

Dear Councillor

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH) -
TUESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2018**

I am now able to enclose for consideration at the above meeting the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

**Agenda Item
No.**

- 6. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 85 – 92)

Members are to agree their work programme for the ensuing Municipal Year.

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Public
Key Decision - No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title:	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme
Meeting/Date:	Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Customers and Partnerships) – 6th September 2018 Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) – 11th September 2018
Executive Portfolio:	Executive Leader
Report by:	Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny)
Wards affected:	All

Executive Summary:

To reflect the Council's Annual Governance Statement risks the Corporate Directors delivered a PowerPoint presentation in June to both Overview and Scrutiny Panels on what the challenges the Council is facing. Members of both Panels then discussed ideas for their respective work programmes based upon these risks. Those ideas were then discussed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels with Officers at a meeting in August. As a result of that meeting the work programme in Appendix A was drafted.

The work programme is divided into two with each Panel responsible for a section of the work programme. Each section has a number of topics with objectives aligned to each topic. The work programme is a live document and is expected to evolve over the four year election cycle (2018-2022) as work is completed and priorities change and as evidence informs additional potential worthy areas of engagement. This is in line with the process proposed at the meeting in June. Of course, collaboration across both O&S Panels, and indeed the whole Council Member body is encouraged and no topic areas are necessarily mutually exclusive.

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel is recommended to:

- 1) agree the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme,
- 2) prioritise the order of the topics on the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme,
- 3) agree a timetable for the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, and
- 4) select Panel volunteers in engage in progressing work on the various elements of the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.

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Overview & Scrutiny 2018/2019 Work Programme

In developing a work programme for scrutiny moving forward the Panels were at pains to recognise that whilst focussing on the long term – Annual Governance Statement risks feels appropriate, there is a risk of spreading the group too thin on too big an issue and trying to ‘boil the ocean’. This recognises that a lot of the issues under discussion are large scale system based (e.g. lots of statutory providers) issues, and if the review is not focussed could struggle to generate clear recommendations. As such we have proposed the introduction of an ‘objective test’ for each review. That would enable the group to constantly review the area under discussion in terms of ability to have demonstrable impact on this test and prioritise as appropriate.

O&S (Customers and Partnerships) idea	Objective test ideas	Advisor potential	Suggested Scope
<p>Health – What are the issues facing the young and elderly populations of Huntingdonshire. How can HDC, either with partners or on its own initiative, assist with the health and well-being of residents in the District.</p> <p>Evidence Local Authority Health Profile 2018 published by Public Health England</p> <p>We have three key indicators where we perform significantly worse than the national average:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Killed and seriously injured on roads - Alcohol-specific hospital stays (under 18s) - Excess weight in adults (aged 18+) <p>Not significantly worse, but underperforming national average</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hip fractures in older people (aged 65+) 	<p>1. Encouraging lifelong health:</p> <p>a. Reducing excess weight in adults</p> <p>b. Reducing associated health issues (NHS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - type 2 diabetes - coronary heart disease - some types of cancer, such as breast cancer and bowel cancer - stroke - It can also affect your quality of life and lead to psychological problems, such as depression and low self-esteem. <p>2. Reducing isolation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reducing age-specific dependency rates by 1 per cent per year would reduce public expenditure by £940m per year by 2031 - reducing the rate of 	<p>CCG Jayne Wisely Cllr J Palmer Cllr Jill Taverner</p> <p>Age UK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engagement with Health – where can HDC help. Where can we use our assets, services and contact information to contribute to these outcomes, - Links to schools and creating habits, and testing our current offer in leisure - How can we better support community health initiatives – park run, community sport clubs etc. - Investigate where we can generate more referrals to Active Lifestyles and any gaps (i.e. intervene at an earlier stage) <p>Identifying opportunities (particularly technology) to deliver key activities identified by Age UK, to address isolation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating a new social link - Developing wider social networks - Meeting like-minded people through clubs and groups

<p>We have a number of projects already underway or receiving support which are directly contributing to these outcomes.</p> <p>Ramsey Think Healthy / Live Healthy project</p> <p>Support for activity through our leisure centres and for community initiatives such as Park Run. With a new run supported to start in St Neots this year.</p> <p>One Leisure Active Lifestyles Team creating opportunities for social engagement, particularly ageing population, through its class programmes, particularly 'Right Start'</p>	<p>institutionalisation by 1 per cent a year could save £3.8bn.</p> <p>3. Improving mental health</p> <p>Contributes to addressing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Worklessness - Homelessness - Poor health outcomes - Self-reliance <p>4. Reducing hospital admissions in over 65's</p>	<p>CCG</p> <p>Sports England/Active Lifestyles/CCG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting people with similar needs and supporting each other - Using local services and facilities - Changing social attitudes so that users become accepted and valued as full members of the community in their own right. - Quantifying the cost and impacts of isolation - Recommendations for our services to address - Designing communities for the future <p>Identifying non health interventions that can support mental health – e.g. social referral, links to community activities, volunteering activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunities to improve impact of DFG's? - Assisted collections. Investigate if having an assisted collection is an indicator that a resident may require a DFG. - Closer partnership working with health - Establishing greater community resilience
<p>Homelessness – Investigating the links between homelessness and housing supply.</p> <p>Finding triggers for homelessness. Discovering options and opportunities to reduce homelessness in Huntingdonshire.</p> <p>A large amount of work is happening in this space already, as a key corporate priority.</p>	<p>1. Increase supply of affordable property.</p> <p>2. Reduce number of homelessness presentations.</p> <p>3. Increase number of homelessness preventions –</p>	<p>Development Advisor</p> <p>Jon Collen / Helen Brown</p> <p>Jon Collen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engagement with Places for People/Luminus - Working with Private Sector landlords to understand reasons behind end of AST and incentives to address - Looking to develop options to incentivise Private landlords to take social tenants. - Strategies around use of HMOs - Testing effectiveness of Trailblazer - Testing Homelessness pilot work

<p>Our own net spend on Homelessness is has more than doubled since 2015/16. This is in line with national figures.</p> <p>Housing affordability is an issue locally. With private rentals being very limited within the rates that national benefits pay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Huntingdonshire's average house price increased by 36% in four years from April 2014 - The average household would now need to borrow 7.1 times its income to purchase the average house based on median values. 	<p>solutions that prevent people losing their home</p> <p>4. Increase number of empty properties brought back into use</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at opportunities for partners to signpost and intervene - Taking evidence from best practice providers elsewhere - Working with Registered Providers to maximise housing stock utilisation and fit
<p>Environment – What are the environmental (and lifestyle) quality issues facing Huntingdonshire,</p> <p>Evidence: 2036 Local Plan and associated studies, particularly Infrastructure Delivery Plan</p> <p>Combined Authority strategies and CPIER report</p>	<p>1. Reducing air pollution</p> <p>2. Reducing long term flood issues</p> <p>3. The community role in grounds maintenance and cleansing</p> <p>4. Definition of 'Place' and 'People' vision for Huntingdonshire</p>	<p>Chris Stopford</p> <p>Environment Agency</p> <p>Neil Sloper</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transport options - Natural environment – exploring opportunities to enhance HDC country parks (Hinchingbrook / Paxton Pits) - Role of Great Fen as a regionally significant habitat / tourism destination - A14 and Cam Ox corridor – actively influencing Govt and key transport agencies on investment pipeline and funding options - Exploring the options and Council/communities appetite for scalable growth linked to new infrastructure and 'healthy places' with sustainable living choices - Role of Neighbourhood Plans and Market Town Master Plans in promoting and directing employment and housing growth - Influencing long term utility provision –

			water/power
O&S (Performance and Growth)			
Increasing quality of housing developments and increasing supply of Affordable/Social housing – specifically in the villages.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in the number of affordable houses built in the District – positively impacting on the quality of developments 2. Reduce voids of all types, inc empty homes and RP turnaround times 3. Increase the availability of social housing 4. Reduce Council spend on Homelessness 5. Enhanced infrastructure and liveability on developments 	<p>Andy Moffat Cllr Corney (a builder by trade)/Developers Homes England Registered Providers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the effectiveness of rural exception sites and 60/40 policy - Explore viability assessment mechanisms to ensure proper value is created form development sites - Review of CIL charging regime and utilisation of funds - Relationships with RPs (Registered Providers) and options to increase pace and tenure type of supply plans - Utilisation of HDC non-operational land assets to increase supply and generate system savings (eg reduction in B&B spend. - Improving infrastructure on developments to enhance liveability, including digital, environmental – flooding etc, energy use, health land and space for wildlife. Supporting positive transport choices, and community self-reliance.
Wider Economic Environment – How to best position Huntingdonshire as an attractive place to do business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Local Industrial Strategy for Cambridgeshire within which Huntingdonshire is prominent 2. GVA (Gross Value Added) net increase 3. Increase in business rates receipts and invest to accumulate utilisation thereof (subject to Govt regs) 4. Increase in educational attainment, and 	<p>Andy Moffat / Clive Mason CA Business Board / Company CEOs – reasons for locations choices and future workforce aspirations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of an Investment prospectus for Huntingdonshire - Input into a Local Industrial Strategy - Digital infrastructure and Connected Cambridgeshire roll-out across market towns - Role of EDGE programme and wider Combined Authority skills and business support advisory services - Better Business for All pilot initiative matching regulatory services to advice and promotion - Combined Authority strategy impacts, particularly recommendations from CPIER - Roads and rail infrastructure investment deal with Govt / CA - Business rates retention and utilisation of AW

achievement of key skills

- 5. Increase average earnings and percentage earnings derived in Huntingdonshire/Cambridgeshire**
- 6. Opportunities to enhance the Councils industrial portfolio and Corporate Investment Strategy in facilitating, retaining and securing new business opportunities**

A package of 'Deals':

- **HDC & Govt/CA**
- **HDC and Local Councils**
- **HDC and communities**

Enterprise Zone NNRD receipts

- Role of strategic sites such as Alconbury Weald in delivering floor space and clusters
- Sector analysis - what are the indicators of existing success and productivity. Sectors to nurture and attract.
- Understanding locational advantages of Huntingdonshire and investment decisions of business leaders to stay/relocate here.
- Scope and mechanisms for HDC interventions in infrastructure/redevelopment programmes

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