

REVIEW OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2017/18

Overview and Scrutiny Panel **13 February 2018**

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| Report Author | Senior Democratic Services Officer |
| Portfolio Holder | Councillor Crow-Brown, Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance |
| Status | For Decision |
| Classification: | Unrestricted |
| Key Decision | No |
| Ward: | Thanet Wide |

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update Panel Members on the progress regarding the work of the Panel, most of which is undertaken through three working parties. This report reviews the work programme for 2017/18 and suggests a time limited work stream on reviewing proposals in the draft Local Plan.

Recommendation(s):

Members are requested to comment on the updates and note the report.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

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| Financial and Value for Money | There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, if Cabinet agree any other recommendations other than those mentioned within the body of this report there could be financial implications for the council in that any further commitment for Thanet District Council to provide funding will require the identification of a suitable funding source. |
| Legal | There are no legal issues arising directly from this report. |
| Corporate | The work programme should help to deliver effective scrutiny. An active Scrutiny programme is part of good governance and will, ultimately, underpin the Council's use of resources assessment. |
| Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty | Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. |

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| | <p>Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to marriage & civil partnership.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,</td><td>✓</td></tr> <tr> <td>Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</td><td>✓</td></tr> </table> <p>There are no equity and equalities issues arising directly from this report but the Council needs to retain a strong focus and understanding on issues of diversity amongst the local community and ensure service delivery matches these. It should also be noted that a review to be conducted by one of the working parties focuses on protecting vulnerable individuals of the local community from violence.</p> | Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report. | | Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, | ✓ | Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it | | Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. | ✓ |
| Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report. | | | | | | | | | |
| Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it | | | | | | | | | |
| Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. | ✓ | | | | | | | | |

| CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant)✓ | |
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| A clean and welcoming Environment | |
| Promoting inward investment and job creation | |
| Supporting neighbourhoods | ✓ |

| CORPORATE VALUES (tick those relevant)✓ | |
|---|---|
| Delivering value for money | ✓ |
| Supporting the Workforce | |
| Promoting open communications | ✓ |

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 This report allows Members to review the Overview and Scrutiny Panel work programme agreed at the Panel meeting on 25 January 2018. The Panel's current work programme is made up of the Community Safety Partnership Working Party and Corporate Performance Review Working Party.
- 1.2 This report is meant to provide an update of the work programme since the previous meeting. However on this occasion the two Panel meetings (in January and February) have been too close to each other and therefore there was little time in-between for the sub groups to have met.
- 1.3 Chairmen and members of the two working parties could provide additional comments during the debate of this item at the Panel meeting.
- 1.4 Table 1 in Annex 1, highlights some of the key agenda items for future Overview & Scrutiny Panel meetings for 2017/18. The items are sourced from the Forward Plan, Table 2 shares brief progress comments for each sub group are in subsequent.
- 1.5 Annex 2 provides information on the current scrutiny reviews. Currently there are no scrutiny reviews being conducted by the Panel. Annex 3 reflects the current priority table for proposed scrutiny review topics.

2.0 Reconstituting the Electoral Registration Working Group

- 2.1 A request was made by one Member to reconstitute the Electoral Registration Working Group to review the voter registration exercise and consider whether the process was achieving its statutory objectives.

- 2.2 It is currently not possible to reconstitute the Electoral Registration Working Group at the present time, as there are insufficient resources with Electoral Services Team to support such a working group in addition to their day to day workload.
- 2.3 It would however be possible to produce a report for the Overview and Scrutiny Panel in the new municipal year detailing how the 2017 Annual Canvass was carried out and the results generated.
- 2.4 If Members had any specific requests for points that they would like to see included in this report then please let Democratic Services know, either at this meeting or by email and they will discuss each request with Electoral Services, with a view to including as many as possible in the report.

3.0 Community Safety Partnership Working Party

- 3.1 The working party was scheduled to meet on 20 February 2018 to consider the following topics:
 - i. An update report by Kent Police regarding the impact of policing in parts of Ramsgate and Margate that were experiencing youth crime; and
 - ii. Parents school parking challenges in some areas of the district.
- 3.2 That would be followed by another two meetings, one on 13 March and another on 10 April to discuss 'Community Payback activities in Thanet' and 'tackling fly tipping in the district' respectively.

4.0 Corporate Performance Review Working Party

- 4.1 The sub group will be meeting on 15 February to consider Quarter 3 performance reports from East Kent Housing, East Kent Services and Thanet District Council.

5.0 Call-In of Cabinet Decisions

- 5.1 There were no valid call-ins made since the last meeting of the Panel.

6.0 Cabinet Presentations at OSP Meetings

- 6.1 There were no Cabinet Member presentations since the last one on 20 October 2017.

7.0 OSP Recommendations to Cabinet - Implementation Monitoring

- 7.1 There were no recommendations made by the Panel to Cabinet since the last meeting.

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| Contact Officer: | Charles Hungwe, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Ext 57186 |
| Reporting to: | Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager, Ext: 57208 |

Annex List

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| Annex 1 | Sub group activities and key agenda items updates |
| Annex 2 | Current scrutiny reviews |
| Annex 3 | Priority Table for proposed scrutiny reviews |

Background Papers

| Title | Details of where to access copy |
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| None | N/A |
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Corporate Consultation

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| Finance | Ramesh Prashar, Head of Financial Services & Deputy Monitoring Officer |
| Legal | Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance & Monitoring Officer |