


REPORT TO BUDGET AND CORPORATE SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

07 August 2019

| | |
|--|--|
| Subject: | Scrutiny Work Programme 2019-2020 |
| Director: | Director – Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer – Surjit Tour |
| Contribution towards Vision 2030: |  |
| Contact Officer(s): | Suky Suthi-Nagra Democratic Services Manager suky_suthinagra@sandwell.gov.uk |

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board:

1. Consider the work programme for 2019-20 for the Scrutiny Boards as proposed by each Board.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board contains within its terms of reference responsibility for approving an overview and scrutiny work programme. Attached to this report at Appendix 1 are the work programmes proposed by the Scrutiny Boards for consideration by the Management Board.

2 IMPLICATION FOR THE COUNCIL'S VISION

- 2.1 The focus of the Council's overview and scrutiny function is aligned to support Sandwell's Vision 2030 and the 10 ambitions it contains. All items selected for inclusion in the work programme must support and strengthen the Council and its partners' work to achieve Vision 2030.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Management Board is responsible for agreeing the annual work programme for the Council's overview and scrutiny function. Members are invited to discuss the proposals for individual Scrutiny Boards as set out in Appendix 1.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Boards were established by Council at its annual meeting on 21 May 2019. The Boards have held initial meetings to discuss their proposals for work programmes. This report draws together the proposed programmes into an annual overview and scrutiny work programme for consideration by the Scrutiny Management Board.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 The Scrutiny page on the Council's website includes an online form that invites the public to send their suggestions, or suggest a topic, of what they would like the scrutiny boards to look into. This is available all year and advises the public that all suggestions will be passed on to members for consideration.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 If the Scrutiny Management Board does not agree a work programme for the overview and scrutiny function, then the opportunity to review policies and services will not be realised meaning that improvements, savings and income generation possibilities may be missed.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Scrutiny function is directly supported by the Council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer and Democratic Services Officers. Additional technical expertise and evidence on specific matters will be provided by officers within the various directorates of the authority.
- 7.2 The strategic resource implications of the topics selected for scrutiny will be identified and reported to members on a case by case basis.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 Local Government Act 2000 states that Councils operating executive arrangements must also make provision for the appointment of overview and scrutiny committees.

8.2 Further powers relating to overview and scrutiny are set out in the Police and Justice Act 2006, the Localism Act 2011, the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 Where appropriate, individual work items will include assessments of equality impacts and will be included in the evidence base for reviews and work items of individual Scrutiny Boards.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

10.1 Impacts on data protection and information governance will be considered as appropriate during individual work items.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

11.1 The Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board is responsible for crime and disorder matters within the overview and scrutiny function.

11.2 Risk assessments will be included in the evidence base for individual scrutiny reviews as appropriate.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

12.1 Sustainability matters will be addressed as appropriate during individual work items.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 Health and wellbeing implications will be included in the evidence base for individual scrutiny reviews as appropriate.

13.2 Social value considerations will be reported to members as part of individual reviews and work items.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

14.1 Any impacts on Council-managed property or land will be included in the evidence base for individual items within the scrutiny work programme.

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 The Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board is the overarching scrutiny body with responsibility for considering and agreeing an annual work programme for the overview and scrutiny function. The Management Board is now invited to give consideration to the proposals from individual Scrutiny Boards.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None.

17 APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 - proposed work programmes as submitted by the Scrutiny Boards.

Surjit Tour

Director – Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer