



## ADUR & WORTHING COUNCILS

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
16 March 2023

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected: N/A

### **JOSC Work Programme setting 2023/24**

### **Report by the Director for Digital, Sustainability & Resources**

### **Executive Summary**

#### **1. Purpose**

1.1 This report outlines progress in implementing the work contained in the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) Work Programme for 2022/23. The report also includes a draft JOSC Work Programme for 2023/24 for consideration.

#### **2. Recommendations**

2.1 That JOSC note the progress in delivering the JOSC Work Programme for 2022/23;

2.2 That JOSC consider and confirm a draft Work Programme for 2023/24; and

2.3 That the confirmed draft JOSC Work Programme for 2023/24 be reported to the Council meetings in April 2023 for approval.

### **3. Context**

- 3.1 The JOSC Work Programme for 2022/23 has been reviewed at each meeting during the 2022/23 Municipal Year with the last of those being at the meeting on 16 February 2023. At this meeting it is necessary for JOSC to set a Work Programme for 2023/24.
- 3.2 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 both Councils. A report must also be taken to each full Council on an annual basis detailing any changes to the Work Programme and this is usually reported mid year and for 22/23 this was done in December 2022.

### **4. Issues for consideration/Proposed changes to the Work Programme in 2023/24**

- 4.1 A draft Work Programme for 2023/24 has now been produced for the Committee to consider which is set out in the Appendix to this 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.
- 4.2 The Committee is requested to consider the draft Work Programme and consider if any further items are required to be added to the Work Programme. For 2023/24 it is once again proposed that JOSC should hold individual interviews with the Executive Members which enable JOSC to hold the Executive Members to account and review their work and decisions, and it is also proposed that JOSC should receive an update report from the Chief Executive on the delivery of the new Corporate Plan 'Our Plan'.
- 4.3 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 will initially be considered by the Joint Chairpersons in 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 the capacity of the Committee and resources available when considering further Work Programme items.

## **5. Engagement and Communication**

- 5.1 The JOSOC Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and the Councils Leadership Team have been consulted on the proposals contained in this report.

## **6. Financial Implications**

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

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 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).
- 7.3 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.
- 7.4 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 and any changes to the Work Programme should be submitted to the Councils approximately mid year for noting.

## **Background Papers**

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules

### **Officer Contact Details:-**

Mark Lowe

Scrutiny and Risk Officer

Tel: 01903 221009

[mark.lowe@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:mark.lowe@adur-worthing.gov.uk)

## **Sustainability & Risk Assessment**

### **1. Economic**

Some of the issues scrutinised as part of the Work Programme could impact on the development of our places or the economic participation of our communities if implemented.

### **2. Social**

#### **2.1 Social Value**

Some of the issues to be scrutinised as part of the Work Programme will have an impact on the communities.

#### **2.2 Equality Issues**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

#### **2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)**

Some of the issues being scrutinised will have community safety implications.

#### **2.4 Human Rights Issues**

Matter considered and no issues identified.

### **3. Environmental**

Matter considered. The Work Programme includes an item to receive an update on the Councils approach to climate change.

### **4. Governance**

- 4.1 Matter considered and no direct issues identified. It is good practice for an Overview and Scrutiny Committee to set its Work Programme ahead of the Municipal Year. The current Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules state that the Work Programme will be approved by both Councils and that any changes to the Work Programme should be submitted to the Councils approximately mid year for noting.