 2015/16 was reviewed by the Committee at its meeting on 18 June 2015.

3.0 Progress with the Work Programme for the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16

- 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 for consideration during 2015/16, in particular, the Committee may wish to include other 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 2015/16 and to consider any issues for consideration.

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 2015/16 be noted; and**
- 7.2 **That the Committee considers any other issues/reviews which it would like to be included as part of the 2015/16 Work Programme.**

Background Papers:

None.

Contact Officer:

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7 July 2015

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.

APPENDIX

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Forward Work Programme 2015/16

Subject Area	Officer(s) Responsible	Comments/ Progress	Date for next report to JOSC
Inspection of catering Establishments in Adur and Worthing	Director for Communities	Report on how the inspections are undertaken and the consistency of the ratings awarded across both Council areas.	Issue reported in June 2015. Complete.
Interviews with Leaders and Executive Members from Adur and Worthing	Head of Communications	<p>Leaders and Executive Members to be interviewed at meetings between June 2015 and March 2016.</p> <p>Report detailing progress with the Executive Member priorities to be considered by the Committee as part of each interview.</p>	<p>Leaders and Executive Members to be interviewed again between June 2015 and March 2016 as follows:-</p> <p>Leaders - 18 June 2015 Regeneration - 16 July 2015 Customer Services - 24 September 2015 Resources - 29 October 2015 Environment - 21 January 2016 Wellbeing - 17 March 2016</p>
Annual Report 2014/15	Policy Officer (ML)		July 2015.

		Annual report for 2013/14 considered and agreed by JOSC on 3 July 2014 and subsequently endorsed by Adur and Worthing Council meetings. Report for 2014/15 to be considered in due course.	
Adur and Worthing Budgets 2015/16	Director for Digital and Resources/Head of Finance	Medium Term Financial Plan – July 2015 Revenue Budget proposals – November 2015 and January 2016. (Worthing only)	July 2015. January 2016.
Digital Strategy update	Director for Digital and Resources	JOSC considered the report on ICT issues and progress with implementing the Digital Strategy at its meeting on 13 November 2014. JOSC agreed to receive regular updates on progress with the implementation of the Digital Strategy and a further report was considered in March 2015. Further reports ongoing.	July 2015
Economic Recovery Review update	Director for the Economy/Policy Officer (ML)	To look at how the Councils can support businesses, the community and housing toward economic recovery.	September 2015

		Review undertaken in 2010. Monitoring report presented to JOSOC on 11 September 2014. Update report to be presented annually to JOSOC.	
Updates on the work of the West Sussex Health and Social Care Committee and Health issues	Council representatives on the Committee	<p>Committee agreed to create a Working Group to look at health issues and link with the work of the Health and Social Care Committee.</p> <p>As a starting point to the discussions, the Chairman of the West Sussex Health and Social Care Committee (HASCC), Margaret Evans, will be attending JOSOC to facilitate some discussion .</p>	September 2015.
Worthing Theatres Budgets Review	Director for the Economy/Policy Officer (ML)	<p>JOSOC undertook a review of the Worthing Theatres budgeting situation. The final Working Group report was considered in March 2015 by JOSOC and JSC.</p> <p>A follow up report on the implementation of The recommendations from the review will be reported to JOSOC.</p>	September 2015
Surf's Up monitoring	Chief Executive	Report on progress in delivering the activities associated with the Commitments in Surf's Up.	September 2015

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 11 September 2014. To be reported annually.	October 2015
Overview of how the overall overheads recharge process works and the costs involved to ensure greater openness and transparency	Head of Business and Technical Services	Report on the overall overheads recharge process.	October 2015
Worthing Age of School Transfer	Policy Officer (ML)	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	Written update report from WSCC circulated to JOSC Members in March 2015. Further update report to JOSC in November 2015.

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. Update reports circulated in November 2014 and March 2015. Further report to be circulated in November 2015.	Written update - November 2015
Fuel Poverty Review update	Director for Communities/Policy Officer (ML)	To consider the Councils involvement with fuel poverty in deprived areas. Monitoring reports presented regularly to JOSC. Further update now planned for JOSC in 2016.	March 2016
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.	Grounds Maintenance in Adur and Worthing – March 2016
Review of the Performance of South Downs Leisure and Adur Community Leisure	Director for Communities	Review of the Performance of South Downs Leisure	March 2016
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. Environment Agency to attend JOSC in 2015/16 when legal issues have been resolved.	Pending outcome of Court Case – Date To be confirmed.

Joint West Sussex County review of flooding issues	Joint County Task and Finish Group	<p>Joint County review of flooding issues reported to JOSCC/JSC in January and February 2014 respectively.</p> <p>The West Sussex Task and Finish Group on flooding is being reconstituted to undertake further work on flooding. The findings will report back to JOSCC in due course.</p>	Date to be confirmed in due course in liaison with WSCC.