

Select Committees & Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes for 2019-20

Community Select Committee:

(i) **Sports & Leisure across the town** – This will be the main review item for the Committee. The review will seek to find out what take up is there in each sector?; What are the barriers to involvement, including access, and cost/affordability?; What are the number of local people that use these services and for service users outside of the town where do they come from and what can be done to improve local take up? A wide range of witness will be interviewed and Members will conduct site visits and lead their own research areas.

(ii) **Neighbourhood Wardens** – Members will evaluate the effectiveness of the Neighbourhood Wardens. Members will interview the wardens and looking at the proposed area-based working model with officers to provide some benchmarking against other authorities.

(iii) **Update on the Cultural Strategy** – The Committee will monitor the delivery of the Cultural Strategy and include a revisit to the Museum review.

(iv) **Crime and Disorder Committee** (Statutory Committee)

(v) **Public Health Meeting** (Standing Item)

As well as carrying out review work the Committee will also undertake pre-scrutiny Policy Development work in Portfolio Holder Advisory Group meetings for the following issues:

Homelessness & Rough Sleepers Strategy
Housing Older Persons Strategy
Damp & Condensation & Aids & Adaptations
Housing Service Charge
Rent Policy
Community Centre Review
Tenant Strategy
Customer Strategy

Environment and Economy Select Committee:

(i) **Local Neighbourhood Centres** – This will be the main review item for the Committee. In broad terms, the review would consider the environmental/maintenance and the services on offer in the Neighbourhood Centres. The review will focus on issues surrounding the types of retail units, environmental maintenance, employment units, transport and parking; The review should consider 3 Neighbourhood Centres of varying size and success, which could consist the Oval and Oaks Cross.

(ii) **Post Office provision across the town** - This will likely be covered in two meetings with a witness interview session including a representative of the National Federation of Sub Post Offices and the Manager of the Co-op at Symonds Green Sub Post Office. Representatives of Waitrose and WH Smith post offices would also be invited. The review will focus on what the pressures are and ways to maintain a local service.

(iii) **Emerging Transport Strategy (to include an update on the cycling strategy)** – It was agreed that following on from the previous policy development work the results of the Consultation would be circulated to Members for comment prior to the final strategy being presented to the Executive in October 2019.

(iv) **Fairlands Valley Park** - The review would be linked to the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy and would tie in with a broader review of Sports and Leisure opportunities in the town being conducted by the Community Select Committee.

(v) **Climate Change (defer until 2020-21)** – It was agreed that this should be considered in 2020-21 with each Executive Portfolio Holder being interviewed throughout the year to see how each area was planning to deliver the strategy.

(vi) **Rail Timetable and 5th Platform Update for Stevenage Rail Station** – A one off meeting to receive an update from the rail companies regarding the latest spring rail timetable changes, the 5th Platform and Hertford loop replacement bus service along with details of the proposed signalling change at York.

(vii) **Update on review of Maintenance of Trees, Hedges and Shrub beds** – Members would receive an update on the Maintenance of Trees, Hedges and Shrub Beds Review.

(viii) **Update on 2016 Business Technology Centre (BTC) Review** – Members would receive an update on 2016 Business Technology Centre (BTC) Review. The contract had been retained by WENTA following a tendering exercise.

As well as carrying out review work the Committee will also undertake pre-scrutiny Policy Development work in Portfolio Holder Advisory Group meetings for the following issues:

Design Guide Supplementary Planning Guidance
Parking Supplementary Planning Guidance
Review of Bring Bank Recycling Sites
Economic Development Strategy
Town Centre Parking Strategy

Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

Complaints/Feedback Handling – This review was started in 2017 with witness sessions and evidence gathering having already been taken but was put on hold whilst other work was prioritised. The review will conduct any further interviews and evidence required and then draw together its conclusions.

Scrutiny of the Scrutiny function at SBC – The review would draw on the recently published Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government Statutory Guidance on Overview & Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities as a starting point to test the authorities Scrutiny arrangements against the guidance notes. The review will also use the Centre for Public Scrutiny's self-evaluation framework to help Members assess how the function is being delivered and where any improvements could be made.

As well as carrying out review work the Committee will also undertake pre-scrutiny Policy Development work in Portfolio Holder Advisory Group meetings for the following issues:

Council Tax Support Scheme
ICT Strategy & Investment Programme
Customer Strategy