



ADUR & WORTHING
COUNCILS

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee
17 March 2022
Agenda Item 10

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected: N/A

JOSC Work Programme setting 2022/23

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 2021/22. The report also includes a draft JOSC Work Programme for 2022/23 for consideration.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That JOSC note the progress in delivering the JOSC Work Programme for 2021/22;

2.2 That JOSC consider and confirm a draft Work Programme for 2022/23; and

2.3 That the confirmed draft JOSC Work Programme for 2022/23 be reported to the Council meetings in April 2022 for approval.

3. Context

- 3.1 The current JOSC Work Programme for 2021/22 has been reviewed at each meeting during the 2021/22 Municipal Year. A copy of the 2021/22 Work Programme is attached as part of the Appendix to this report which provides analysis of changes made to the Work Programme during the course of the year.
- 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 will be done in December 2022.

4. Issues for consideration/Proposed changes to the Work Programme in 2022/23

- 4.1 The Committee has received regular update reports on the implementation of the Work Programme at each meeting throughout 2021/22 with the last of those being at the meeting on 27 January 2022.
- 4.2 A draft Work Programme for 2022/23 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.
- 4.3 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 2022/23 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. It is also proposed that JOSC should receive regular twice yearly update reports from the Chief Executive on the delivery of the aims and commitments set out in the strategic vision 'Platforms for our Places: Going Further 2020 - 2022' and the new Corporate Strategy when that is produced. It is suggested that this should be in October 2022 and March 2023. These reports will enable JOSC to hold the Chief Executive to account and monitor the progress of the delivery of this important strategic vision and future Corporate Strategy.

4.4 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 JOSC 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

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.