

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

Executive, Policy & Community
Safety Scrutiny Panel

21 February 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 31 January 2019.
- 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

Review of the Public Spaces Protection Order

- 2.1 In July 2018, the Panel requested to review the impact of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) after a six months implementation period. The PSPO which gave discretion and flexibility to officers to exercise enforcement where the specified conduct was causing harassment, alarm and distress detrimental to the locality.

- 2.2 The Order was introduced in four wards in Margate (Margate Central and Cliftonville West) and Ramsgate (Central Harbour and Eastcliff). It will be operational for three years and would provide restrictions for the following activities:

- Anti-Social group congregation of two or more persons when causing ASB and;
- Misuse of public spaces (when asked not to do so);
- Using foul or abusive language;
- Excreting bodily fluids.

- 2.3 After the Panel had received an update report on 31 January, Members concluded that because the implementation had a slow start, it would be more helpful if a further review could be done after twelve months.

Thanet Community Safety Partnership Work Programme 2018/19 Review

- 2.4 The item would be covered in more detail elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.

3.0 Call-in of Executive decisions

- 3.1 The Panel did not exercise its call-in function in the period under review.

4.0 Panel Recommendations to Cabinet - Implementation Monitoring

- 4.1 **Asset Management – Thanet Museums report:** The Panel requested Cabinet to 'Establish when the £50k funds bequeathed to Dickens House would be made available to be used for the maintenance of the Museum and whether TDC had the right to dispose of the building.'

- 4.2 Cabinet considered the Panel recommendation on 18 October and agreed to address concerns raised in the recommendations; should Cabinet decide to proceed and agree to the marketing of the properties as part of the stage 1 of the disposals process.

- 4.3 It is expected that an update on this issues would be reported back to the Panel at the appropriate time.

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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	Matt Sanham, Interim Head of Financial & Procurement Services
Legal	Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance & Monitoring Officer