

Report to: Place Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 26 September 2023

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 and receive updates on previous work.

RECOMMENDATIONS: The Place Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 1) Review the agenda items for the future Committee meetings, including items listed in the updated work programme in appendix A;
 - 2) Review and agree topics for Scrutiny Reviews to be included in the Committee's future work programme;
 - 3) Review upcoming items on East Sussex County Council's (ESCC) Forward Plan in appendix B to identify any issues that may require more detailed scrutiny; and
 - 4) Delegate authority to the LTP Reference Group to comment on the draft Local Transport Plan on behalf of the Committee as set out in section 4.1 of the report.
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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 current work programme and discuss the future agenda items and other scrutiny work of the Committee for inclusion in the Committee's future work programme. A copy of the current work programme is contained in appendix A of the report for consideration by the Committee.

2.2 The Committee is also 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, including items contained the Council's Forward Plan of decisions. This can include any topics or issues identified through the Committee's work on the Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) process discussed earlier in the agenda.

3. Forward Plan

3.1 A copy of the Council's Forward Plan of executive decisions for the period 1 November 2023 to 29 February 2024 is included in appendix B. 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. Reference Group Updates

Local Transport Plan (LTP) Reference Group

4.1 Since the last Committee meeting the LTP Reference Group has met to receive a briefing on the draft LTP document and understands that the timescales for the project may be affected by the delay in the publication of the revised LTP statutory guidance. In its future work, the LTP Reference Group will consider a revised draft LTP once the public consultation on the draft LTP has been completed. As the timescales for the development of LTP may not fit in with the future meeting dates of the Committee, it is requested that authority is delegated to the LTP Reference Group to comment on the draft LTP on behalf of the Committee.

The Economic Growth Strategy (EGS) Reference Group

4.2 The Economic Growth Strategy (EGS) Reference Group held an initial meeting on 10 November 2023 and appointed Cllr Hilton as Chair (the EGS Reference Group is comprised of councillors Collier, Hilton, Hollidge, Redstone and Tutt). The Group explored the key stages of the development of the new the Economic Growth Strategy for East Sussex and will hold a number of further meetings to reflect the stages in the development of the EGS.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

5.1 The Place Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider the work programme contained in appendix 1 and agree any further agenda items or topics for scrutiny reviews to be included in the future work programme. The Committee is also recommended to review the Council's Forward Plan of decisions to identify any issues that may require more detailed scrutiny and delegate authority to the LTP Reference Group to comment on the draft Local Transport Plan on behalf of the Committee.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.