

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19 SUGGESTED TOPICS

Topic		Reason for review	Scrutiny Action(s):	Notes
1.	Recycling	<p>Understanding reasons for failing rates and impact on the MTFS</p> <p>Inform Council when making decisions about future recycling</p>	<p>Consider: What the performance is today What the market situation is</p> <p>Required: Status report from Street Services.</p> <p>To include the current service performance, costs, market situation and risks (financial and otherwise). Report to determine state of service – what is the contamination situation, what’s the potential for improving the service compared to where we are now. Solutions to problems should not be identified at this stage, just details of the issues. If remedial work is underway in some areas then this should be identified and progress determined.</p> <p>Further action: Update report</p>	<p>Initial report considered at 1/5/18 Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>Further report covering proposed education programme considered at 25/9/18 meeting.</p> <p>Update report timetabled for 21/3/19 meeting</p>
2.	Investment Strategy	<p>To understand the Council’s approach to large scale investment projects</p>	<p>Consider: The criteria in place for making investments to secure the Council’s long term economic stability</p> <p>Required: Status Report from Commercial Team</p> <p>To include an overview of the Strategy and the decision-making process and an update on the investments made or proposed over the last two or three years, e.g. CRP and commercial opportunities. Return for UDC Is there sufficient audit and governance in place to ensure minimisation of loss and waste</p> <p>Further action: TBC</p>	<p>Strategy discussed at 25/9/18 meeting</p> <p>Updated Investment Strategy going to Scrutiny 31/1/19 as part of budget papers</p>
3.	Large Scale Grants	<p>To understand the Council’s approach to the allocation of large scale grants</p>	<p>Consider: The process for the allocation of large scale grants</p> <p>Required: Status Report from Lead Officers of projects</p> <p>To include an overview of the allocation process and an update on the grants that have been made or proposed e.g. Carver Barracks, Broadband, Stansted College etc.</p> <p>Further action: TBC</p>	

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4.	Section 106	To understand if s106 process is being applied effectively	<p>Consider: Effectiveness of S.106 agreements. Is now the time for the council to adopt CIL?</p> <p>Requirement: Informally ask whoever is recruiting 106 Officer what are the terms of reference. A full review of the process is required.</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	<p>CIL legislation is changing and new regulations will be put in place. Therefore this item has for now been removed from the forward plan.</p>
5.	Social/Affordable Housing	What can/can't we deliver with regards to the allocation of Social/Affordable Housing in new developments	<p>Consider: Council in a situation now where it isn't able to meet the needs of everyone who wants a home. That will change over a period of time due to local plan, the rate of house building increasing, more people moving to district etc.</p> <p>Need to identify what groups of people we are expecting to move into District? Are we developing new housing for them e.g. people who work at the airport can live closer to their work-place. Is there going to be a rebalancing of the demographics? Have to know what the need is and work out if we are providing for that need or continuing with 40% affordable policy. Should we be considering alternatives to Right to Buy such as housing associations/local housing companies? How is percentage allocation calculated? What are others doing? A clear definition is needed to inform Housing policies.</p> <p>Requirement: Scoping Report from Housing</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	<p>Scoping document taken to 1/5/18 Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>Update on meetings reported at 18/6/18 meeting.</p> <p>Report was presented at 25/9/18 meeting</p> <p>Further discussion required as to how this work can usefully be taken forward</p>
6.	Airport Parking	Understand the limitations/ opportunities for the council in addressing airport related parking issues	<p>Consider: Enforcement capability under legislation Planning controls How is it managed beyond the council? Contract to agency?</p> <p>Required: Status Report from Environmental Health</p> <p>Report to include council's enforcement responsibilities and capability and details of</p>	<p>Report was considered at 20/11/18 meeting</p> <p>Committee requested officers report back in six</p>

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			any new byelaws which could impact. Further Action: TBC	months with an update on how the airport car parking strategy was progressing
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7.	Review of Cabinet system	Understand its effectiveness in UDC	Consider: Is the Cabinet system the right system for UDC? If not, why not? Requirement: Scoping Report from Democratic Services? Ask LGA about trends at other authorities. Completion by end 2018/19 before new council. Further Action: TBC	At its meeting on 25/9/18 the committee voted against a motion to add this topic to the work programme for 2019
8.	Street cleaning/ littering	Area of concern for public - Pride in Place initiative	Consider: Will the Council's Pride in Place initiative achieve meaningful outcomes? What is being done at the moment? Cleanliness of public spaces, how clean are our streets? How often are they cleaned? How do we compare with other districts? How are resources allocated? Requirement: TBC Further Action: TBC	It was commented at Scrutiny Committee on 27/3/18 that this had already been the subject of a Scrutiny review
9.	Energy efficiency of council homes	Has the council reached the limits of what it can achieve in making council housing energy efficient?	Consider: What energy efficiency schemes/projects does/has the council run? Why is budget now zero? What have been the CO2 reductions over time? Do we educate our Tenants? What more could be done? Requirement: Status Report Further Action: TBC	
10.	Economic Development Strategy	Mid-year review of progress against action plan	Consider: Progress against actions Constraints in progressing actions (where relevant). Priorities. Requirement: TBC	

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			Further Action: TBC	
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11.	Corporate Plan Delivery Plan	Review progress of actions	<p>Consider: Review of 2018/19 CPDP Q2 actions status at November meeting</p> <p>Requirement: TBC</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	
12.	Day Centres	Review of plans for new operating models to deliver best possible service	<p>Consider: How the Council aims to maintain and improve day centre service provision.</p> <p>Requirement: End of year status report for March 2019 meeting</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	<p>It was commented at Scrutiny Committee on 27/3/18 that this had already been the subject of a Scrutiny review</p> <p>Annual summary report timetabled for 21/3/19 meeting</p>
13.	Email	Member of staff said he received 200+emails a day	<p>Consider: Time wasted? Right to disconnect Increase staff efficiency and well being</p> <p>Requirement: TBC</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	
14.	'Charitable' giving	How much do we give to charity/voluntary sector/professional bodies	<p>Consider: Process Service level agreement Aligns with corporate plan Governance Ensure taxpayers money is equitable and give good value for money</p>	

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			<p>Requirement: TBC</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	
15.	Budget Role of Scrutiny	Scrutiny and GAP review the 'Budget'	<p>Consider: Why duplicate? Scrutiny could be critical friend, GAP could take on 'corporate scrutiny'</p> <p>Requirement: TBC</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	Budget papers being discussed at 31/1/19 Scrutiny meeting. Pre-meet was offered but did not proceed due to lack of take-up
16.	Business development	How the council helps businesses in the district	<p>Consider: Value for money Audit trail Evidence of impact Audit and Governance can ensure minimisation of loss and waste</p> <p>Requirement: TBC</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	
17.	Statutory/ Non-statutory service review.	Understanding of which services provided by the council are statutory	<p>Consider: Awareness when Council is judging service provision</p> <p>Requirement: TBC</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	
18.	Relevant and relative responsibilities of Scrutiny and GAP	Clarity around roles of both committees – when does one committee refer an item to the other?	<p>Consider: Both committees working effectively for the benefit of the community.</p> <p>Requirement: TBC</p> <p>Further Action: TBC</p>	