

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee 26 July 2018 Agenda Item 13

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected:N/A

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19

Report by the Director for Digital and Resources

Executive Summary

1. Purpose

This report outlines the Work Programme of the Committee for the remainder of the 2018/19 Municipal year and also includes two requests for additional scrutiny which have been submitted.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Work Programme for 2018/19 be noted;

2.2 That the Committee consider if the additional requests for Scrutiny should be added to the Work Programme

3. Context

3.1 The JOSC Work Programme for 2018/19 was approved by the Committee at its meeting on 22 March 2018 and in accordance with the current set of Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, which form part of the Councils' Constitutions, will be submitted for approval by both Councils in July.

4. Issues for consideration

- 4.1 The Committee will receive regular update reports on the implementation of the Work Programme at each meeting. A copy of the proposed 2018/19 Work Programme is attached as Appendix A to this report for reference.
- 4.2 The Committee is requested to review the Work Programme and consider if any further items are required to be added to the Work Programme. 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 will initially be considered by the Joint Chairpersons in PAPER accordance with the criteria and they will make their recommendations to the next JOSC for consideration and determination, following receipt of the Officer report. Consideration should also be given to capacity of the Committee and resources available when considering further Work Programme items.
- 4.3 Since the last JOSC meeting two further scrutiny requests have been received for items to be added to the Work Programme which have been received from a local resident and a local Councillor. The detail of these issues are set out in Appendix B to the report. Items for the Work Programme need to be chosen guided by how closely they align with the Councils' Strategic objectives, how the Committee can influence the outcomes and also general value and outcomes in accordance with the (PAPER criteria) (P) Public Interest, (A) Ability to Change, (P) Performance, (E) Extent and (R) Replication. An assessment of the requests has been undertaken, the suggestions discussed with the Joint Chairpersons and their recommendations are included with the detail of the requests set out in Appendix B.

5.0 Engagement and Consultation

5.1 The JOSC Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen have been consulted on the proposals contained in this report.

6.0 Legal

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

- 6.2 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).
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 Paragraph 9.2 of the current 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 both Councils. A report must be taken to both Councils on an annual basis seeking both Councils' approval of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for the forthcoming year.

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 There are no direct financial implications to consider within this report.

Background Papers

None.

Officer Contact Details:-

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Sustainability & Risk Assessment

1. Economic

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2. Social

2.1 Social Value

Matter considered and no issues identified.

2.2 Equality Issues

Matter considered and no issues identified.

2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

Matter considered and no issues identified.

2.4 Human Rights Issues

Matter considered and no issues identified.

3. Environmental

Matter considered and no issues identified.

4. Governance

Matter considered. When considering items for the Work Programme, JOSC is guided by the Council's priorities and the governance arrangements for each Council.

APPENDIX A

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2018/19

| Date of meeting | Items for discussion | Report Author | Executive Members to be invited |
|--------------------|--|---|---|
| 21 June 2018 | Annual JOSC report for 2017/18 | Joint Chairmen of JOSC | N/A |
| | Air Quality - Response from West Sussex Director of Public Health | Director for Digital and Resources | N/A |
| 26 July 2018 | Attendance by Southern Water to speak about investment works to improve bathing water quality in Worthing in particular and across Adur & Worthing more broadly. This will include an update on investment works at the East Worthing works, plus a brief on proposed investment plans for the area for 2020 and beyond. This follows the sewage spill incident in July 2017 | N/A | Adur Executive Member for the Environment, Worthing Executive Member for Regeneration. |
| | Review of the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) - Bi-annual update | Director for Communities | Executive Members for Environment & Wellbeing |
| | Effectiveness of parking and road traffic enforcement policy in Adur and Worthing | Director for Digital & Resources/Head of Customer & Digital | Executive Members for Environment |
| | Joint Revenue Outturn report 2017/18 | Director for Digital & Resources/Chief Financial Officer | Executive Members for Resources |
| | Outline Budget Strategy 2019/20 | Director for Digital & Resources/Chief Financial Officer | 11 |
| | Report from the JOSC Consultations review Working Group | Chairman of the Working Group | N/A |

| | Report on possible dog fouling and litter enforcement scheme | Director for Communities | Executive Members for |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| 20 September 2018 | 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 |
| | Progress report on the implementation of the outcomes from the Youth Engagement scrutiny report | Director for Communities/Head of Wellbeing | Executive Members for Wellbeing |
| 18 October 2018 | Crime and Disorder scrutiny themed session - Interview with Chairman of Safer Communities Partnership | | Executive Members for Wellbeing |
| | Health Scrutiny themed session - Interview with Chairman of the West Sussex Health and Adult Social Care Committee (HASC) on the work of the Committee and the impact on Adur and Worthing | | Executive Members for Wellbeing |
| 29 November 2018 | Adur and Worthing and Joint Outline 5 year forecast and savings proposals - Executive Member interviews. | Director for Digital & Resources/Chief Financial Officer | Adur and Worthing Executive Members |
| 24 January 2019 | Review of the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) - Bi-annual update. | Director for Communities | Executive Members for Environment & Wellbeing |
| | Adur and Worthing Budget Estimates 18/19 and setting of 2018/19 Council Tax | Director for Digital & Resources/Chief Financial Officer | Adur and Worthing Executives |
| | Progress report on the work of Officers to deal with Housing issues | Director for Communities/Head of Housing | Executive Members for Customer Services |

| 21 March 2019 | Review of the Progress in delivering the activities in Platforms for our Places - Questioning Chief Executive | Chief Executive | Adur and Worthing Executives |
|----------------------|--|--|---|
| | Leader interviews | Director for Digital & Resources | Leaders |
| | Annual Work Programme setting 2019/20 | Director for Digital & Resources | N/A |
| | | | |
| Date to be confirmed | Major Projects being undertaken in partnership with West Sussex County Council - Update | Director for the Economy | Executive Members for Regeneration and relevant West Sussex County Council Cabinet Members |
| | Report on the review of the potential loss of public car parking spaces in Worthing given the closure of Teville Gate and future development planned at Grafton Car Park. | 11 | Worthing Executive Members for the Environment and Regeneration |
| | Report from the JOSC Effectiveness of OSC's Working Group | Chairman of the Working Group | N/A |
| | Report from Working Group to review transport strategy issues for Adur and Worthing | Chairman of the Working Group | N/A |
| | West Sussex Air Quality Strategy | West Sussex County Council Officers | N/A |
| | Attendance by Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner | N/A | N/A |

Note - A progress report on the delivery of the work contained in the Work Programme will be presented to each meeting.

All timings are provisional and subject to change in agreement with the Joint Chairmen and the Committee.

APPENDIX B

<u>Request 1</u>

ISSUE - The basic upkeep of the the Worthing town centre/seafront and public gardens

Request from - Local resident

Public interest - We need to make the town as smart as possible so people visit, come back, and most importantly spend money here, boosting the local economy. If it looks tatty and rundown, they will go elsewhere.

Ability to change - The council needs to step up basic maintenance and spend some money on our seafront gardens, making them attractive.

Performance - I believe a review could improve Council performance.

Extent - It is a major issue, the town centre, seafront and public parks.

Replication - None.

Expected Outcomes - I hope the Council will realise that Worthing will only prosper if it can attract visitors, especially as many of the top firms that once used to employ so many people have quit the town or shed hundreds of staff.

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?

Platforms for our Places - Platform 1 - Our Financial economies

Commitment - Creating places that businesses wish to invest in and sustain

How could this review be undertaken? By report to JOSC or by setting up a Working Group to investigate the issues.

Recommendations from Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen:-

Worthing Borough Council is already undertaking a number of initiatives to improve the town and seafront and the view is that this request would be replication and should not be accepted.

<u>Request 2</u>

Issue - The Night time Economy

This review has been proposed and assessed below in accordance with the 'PAPER' criteria approved by JOSC.

Request from - Councillor Beccy Cooper

Public interest - The nighttime economy across the area will be used primarily by the local population. It will also be generated and provided by local businesses. It has the potential to offer employment to offer employment to our local population and to regenerate our local town centres (particularly Worthing), which are facing in decline in demand for high street retail

Ability to change - The Councils award licenses to local businesses, which will have a significant effect on how the night time economy develops. Local planning committees also sign off on how local buildings will be used in the area. Platforms for our Places discusses development of our area for the benefit of our local population, and the night time economy forms part of this development.

Performance - This review is not about the poor performance of a service. Rather, it is about scrutinising the current night time economy offer for our population, considering whether it is fit for purpose and making recommendations for improvement

Extent - The health and development of the night time economy has implications across Adur and Worthing

Replication - No

Expected Outcomes - I hope that the Committee will call in external agencies that are essential to a thriving night time economy (local businesses, town centre residents, emergency services) to get a good overview of how the night time economy currently operates and how it might improve moving forward. I hope that the Committee will also call in relevant Exec members and officers to give evidence on the work that the Council are currently doing with the night time economy, and to understand what more the Council could be doing.

I hope that when the committee have heard from the relevant stakeholders that they will then make recommendations about the future direction of the local night time economy, and ways in which the Council can support this

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?

Platform 1 - Our Financial economies - Creating places that businesses wish to invest in and

sustain - Commitment to help create the right conditions for the growth of a 'night time' economy.

Platform 2 - Our Social economies - Promotion of our communities as safe places - Commitment to support the development of our night time economy by creating safer places.

How could this review be undertaken? By report to JOSC or a JOSC Working Group.

Recommendations from Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen:-

That the request is not specific and, therefore, the Chairmen have no strong views as to whether or not the request is added to the Work Programme. If the request is added to the Work Programme it would not be able to cover quasi judicial issues (Planning and Licensing).