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## **Meeting of the Future Council Scrutiny Committee – 9<sup>th</sup> 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 Future Council 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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:
  - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021  
Annual Scrutiny Programme  
Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 4)  
Members Allowance Scheme  
Council House Refurbishment
  - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 (Special Meeting)  
Budget Scrutiny Process  
Black Country Plan
  - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2021  
Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 1)  
Future Council Programme Update  
Local Government Association Peer Review  
Equality and Diversity Update  
Digital and IT Services Update
  - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2021  
Medium Term Financial Strategy  
Major Regeneration Projects Progress  
Annual Town Centres Health Check Survey  
West Midlands Combined Authority Investment – Black Country Review  
Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Metro Extension
  - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2022  
Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 2)  
Customer Services Update  
Benefit Services Annual Report
  - Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2022  
Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 3)  
Major Regeneration Project Update  
Equality and Diversity Update Report
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 Health and Adult Social Care 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**

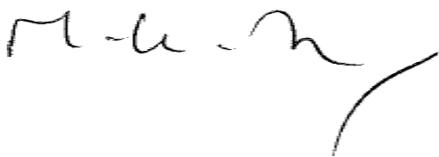
14. The issues referred to in this report are administered within the resources available to the Democratic Services Team with support from Directorates and other Officers as required.

## **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.



**Mohammed Farooq**  
**Lead for Law and Governance**

Contact Officer: Karen Taylor  
Telephone No. 01384 818116  
Email – [karen.taylor@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:karen.taylor@dudley.gov.uk)

## **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