
Meeting of the Housing and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee – 10th June, 2021

Report of the Lead for Law and Governance

Annual Scrutiny Programme 2021/22

Purpose

1. To consider items to be included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme for detailed consideration by this Scrutiny Committee during 2021/22.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended:-
 - that the items to be scrutinised by this Committee, as contained in the Annual Scrutiny Programme for 2021/22, be noted.
 - that the Committee confirm the programme of business as outlined in paragraph 5 of this report, subject to the need for flexibility to reflect any changes that might arise during the municipal year.
 - that the Lead for Law and Governance, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, be authorised to make all the necessary arrangements to enable this Committee to undertake its programme of scrutiny work during the 2021/22 municipal year.
 - That the terms of reference for the Housing and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the Appendix to the report submitted, be noted.

Background

3. The terms of reference specific to this Committee are set out in the Appendix attached to the report submitted. Meetings of this Scrutiny Committee have been scheduled during 2021/22 to carry out scrutiny reviews and consider any other items of business during the municipal year. All Scrutiny Committees will also undertake detailed scrutiny of the Council's revenue budget proposals in November.

4. The Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs met on 27th May, 2021 to give consideration to items for inclusion in the Annual Scrutiny Plan.
5. Following consultation, the items listed below are proposed for consideration by this Scrutiny Committee during 2021/22, at the programmed meetings:
 - Thursday 10th June, 2021
Annual Scrutiny Programme 2021/22
 - Housing White Paper
 - End of year update from the Safety Partnership and Community Cohesion Group

 - Wednesday 22nd September, 2021
Use of Glyphosate Weed Killer
 - Housing Board/Dudley Federation of Tenants and Residents Association (DFTRA) and tenant participation
 - Draft Annual Housing report

 - Thursday 18th November, 2021
Medium Term Financial Strategy
Review of Housing
Highways Maintenance (to include information on potholes and general condition of roads)

 - Thursday 27th January, 2022
Safe and Sound (Dudley Community Safety Partnership)

 - Wednesday 30th March, 2022
Black Country Transport Hub Collaboration Agreement
Waste Strategy
6. The Committee is requested to consider the proposed programme of business as outlined above taking account of the need for flexibility due to changing circumstances and any issues that might arise during the municipal year.
7. Subject to the views of the Committee at this meeting, the Lead for Law and Governance, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, will make the necessary practical arrangements for the Committee to conduct its agreed programme of work during 2021/22.
8. The Committee has the discretion to establish Working Groups at the first meeting of the municipal year or during the year to meet on an 'ad hoc' basis if this becomes necessary during. Where Working Group(s) are appointed consideration also be given to composition of membership.
9. The Council's scrutiny arrangements are set out in Part 2, Article 6 of the Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny). The associated Scrutiny Procedure Rules are contained

within Part 4 of the Constitution which also contains the terms of reference for the Housing and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee. These terms of reference are attached as an Appendix to this report.

Finance

10. The costs of operating the scrutiny arrangements will be contained within existing budgetary allocations.

Law

11. Scrutiny Committees are established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the requirements of the Council's Constitution, which was adopted under the Local Government Act 2000, subsequent legislation and associated Regulations and Guidance.

Risk Management

12. There are no risks identified arising from this report. The Council is committed to adopting best practice in its management of risk. It aims to ensure risk is maintained at an acceptable level in order to maximise opportunities and demonstrate that it has given full consideration of the implications of risk to the delivery and achievement of its outcomes, strategic aims and priorities.

Equality Impact

13. Provision exists within the Council's scrutiny arrangements for overview and scrutiny to be undertaken of the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

14. The issues referred to in this report are administered within the resources available to the Democratic Services Team with support from Directorates and other Officers as required.

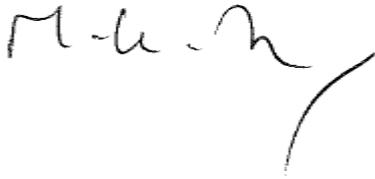
Commercial/Procurement

15. This report has no impact on the Council's potential to commercially trade. Individual items included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme may have commercial implications, which will be reported at the relevant Committee meeting.

Council Priorities

16. Dudley operates a One Council ethos to build an effective and dynamic organisation aligned to its three core priorities to grow the economy and create jobs; create a cleaner and greener place and support stronger and safer communities.

17. Items within the Annual Scrutiny Programme and the work undertaken by the Scrutiny Committee would contribute to the delivery of key Council priorities including the Borough Vision, Council Plan and Future Council Programme.



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Lead for Law and Governance

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Appendix

Appendix 1 – Terms of reference

List of Background Documents

The Council's Constitution

Meeting of the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Reports and Minutes