

**Report to:** Place Scrutiny Committee

**Date of meeting:** 11 June 2019

**By:** Assistant Chief Executive

**Title:** Place Scrutiny Committee future work programme

**Purpose:** To review and agree items for the Place Scrutiny Committee's future work programme.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:** The Place Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

**1) Review and agree agenda items for the future Committee meetings, including items listed in the work programme in appendix 1;**

**2) Agree topics for Scrutiny Reviews to be included in the Committee's future work programme; and**

**3) Review upcoming items on East Sussex County Council's (ESCC) Forward Plan in appendix 2 to identify any issues that may require more detailed scrutiny.**

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## **1 Background**

1.1 The work programme is an important tool in ensuring the correct focus and best use of the Committee's time in scrutinising topics that are of importance to the residents of East Sussex, and the efficient and effective working of the Council. It also provides clarity for those who may be requested to give evidence to the Committee on the issues under review, and the questions the Committee requires answers to.

1.2 Discussion of the work programme provides the Committee with the opportunity to examine topics that it may be of value to scrutinise, and to decide whether further scoping work is required. This provides a basis for deciding the best way of scrutinising a topic, the timescale, and who from the Committee will be involved in carrying out the review work. If there are a number of topics for review, the Committee can determine the priority of the work within the resources available to the Committee.

## **2 Work programme and future scrutiny reviews**

2.1 The Committee is asked to review the items in the work programme contained in Appendix 1 of the report, and agree the future agenda items and other scrutiny work of the Committee.

2.2 The Committee is asked to consider whether there are any potential topics for future scrutiny reviews, or agenda items for future meetings, that should be included in the work programme. This should include any topics or issues identified through the Committee's work on the Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) process.

### **RPPR**

2.3 At the Place Scrutiny Committee meeting held on the 19 March 2019, the Committee reviewed its input into the RPPR process and discussed possible changes in its approach for the next RPPR round starting in September. This is when the Committee starts its work on the 2020/21 budget proposals, based on the existing Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and Portfolio Plans.

2.4 The Committee is asked to consider the membership of the Place Scrutiny Committee RPPR Board which meets in December, and the RPPR work that the Committee wishes to undertake.

## Update from Orbis Initial Scoping Board

2.5 Councillors Martin Clarke and Nigel Enever met with Officers to carry out the initial scoping of a potential scrutiny review of Orbis. The initial scoping meeting identified two potential areas for a scrutiny review:

- Examine the scope to expand traded services and the number of external customers in order to increase income for the Partnership.
- Is the Orbis savings target of £3 million for ESCC over the next 3 years ambitious enough?

2.6 Some additional work needs to be carried out to define potential lines of enquiry and draw up draft terms of reference. The Scoping Board would like to invite additional committee members to join them for a second meeting to complete the scoping work.

### **3 Forward Plan**

3.1 A copy of the Council's Forward Plan of executive decisions for the period 1 June 2019 to 30 September 2019 is included in Appendix 2. The Committee is requested to review the forthcoming items on the Forward Plan to identify any issues that may require scrutiny work. The Forward Plan is revised and published on a monthly basis, and Committee members should regularly review the Forward Plan.

### **4 Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

4.1 The Place Scrutiny Committee is recommended to agree the agenda items and topics for scrutiny reviews to be included in the future work programme, as described in this report and appendices. The Committee is also recommended to review the Council's Forward Plan of decisions to identify any issues that may require more detailed scrutiny.

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### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None.