



ADUR & WORTHING  
COUNCILS

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
21 September 2017  
Agenda Item 11

Ward: N/A

## **Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2017/18 - Update**

### **Report by the Director for Digital and Resources**

#### **1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 This report updates the Committee on the work contained in the 2017/18 Work Programme.

#### **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The current Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) Work Programme is reviewed by the Committee at each meeting.
- 2.2 The Work Programme for 2017/18 was confirmed by both Councils in April 2017 and was previously reviewed by the Committee at its meeting on 27 July 2017.
- 2.3 During the Municipal Year, items may be added to the JOSC Work Programme, where appropriate. Requests for additional matters to be included in the Work Programme are initially considered by the Joint Chairpersons in accordance with the following criteria set out in the Procedure Rules:-
- (a) The Councils' Strategic objectives;
  - (b) The ability of the Committee to have influence and/or add value on the subject;
  - (c) The PAPER criteria; Public Interest (P), Ability to Change (A), Performance (P), Extent (E) and Replication (R)

#### **3.0 Progress with the Work Programme for the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2017/18**

- 3.1 Detailed progress with the approved Work Programme is set out in a Trello Board to help in the monitoring of the work and this can be accessed via the following link <https://trello.com/b/7AXUSG58/josc-work-programme-for-2017-18> or viewed in the Appendix 1 attached to this report.
- 3.2 The Work Programme includes details of any changes to work and dates made since it was last reported to the Committee. At the request of the Committee on 27 July 2017, an invitation was made for representatives from Southern Water and the

Environment Agency to attend the meeting on 19 October for JOSC to review the recent sewage spill incident which affected the Adur and Worthing beaches in July 2017. Unfortunately, the incident may be subject of future legal action so Southern Water have now had to decline the request to attend at this time. The item can remain as part of the Work Programme but a date for the discussion of this item will need to be agreed in due course.

- 3.3 This report also includes details of some suggestions received from members of the public/Councillors for JOSC to undertake some further Scrutiny work. These were received following the recent Press release on the publication of the JOSC Annual report. An appraisal of each request is set out in the Appendix 2 to the report and includes the views of the Chairmen but those requests can be summarised as follows:-

- Air pollution in High Street, Shoreham-by-Sea and areas of Southwick
- Parking on pavements/grass verges
- Closure of public toilets at Shoreham-by-Sea and Worthing train stations
- Policing issues

- 3.4 The Committee is asked to note the progress in implementing the Work Programme for 2017/18 and relevant changes and also to consider the requests for further Scrutiny work .

#### **4.0 Legal**

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 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).
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 Paragraph 9.2 of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, which form part of the Councils' Constitutions and are binding on all Members, states that the work programme will be approved by Councils. A report must be taken to full Council on an annual basis seeking Councils' approval of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee's work programme for the forthcoming year and any changes to the Work Programme should be reported to the Councils mid municipal year (October) for noting.

#### **5.0 Financial implications**

- 5.1 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.

## **6.0 Recommendation**

- 6.1. **That the progress in implementing the Work Programme for 2017/18 be noted and the Committee consider the requests for the further scrutiny work and any other items as part of the 2017/18 Work Programme.**

## **Local Government Act 1972**

### **Background Papers:**

None.

11 September 2017

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## **Schedule of Other Matters**

### **1.0 Council Priority**

- 1.1 Matter considered. Issues included as part of the Work Programme are included based on their relevance to the Councils' strategic objectives.

### **2.0 Specific Action Plans**

- 2.1 Matter considered and any relevant action plans referenced.

### **3.0 Sustainability Issues**

- 3.1 Matter considered and no direct issues identified but some issues contained in the Work Programme relate to sustainability issues.

### **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 community safety issues 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 but the issues being considered may involve some procurement work.

## **12.0 Partnership Working**

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

## APPENDIX 1

### Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2017/18

<u>Date of meeting</u>	<u>Items for discussion</u>	<u>Report Author</u>	<u>Executive Members invited</u>
29 June 2017	Review of the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) - Quarterly update	Director for Communities	Executive Members for Environment & Wellbeing
	Review of the provision of solar panels on Council buildings	Director for Digital & Resources	Executive Members for Environment
27 July 2017	Joint Revenue Outturn report 2016/17	Director for Digital & Resources/Chief Financial Officer	Executive Members for Resources
	Outline Budget forecast 2017/18 to 2021/22 and Budget Strategy	Director for Digital & Resources/Chief Financial Officer	II
	Adur & Worthing Play areas review	Director for Communities/Head of Environment	Executive Members for Environment
	Annual JOSC report for 2016/17	Joint Chairmen of JOSC	N/A
21 September 2017	Review of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) - Quarterly updates	Director for Communities	Executive Members for Environment & Wellbeing
	Review of the Progress in delivering the activities in Platforms for our Places - Questioning Chief Executive	Chief Executive	Adur & Worthing Executive Members
	Annual interviews with Council Leaders	Director for Digital & Resources	Leaders
	Scrutiny Youth Engagement Working Group - Final report and recommendations	Chairman of the Working Group	Executive Members for Wellbeing
19 October 2017	Protection of Public Buildings - Response from Working Group and recommendations	Chairman of the Working Group	Executive Members for Regeneration, Executive Member for Resources (Adur) and Worthing Leader
30 November 2017	Worthing Outline 5 year forecast and savings proposals - Executive Member interviews	Director for Digital & Resources/Chief Financial Officer	Worthing Executive

	<p>Worthing Executive Member for Customer Services re Worthing Theatres budgets and outcomes of JOSC Working Group</p> <p>Major Projects being undertaken in partnership with West Sussex County Council - Update</p>	<p>Chairman of the JOSC Working Group</p> <p>Director for the Economy</p>	<p>Worthing Executive Member for Customer Services</p> <p>Executive Members for Regeneration and relevant County Council Executive Member</p>
25 January 2018	Review of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) - Quarterly update	Director for Communities	Executive Members for Environment and Wellbeing
22 March 2018	<p>Review of the Progress in delivering the activities in Platforms for our Places - Questioning Chief Executive</p> <p>Leader interviews</p> <p>Annual Work Programme 2018/19</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Director for Digital &amp; Resources</p> <p>Director for Digital &amp; Resources</p>	<p>Adur and Worthing Executives</p> <p>Leaders</p> <p>N/A</p>
Date to be confirmed	Possible attendance by Southern Water and the Environment Agency re sewage spill incident - July 2017	N/A	Executive Members for Environment & Wellbeing

## APPENDIX 2

<p><b><u>Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Scrutiny Request received from local resident</u></b></p> <p>Issue - Air pollution in Shoreham High Street regularly exceeds safe levels, and I am certain this also applies to surrounding roads (traffic in Old Shoreham Road is at a standstill most evenings) and most of the problem is caused by the huge rise in heavy lorries from the port using a route via the High Street rather than taking a route to the A27. It has been suggested that lorries be banned from the High Street which would greatly reduce the harmful pollution (which should not be allowed to reach levels that can harm health) and there is no reason why these lorries cannot use a direct route to the A27.</p> <p>Walking down Shoreham High Street is not a pleasure with these enormous lorries clogging it up all day.</p> <p>But I am sure that this issue will just be ignored despite the health issues.</p> <p>This review has been proposed and assessed below in accordance with the 'PAPER' criteria approved by JOSC.</p>
<p><b><u>Request from</u></b> - Local resident</p>
<p><b><u>Public interest</u></b> - Air pollution is a significant risk factor for a number of pollution related diseases and health conditions. The human health effects of poor air quality are far reaching.</p> <p>Long term exposure to high levels of air pollution can damage public health. Improving air quality can help local residents who may find their health conditions made worse through poor air quality. Impact of the traffic flows affects a large number of local residents in the Shoreham/Southwick areas and also in the Worthing area.</p>
<p><b><u>Ability to change</u></b> - JOSC has a scrutiny ability to probe and ask questions of relevant Council officers/Members and relevant stakeholders including West Sussex County Council and the Highways Agency if required to assess what is being done to raise awareness of the issue and help reduce the levels of air pollution in these areas of Shoreham/Southwick. There is also the ability to review this issue across Adur and Worthing and to make recommendations/influence improvements in air quality in affected areas.</p>
<p><b><u>Performance</u></b> - This suggested review topic is about the need to try and ensure that action is taken to improve air quality in affected areas and the outcomes from the review could help to improve air quality for current and future generations of local residents.</p>
<p><b><u>Extent</u></b> - The review could review the impact of air pollution in the Adur and Worthing areas.</p>
<p><b><u>Replication</u></b> - This issue has not been considered previously by JOSC.</p>
<p><b><u>Expected Outcomes</u></b> - A set of recommendations to help influence others to seek to improve air quality long term.</p>



**Does the proposed review link with the Council strategic objectives or does the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the ability to influence and/or add value on the subject?**

The Councils' Public Health and Regulation Team has a key role to play in managing local air quality. The Team review and assess air quality against specific health based national objectives for seven key pollutants and are required to produce annual reports of air quality within Adur and Worthing.

If exceedences are considered likely, the local authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). In the Adur District there are AQMA's covering the High Street (A259), Shoreham-by-Sea and Old Shoreham Road (A270), Southwick. Worthing also has an AQMA covering the A27 area of Upper Brighton Road between Lyons Farm and Offington Corner.

This proposed review does not link directly to any strategic objectives in the strategic vision Platforms for our Places but the revised Adur Local Plan 2016 does identify the need to address air pollution related to road congestion which could lead to poorer air quality and the emerging Worthing Local Plan will take air quality into account and give guidance to help reduce air pollution. When an AQMA is designated the Councils have to carry out an assessment and develop an action plan describing what actions that relevant agencies will be taking to try and comply with the relevant objective. The Adur Action Plan was published in 2007 and is currently being reviewed. The Worthing Action Plan was published in 2014.

There is an Air Quality Action Planning Working Group covering Adur & Worthing, which includes representatives from WSCC and Highways England.

The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee can review the issues and can make recommendations that might help to improve air quality and seek to influence other stakeholders.

**How could this review be undertaken?**

By report to JOSC or JOSC could set up a small Working Group to investigate the issues and report findings to JOSC, the Executives and other stakeholders connected with this issue. There is also the option to make direct representations to stakeholders involved.

**Recommendations from Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen:-**The Committee receive a scoping report in January from the relevant officers setting out the background to the issue and proposals for a role that Scrutiny can perform in investigating the issue

<b><u>Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Scrutiny Request received from local resident</u></b>
<p><b>Issue</b> - Parking on pavements/grass verges - Causing obstruction for residents using the pavements.</p> <p>This review has been proposed and assessed below in accordance with the 'PAPER' criteria approved by JOSC.</p>
<b>Request from</b> - Local resident
<p><b>Public interest</b> - This is an issue which is of interest to all local residents. Parking on pavements and verges can cause many problems such as obstructing vulnerable road users who use verges and pavements, causing congestion in narrow streets and reduce visibility at junctions/bends etc.</p>
<p><b>Ability to change</b> - JOSC has the ability to investigate the matter and seek to make representations to others but parking on pavements is the responsibility of West Sussex County Council to manage as the Highways Authority and for the Police to enforce as unnecessary obstruction.</p> <p>In relation to District/Borough level - The Councils can issue Penalty Charge Notices to vehicles if they are parked on the pavement and there is a single or double yellow line adjacent to the pavement. The Councils can also issue a PCN to HGVs if they are parked wholly or partially on the pavement.</p> <p>The ability for JOSC to influence change will be limited to influencing others to make the changes to ensure that parking on pavements is reduced and enforcement of the restrictions are improved..</p>
<p><b>Performance</b> - This suggested review deals with the problem of parking on pavements and the impact on local residents being caused by these obstructions.</p>
<p><b>Extent</b> - This review would cover the problem of parking on pavements and the current enforcement practices to prevent this occurring . The review would cover both Adur and Worthing.</p>
<p><b>Replication</b> - This matter has not been considered by the Committee</p>
<p><b>Expected Outcomes</b> - To seek to influence the reduction in parking on pavements/grass verges and improved enforcement of the restrictions.</p>
<p><b>Does the proposed review link with the Council strategic objectives or does the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the ability to influence and/or add value on the subject?</b></p> <p>The proposed review does not link with the Councils' Strategic objectives. West Sussex County Council is responsible as the Highways Authority and Police are responsible for enforcement controls.</p>
<p><b>How could this review be undertaken?</b></p> <p>By meeting of JOSC, Working Group or by direct representations to West Sussex County Council/Police.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations from Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen:-</b></p> <p>The proposed review does not link with the Councils' Strategic objectives. West Sussex County Council is responsible as the Highways Authority and Police are responsible for enforcement controls.</p>

<b><u>Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Scrutiny Request received from local resident</u></b>
<p><b>Issue</b> - Closure of Public toilets at Shoreham-by-Sea and Worthing train stations. Rail users seeking to use the toilets have to find a member of Southern rail staff who will open up the toilets upon request which is not practical for those with medical conditions or children who need to use the toilets urgently.</p> <p>This review has been proposed and assessed below in accordance with the 'PAPER' criteria approved by JOSC.</p>
<b>Request from</b> - Local resident
<b>Public interest</b> - The closure of the toilets at the train stations affects all local residents and users of the rail services.
<b>Ability to change</b> - Adur & Worthing Councils are not directly responsible for the provision of toilet facilities at the local train stations but if JOSC did investigate this matter then JOSC has the power to influence and make recommendations to Southern Rail to seek a change for them to reopen the toilets
<b>Performance</b> - The request does not relate to a Council service.
<b>Extent</b> - The request covers the closure of the public toilet facilities at Shoreham-by-Sea and Worthing train stations.
<b>Replication</b> - The issue has not been considered before by JOSC.
<b>Expected Outcomes</b> - To seek to influence Southern Rail to overturn its decision to close the toilet facilities.
<p><b>Does the proposed review link with the Council strategic objectives or does the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the ability to influence and/or add value on the subject?</b></p> <p>The proposed review request does not link with the Council strategic objectives.</p>
<p><b>How could this review be undertaken?</b></p> <p>Brief consideration of the matter, discussions with Southern Rail and/or making representations to Southern Rail on the matter.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations from Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen:-</b></p> <p>This is a matter for Southern Rail.</p>

<p><b><u>Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Scrutiny Request received from local Councillor</u></b></p> <p><b>Issue</b> - Policing levels of service across Wards in Adur and Worthing.</p> <p><b>Policing levels.</b> Heavy reliance on PCSOs. Very few Police on the beat - not many in cars. Lack of resourcing is blamed - but no hard facts or figures.</p> <p><b>Response times.</b> Public report 45 minute waits to get a reply via 101. 999 calls are obviously prioritised but similarly delays are reported. Over 24 hours to get reply from online reporting service.</p> <p><b>Follow up.</b> Often non existent.</p> <p><b>Failure to share information and report back</b></p> <p><b>Accountability.</b> This is a publicly funded service - public confidence is decreasing.</p> <p><b>Public order:</b> Issues with homeless/rough sleepers in Lancing was raised at a recent JOSC. Similar issues exist in Shoreham town centre. Drug dealing has been reported but nothing has been done to resolve the issues.</p> <p>This review has been proposed and assessed below in accordance with the 'PAPER' criteria approved by JOSC.</p>
<p><b>Request from</b> - Local Councillors</p>
<p><b>Public interest</b> - The Police service is a publicly funded service which affects the Adur and Worthing communities and the levels of Police will impact on the health and wellbeing of local residents.</p>
<p><b>Ability to change</b> - JOSC has the ability to interview local Police representatives including the Police and Crime Commissioner and Local Commander and scrutinise the issues involved relating to the levels of policing.</p>
<p><b>Performance</b> - This proposed review relates to the levels of policing currently being provided in Adur and Worthing</p>
<p><b>Extent</b> - The proposed review will cover Adur and Worthing and has the potential to discuss the full range of local policing services.</p>
<p><b>Replication</b> - The Police and Crime Commissioner did attend a JOSC meeting in January 2015.</p>
<p><b>Expected Outcomes</b> - To find out more about the scheduling of policing across the Adur and Worthing communities and to seek to influence increased levels of policing and improved levels of performance in areas requiring improvements.</p>
<p><b>Does the proposed review link with the Council strategic objectives or does the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the ability to influence and/or add value on the subject?</b></p> <p>Strategic vision Platforms for our Places (Platform 2 - 'Our social economies') includes a commitment for the promotion of our communities as safe places. Extra support from the local Police can help in the successful delivery of that commitment.</p>
<p><b>How could this review be undertaken?</b></p> <p>By JOSC Working Group or discussion by JOSC. The Police and Crime Commissioner, Local Commander and Chairman of the Safer Communities Partnership could be invited to attend.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations from Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen:-</b></p> <p>Katy Bourne to be invited to March JOSC meeting.</p>