


REPORT TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY BOARD

04 June 2018

| | |
|--|--|
| Subject: | Work Programming 2018-19 |
| Director: | Director – Monitoring Officer – Surjit Tour |
| Contribution towards Vision 2030: |  |
| Exempt Information Ref: | The information contained in this report is not exempt from publication. |
| Contact Officer(s): | Alex Goddard, Scrutiny Officer alexander_goddard@sandwell.gov.uk |

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board:

1. receives the presented information from the relevant Director(s);
2. considers and agrees a draft work programme for the 2018-19 municipal year for submission to the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board for approval.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Board is asked to consider its work programme for 2018-19 taking into account outstanding items from the previous municipal year, suggestions from the public and how it can add value, support Vision 2030 and enhance the services that the Council delivers.
- 1.2 The draft work programme that arises from this meeting will be reported to the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board

2 IMPLICATION FOR SANDWELL'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 for the Board must support and strengthen the Council and its partners' work to achieve Vision 2030.

- 2.2 A review of overview and scrutiny is currently being carried out in consultation with the Chair of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board. Workshop events will be held with scrutiny members during the summer to focus on effective scrutiny, aligning scrutiny's work with Vision 2030, ensuring work programming is focussed to support the ambitions, considering various engagement options with the public and stakeholders and identifying progress made to deliver intended outcomes.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The relevant Director(s) have been invited to attend this meeting to provide the Board with an overview of the services, key issues and priorities relevant to this Board's terms of reference and how they support Vision 2030.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 In accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rules, each Scrutiny Board is responsible for developing and agreeing its own work programme.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 The Council's Scrutiny Officers, supported by Communications Team and Councillors, have undertaken a public call for suggestions for potential work topics for overview and scrutiny. Over 90 submissions have been received and the suggestions relevant to this Board's remit are attached at Appendix 1.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 If the Scrutiny Board does not determine a work programme 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 a team of Scrutiny Officers within the Council's Governance service. 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 An equality implications of topics selected for scrutiny will be identified and reported to members on a case by case basis.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 Data protection implications of any topics included on the work programme for the Board will be reported to members at the relevant time.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 Any crime and disorder impacts of scrutiny work programme items will be reported to members on a case by case basis.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

- 12.1 Sustainability will be addressed within reports for each identified topic for consideration by the Scrutiny Board.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

- 13.1 These will be included in reports to members for each item of work.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

- 14.1 Any impact on Council managed land or property will be detailed in reports for each topic throughout the year.

15 **CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 15.1 To ensure effective and efficient use of resources the Scrutiny Board is requested to determine its work programme for 2018-19. To assist members in this the Sandwell Scrutiny Prioritisation Tool is attached at Appendix 2. This Tool can help determine priorities for each topic and provide members with a structured method of creating a focussed work programme.
- 15.2 This will then be submitted to the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board for approval in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

16 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 16.1 All relevant papers are included in the appendices to this report.

17 **APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1 – List of outstanding items from 2017-18 and suggestions received from the public.

Appendix 2 – Sandwell Scrutiny Prioritisation Tool

Surjit Tour
Director – Monitoring Officer