

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**FINANCE & ENTERPRISE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 10 NOVEMBER 2016**

**2016/17 WORK PROGRAMME**

**REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY OFFICER**

**1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To enable the Finance & Enterprise Scrutiny Committee to consider and agree the Committee's work programme for 2016/17.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Committee agree items for the 2016/17 work programme;  
and  
2.2 That the Committee agree meeting dates for the remainder of the 2016/17 municipal year.

**3.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None.

**4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The suggestions shown in Appendix 1 were considered by the Scrutiny Management Board on 20 July 2016 and referred to the Finance & Enterprise Scrutiny Committee to decide which issues should be included in the Committee's Work Programme.
- 4.2 Scrutiny Management Board allocated a baseline of six formal meetings during the municipal year for scrutiny of items on the Finance & Enterprise Scrutiny Committee's work programme. This allocation does not include informal or sub-group meetings which may be held to gather evidence as part of a review, briefing meetings or regional/external scrutiny meetings.
- 4.3 The work programme will be flexible to allow for important issues which emerge during the year to be scrutinised. However, if a new topic is added to the work programme, consideration must be given to removing an existing item to avoid the workload becoming unmanageable and losing focus.
- 4.4 Scrutiny Management Board also agreed that any items remaining at the end of the work programme period should automatically be removed so that future work programmes are fresh and focused on current issues and concerns. If an issue remains of concern it may be submitted for re-consideration in the next work programme.

- 4.5 The Finance & Enterprise Scrutiny Committee is the main mechanism by which Cabinet consults with scrutiny on the budget strategy and savings proposals and provision for this should be made within the work programme. Under the Council's Constitution alternative proposals brought forward by opposition groups must also be considered by scrutiny before being presented to Council.

## **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- 5.1 There are no specific equal opportunity impacts arising from this report. Equal Opportunity issues will be considered as part of any scrutiny work.

## **6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- 6.1 There are no specific environmental impacts arising from this report. Environmental impacts will be considered as appropriate to the topics in the work programme.

## **7.0. LEGAL COMMENT**

- 7.1 Establishing a work plan as set out in this report contributes to the requirement of the overview and scrutiny committee to; investigate the policies of the Council's executive and their implementation, issue reports accordingly which draw attention to any shortcomings and make recommendations as appropriate.
- 7.2 A member of the overview and scrutiny committee has the right to refer a matter to the committee for consideration.
- 7.3 The Scrutiny Handbook contains further details of how the Scrutiny committee is set up and how the scrutiny process works at the Council. Scrutiny rules are contained within the Council's constitution from pages 59 – 70.

## **8.0 LINKS WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 8.1 Scrutiny members are asked to agree the work programme in the context of the Council's priorities.

## **9.0 OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS**

- 9.1 There is an opportunity to focus the work programme on fewer topics and in more depth in areas of policy development where scrutiny can have a greater impact. There is a risk that too many topics are kept in the work programme so that it loses focus and impact.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 Scrutiny has a role in ensuring that local government is effective and

accountable. This includes undertaking reviews and challenging and monitoring performance. Support for the committee and the work programme are managed within existing resources. The financial implications of any recommendations made by Scrutiny should be considered as part of reports as relevant.

**11. WARD IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no specific ward implications arising from this report.

**12. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

12.1 None

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## Appendix 1

### Finance & Enterprise Scrutiny Committee – 2016/17 work programme

#### a) Meeting schedule

Date of Meeting	Items	Type of Meeting	Attendees	Outcomes
10th November 2016	<b>Civil Parking Enforcement</b> To consider the implications for the Council of developing a business case for CPE <b>Work programme</b> To agree future items for the work programme	Committee	Cllr Angela McClements Jonathan Rowe Angie Astley Dom Proud	
4 Jan 2017	<b>Service &amp; Financial Planning Strategy 2016/17</b> To consider the draft budget strategy and savings proposals and to identify items for further scrutiny.	Committee	Cllr Lee Carter Ken Clarke	
12 Jan 2017	<b>Service &amp; Financial Planning Strategy 2016/17</b> (budget proposals) or <b>Alternative Budget Proposals of the Main Opposition Group</b>	Committee		
18 Jan 2017	<b>Service &amp; Financial Planning Strategy 2016/17</b> (budget proposals) or <b>Alternative Budget Proposals of the Main Opposition Group</b>	Committee		
24 or 26 Jan 2017	<b>Service &amp; Financial Planning Strategy 2016/17</b> (budget proposals) or <b>Alternative Budget Proposals of the Main Opposition Group</b>	Committee		

1 Feb 2017	<b>To agree the response to Service &amp; Financial Planning Strategy 2016/17</b>  <b>To agree the response to Alternative Budget Proposals of the Main Opposition Group</b>	Committee		
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**b) Forward Plan**

<b>FORWARD PLAN</b>				
<b>Item</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Proposed method of scrutiny</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Cabinet / SMT</b>
Income Generation	To consider income from commercial projects including services for schools.	To be covered during scrutiny of the budget proposals.	January 2017	Cllr Lee Carter
NHS Independent Complaints and Advocacy Service	Question raised during scrutiny of 2016/17 budget about how the service is commissioned by the LA and the level of funding.			
Adult Care Budget and Savings	On-going work to monitor the delivery of savings and development of a monitoring framework.	Questions to Cllr Arnold England at Scrutiny Management Board on 12 October 2016. On-going monitoring by Health & Adult Care Scrutiny Committee. Consider as part of the budget scrutiny.		Cllr Arnold England