

Overview and Scrutiny Committee 9 March 2022

2022/23 Work Programme Development

Report of the Head of Legal and Governance

1 Purpose

- 1.1 This report outlines a proposed approach to support the Committee's discussions on their work programme for the next Municipal Year. It also outlines the issues identified by the Committee to be considered for inclusion on the work programme.

2 Action required

- 2.1 To agree items to be included on the Committee's 2022/23 work programme by following the process outlined below.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The review of Overview and Scrutiny, undertaken by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) as part of the Council's wider governance improvement work, identified the need for a more focussed work programme for the committee, focused on priority areas of work and on areas where scrutiny could make a meaningful contribution. The Committee has held informal discussions on effective work planning and undertaken a training session on the subject facilitated by the CfGS.
- 3.2 The Committee has previously identified the items outlined in the table attached as Appendix A for potential inclusion on the work programme. This list includes items suggested at meetings with senior Executive Councillors and senior officers and at an informal meeting with Committee members.
- 3.3 At the CfGS training session the following principles were identified in relation to work programme planning:
 - are critical to the effectiveness of the Council
 - are a big priority or concern to their communities
 - pose a significant risk or threat to the Council and the community
 - present a significant opportunity for Overview and Scrutiny to make a meaningful contribution

It is recommended that the Committee applies these principles when deciding on the items to include in its work programme. In order to support this a flowchart, identifying a prioritisation process to be applied to each proposed item, is attached as Appendix B. It is recommended that, having applied the prioritisation process to each item, those

identified as green are included on the work programme, those identified as amber are held by Scrutiny Officers on a reserve list and those identified as red are rejected.

3.4 The Committee is therefore asked to:

- consider whether it wishes to continue to invite the Leader to the meetings he is available to attend to receive verbal updates on the Together for Nottingham Plan progress
- Review the table of potential work programme items, applying the prioritisation process to them, and decide whether to include them in the 2022/23 work programme.
- Identify any additional items, not previously identified, and apply the same prioritisation process before agreeing whether to include them in the 2022/23 work programme.

3.5 It should be noted that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's work programme is intended to be flexible and items may be added and removed as the year progresses as required.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Appendix A – Table of Potential Work Programme Items
Appendix B – Prioritisation Process to be applied to potential items

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 None

7 Wards affected

7.1 All

8 Contact information

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