



**BUSINESS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>BUSINESS OVERVIEW &amp; SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME REPORT</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

The Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in cooperation with the other two Overview & Scrutiny Committees, is responsible for proposing and delivering an annual work programme. This report provides an update regarding progress made since the last Committee meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

1. Members are requested to approve the proposed Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2016/17, making any required amendments, including suggestions for additional items.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

To ensure members of the Committee have the opportunity to contribute to the delivery of the annual scrutiny work programme.

### 2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

### 3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### 3.1 THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME AND THE WIRRAL PLAN

3.1.1 The work programme should align with the priorities of the Council and its partners. The programme will be informed by:

- The Wirral Plan pledges
- The Council's transformation programme
- The Council's Forward Plan
- Service performance information
- Risk management information
- Public or service user feedback
- Referrals from Cabinet / Council

#### 3.2 PRINCIPLES FOR PRIORITISATION

3.2.1 Good practice suggests that, in order to maximise the impact of scrutiny, it is necessary to prioritise proposed topics within the work programme. Members may find the following criteria helpful in providing a guideline towards ensuring that the most significant topics are prioritised:

<b>Principles for Prioritisation</b>	
Wirral Plan	Does the topic have a direct link with one of the 2020 pledges?
	Will the review lead to improved outcomes for Wirral residents?
Public Interest	Does the topic have particular importance for Wirral Residents?
Transformation	Will the review support the transformation of the Council?
Financial Significance	Is the subject matter an area of significant spend or potential saving?
	Will the review support the Council in achieving its savings targets?
Timeliness / Effectiveness	Is this the most appropriate time for this topic to be scrutinised?
	Will the review be a good use of Council resources?

- 3.3.2 By assessing prospective topics using these criteria, the Committees can prioritise an effective work programme that ensures relevance and the highest potential to enhance outcomes for residents.

### **3.3 DELIVERING THE WORK PROGRAMME**

- 3.3.1 The work programme consists of a combination of scrutiny reviews, standing items and requested officer reports. Regular work programme update reports will provide the committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year.

The work programme will be delivered through a combination of:

- Scrutiny reviews undertaken by task & finish groups
- Evidence days and workshops
- Committee reports provided by officers
- Standing committee agenda items, for example, performance monitoring and financial monitoring

### **3.4 UPDATE ON CURRENT SCRUTINY ACTIVITY**

#### **3.4.1 Resident Parking Task & Finish Scrutiny Review**

The Task & Finish Scrutiny Review has now been completed and the report is being finalised. The objective of the review was for the Review Panel to understand the issues around the current policy on new and existing resident parking schemes and to consider any options which could be taken forward as improvements to the policy. The final report will be presented at the next Committee meeting.

#### **3.4.2 Supporting the Creative Sector Scrutiny Review**

The Review Panel has now convened for the scoping meeting. The objectives of the review are to understand what makes creative industries flourish and what are the potential barriers and to also identify what steps the Council can take to support the creative sector. A number of evidence sessions have been planned for the Review Panel to speak to key stakeholders in the creative sector.

#### **3.4.3 Service Development Proposals – Access Wirral**

A transformation workshop session was held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2017 for Members to review the proposals for the Access Wirral Project. The final report from the session is included elsewhere on the agenda and has also been referred to the Cabinet meeting scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 following approval from the Chair and Party Spokespersons.

#### **3.4.4 Budget Scrutiny 2017/18**

The report from the Members' budget workshop, held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 and presented to the Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> January, was referred to the Cabinet meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February. This was part of the process which led to the agreement of the 2017/18 budget at Council on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

### 3.4.5 Wirral Waters

A briefing session is to be scheduled for Peel Holdings to give Members a further update on the latest developments on Wirral Waters. It is expected that this session will be arranged for April and an email will be sent to Members with the relevant details.

## 4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

## 5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

## 6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

The delivery of the scrutiny work programme will be met from within existing resources.

## 7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

## 8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

## 9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

This report is for information to Members and there are no direct equality implications.

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**APPENDICES:** None

**REFERENCE MATERIAL**

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

Council Meeting	Date