



ADUR & WORTHING  
COUNCILS

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
16 February 2023

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected:N/A

## **Interview with the Worthing Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure**

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

#### **Executive Summary**

##### **1. Purpose**

1.1 This report sets out background information on the Portfolio of the Worthing Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure to enable the Committee to consider and question the Cabinet Member on issues within her portfolio and any other issues which the Cabinet Member is involved in connected with the work of the Council and the Worthing communities.

##### **2. Recommendations**

2.1 That the Committee question the Cabinet Member on the work within her Portfolio and any other issues which the Cabinet Member is involved in; and

2.2 That the Committee consider if it would like to make any recommendations or comments to the Cabinet Member for her consideration.

### **3. Context**

- 3.1 As part of its Work Programme for 2022/23, the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) have agreed to hold interviews with the Adur and Worthing Cabinet Members and question them on their priorities for 2022/23.
- 3.2 As part of its 'Holding to account role' and the responsibility for reviewing Cabinet Member work and decisions, JOSC is requested to consider the work and responsibilities of the Worthing Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure. Part of the scrutiny role is to fact find/investigate in the form of questions to the Cabinet Member on issues within her portfolio and other issues involving the Cabinet Member that relates to her Portfolio. This questioning should also relate to those matters within the Portfolio which the Councils are directly responsible for.
- 3.3 JOSC plays a similar role to that played by the Parliamentary Select Committees in Westminster and is entitled to ask for further investigation or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member into items where it may not be satisfied with the progress of issues as described by the Cabinet Member.

### **4. Issues for consideration**

- 4.1 The Worthing Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure has responsibility for the following:-
- Cultural projects and public entertainments (not covered by the licensing functions, with a potential attendance of 500) to enhance the Borough's cultural offer to residents and visitors
  - Wellbeing and development functions for culture, leisure and sport, including the cultural strategy
  - Worthing Cultural Assets; Museum, Art Gallery, Ritz Cinema, Assembly Hall, Pavilion Theatre and Connaught Theatre. (NB. Worthing Pier is within the Regeneration Portfolio)
  - Client for South Downs Leisure Trust and management of Worthing Leisure facilities and sites
  - Tourism and Tourist Information Centres
- 4.2 JOSC is requested to ask questions of the Cabinet Member based on her responsibilities outlined in paragraph 4.1 including any high level strategic issues relating to the Councils and our communities.

## **5. Engagement and Communication**

- 5.1 The JOSCS Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons 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 JOSCS is responsible for holding the Cabinet Members to account, reviewing their work and decisions and in accordance with the procedures outlined within the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in the Councils' constitution, can request Cabinet Members to attend its meetings.
- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 empowers the Council to do anything an individual can do apart from that which is specifically prohibited by pre-existing legislation.

## **Background Papers**

New Priorities for Worthing Borough Council agreed by Joint Strategic Sub-Committee 5 July 2022 - JOSCS Sub-Committee Worthing - 5 July 2022

Our Plan - A three year framework for Adur and Worthing Councils  
Our Plan

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## **Sustainability & Risk Assessment**

### **1. Economic**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified but some issues contained within the Cabinet Member Portfolio impact on the local economy in Worthing.

### **2. Social**

#### **2.1 Social Value**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified but some issues within the Cabinet Member Portfolio impact on the communities.

#### **2.2 Equality Issues**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified but some of the Portfolio areas do impact on access or participation.

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

Matter considered and no direct issues identified but the delivery of some of the issues contained in the Cabinet Member Portfolio are impacted by community safety matters.

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

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

### **3. Environmental**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

### **4. Governance**

Matter considered and no direct issues identified. JOSC is responsible for holding the Cabinet Members to account, reviewing their work and decisions and in accordance with the procedures outlined within the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in the Councils' constitution, can request Cabinet Members to attend its meetings.