

EXECUTIVE, POLICY & COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2018/19

Executive, Policy & Community
Safety Scrutiny Panel

31 January 2019

Report Author

Committee Services Manager

Status

For Information

Classification:

Unrestricted

Key Decision

No

Ward:

Thanet Wide

Executive Summary:

This report updates panel members on the work of the panel and sets out possible activities of the Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel for 2018/19.

Recommendation(s):

1. Members are invited to discuss and note the report.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report but elements of the suggested work programme may have financial and resource implications.
Legal	There are no legal issues arising directly from this report. However a robust scrutiny function that is set up in a positive critical friend environment effective decision making and policy development.
Corporate	The work programme should help to deliver effective policy decision making by scrutinising executive decisions before, and at times after, implementation.

Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	<p>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.</p> <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> <p>Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.</p> <p>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it</p> <p>Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p> <p>No implications arise directly 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.</p> <p>It is important to be aware of the Council's responsibility under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and show evidence that due consideration had been given to the equalities impact that may be brought upon communities by the decisions made by Council.</p>
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant)✓	
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 Executive Scrutiny Panel work programme agreed at the Panel meeting on 13 November 2018.
- 1.2 Panel members could provide additional comments during the debate of this item at the meeting. Table 1 in Annex 1, highlights some of the key agenda items for future Executive Scrutiny Panel meetings for 2018/19. The items are largely from the Forward Plan and some of the items are requested by Members during discussions at meetings.

1.3 The report provides the framework for debate by Members on ongoing scrutiny activities and hopefully leads to sharing of views and ideas to enhance the Council's scrutiny function.

2.0 Current Scrutiny Activities

2.1 At the November meeting, the Panel received a report on 'Crime Stats in the district and engaged the Kent Police representatives. Members noted the various initiatives being undertaken by Kent Police and partner agencies that make up the Community Safety Partnership in tackling crime in the district.

2.2 The Panel requested another presentation from Kent Police on 'Police response times to emergency calls.' A reasonable lead time would need to be given to Kent Police when agreeing the presentation date as the information required for such a presentation needed a significant amount of time to pull together the material.

2.3 As part of the public consultation by the Executive, Members also considered the Housing Allocations Policy and proposed that the list of Key Workers should include social care support workers. They suggested that such an approach would enable workers in this group to be considered for key worker housing allocation by the Council. The portfolio holder responsible for Housing agreed to include the Panel suggestion.

2.4 Members requested a presentation on 'How effective and efficient was the delivery of Operational Services to residents.' at the January meeting and this is reported elsewhere on the agenda.

2.5 At the July meeting, Members also requested a post implementation review of the 'Public Spaces Protection Order No. 3 (Anti-Social Behaviour) (PSPO). This issue is scheduled to be considered elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.

3.0 Call-in of Executive decisions

3.1 Under the new scrutiny arrangements, the Executive Scrutiny Panel is responsible for all call-ins of executive decisions.

3.2 The Panel called-in and considered the individual Cabinet Member decision on the 'Digital Parking Pilot Project.' Members were of the view that the report accompanying the decision did not have adequate contextual information regarding that decision.

3.3 The Panel received assurances from the Leader of Council (who was standing in for the appropriate Cabinet Member) that the portfolio holder was given a further briefing on the aspects of the pilot project. Additional information was also provided to Panel members and after the debate no further action was required.

4.0 Panel Recommendations to Cabinet - Implementation Monitoring

4.1 There are no recommendations from this Panel that are currently up for consideration by Cabinet.

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Annex List

Annex 1	Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2018/19
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation

Finance	
Legal	