

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee: 6th September, 2017

Report of the Managing Director

1st Quarter Scrutiny Decision Tracking of Recommendations and Updated Work Programme Schedule 2017/18

Purpose of the Report

1. To advise Members of progress in relation to the Scrutiny Committee recommendations and to confirm the updated Work Programme schedule for the Scrutiny Committee for 2017/18:
 - 1st Quarter - April to June 2017 (Appendix A)
 - Municipal Year 2016/17 (Appendix B)
 - Updated Work Programme Schedule for 2017/18 (Appendix C).

Recommendations

1. That the views of the Committee on the status of the actions listed in Appendices A and B to the report be sought.
2. That the updated Work Programme Schedule attached at Appendix C be approved and uploaded to the Council's website.

Reasons for the Recommendations

1. To maintain effective tracking of the Committee's recommendations.
2. For information.

Background

2. An integral part of effective scrutiny is a mechanism for Scrutiny Committees to monitor their recommendations to ensure that desired actions are carried out and where necessary progress is reported back.
3. The Work Programme schedule provides a breakdown of reports anticipated to be considered by the Scrutiny Committee over the forthcoming months.

Relevant Issues and Options

4. Appendices A and B attached to this report set out the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee and Members are requested to review progress against each recommendation, to assess whether further action may be required, ensure the required action is undertaken and to confirm which recommendations are to be agreed as completed.
5. Where appropriate, progress on actions relating to a service area covered by a previous Scrutiny Committee are now included in the Appendices for the appropriate Committee's consideration.
6. It is important that decisions of Scrutiny Committees are tracked and monitored as failure to do so could result in a risk that recommended courses of action will not be followed and consequently lost. This would undermine the credibility of the scrutiny process.
7. Members are also requested to confirm approval of the updated Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Schedule attached at Appendix C, it being noted that the schedule is a proposed list of items for consideration and may be subject to change depending on prevailing circumstances.
8. The Work Programme has been aligned to the Cabinet Forward Work Programme. The Scrutiny and Cabinet Roles and Responsibilities Protocol Point 7.6 states it is essential that the Cabinet Work Programme is taken into account when Scrutiny Committees are drawing up their own Work Programmes and also details reports that have been requested by the Scrutiny Committee together with items that require regular monitoring and scrutiny. Other reports will be added to the schedule as and when necessity arises. The schedule will also detail Requests for Consideration that have been received and the consideration given by officers of the likely date they can be reported to the relevant Committee. With regard to Call-in Requests that are made following decisions of Cabinet, as these are required to be dealt with within 20 working days of a Cabinet decision (as per the Council's Constitution) , they will be included within the programme as and when received.
9. Over recent years, Task and Finish Review activity has been primarily focussed on school improvement. For this, School Performance Panels have been formed for a number of Primary and Secondary schools. The objectives of these Panels are to review progress and to establish that up-to-date and authoritative plans are in place to address any concerns identified. The limited resources available within the Democratic and Scrutiny Services Section have been devoted to arranging / facilitating, undertaking research and supporting Panel Members in these exercises.
10. As the number of schools requiring support reduces, it is envisaged that other Task and Finish Review work will be considered at a later stage during the Municipal Year.
11. The Work Programme can also be found on the Council's website at the following link:
http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/Council-Structure/scrutiny/scrutiny_committees.aspx

Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)

12. None as a direct result of this report.

Sustainability and Climate Change Implications

13. None as a direct result of this report.

Legal Implications (to Include Human Rights Implications)

14. None as a direct result of this report.

Crime and Disorder Implications

15. None as a direct result of this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language issues)

16. None as a direct result of this report.

Corporate/Service Objectives

17. Scrutiny contributes to all Corporate and Service Objectives contained in the Corporate Plan and there is also an important role for Scrutiny to play in monitoring the progress for delivering these objectives. There is also an integrated planning action contained in the Corporate Plan for 2016 "Review the current arrangements to support effective scrutiny and facilitate more robust challenge and improved accountability" of which this Work Programme forms a part.

Policy Framework and Budget

18. This report is in accordance with the recommendations of the WAO Democratic Renewal report and acknowledges the recommendations of the review of the Council's scrutiny function.

Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)

19. Not applicable given the issue is an internal matter.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

20. All.

Background Papers

Relevant Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet minutes.

Contact Officer

Amy Rudman, Scrutiny Support Officer, Tel: (01446 709855)

Officers Consulted

Jeff Rees, Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer
Jeff Wyatt, Operational Manager (Democratic Services)

Responsible Officer:

Rob Thomas, Managing Director

Uncompleted Recommendations

1st Quarter 2017/18

SCRUTINY DECISION TRACKING FORM HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE				
Scrutiny Decision (add Minute, Dates and any Ref Number)	Committee/Task and Finish	Lead Officer(s) to Take Action	Progress/Action Taken	Status

14 June 2017				
Min. No. 52 – Introduction To The Homes And Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee – Recommended	Homes & Safe Communities			
That the officers be thanked for a comprehensive presentation and the presentation be noted and uploaded to the Council's website.			Presentation uploaded to the Council's website on 15 th June, 2017.	Completed
Min. No. 53 – 4th Quarter Decision Tracking and Work Programme 2017/18 (MD) – Recommended				
(2) That the Work Programme Schedule attached at Appendix C of the report be amended as outlined above and uploaded to the Council's website. <i>[The six monthly report on Community Safety have the Traffic Management TFG label removed to align more appropriately with the remit of the Committee]</i>			Work programme amended and uploaded to the Council's website.	Completed

Uncompleted Recommendations

2016-17

SCRUTINY DECISION TRACKING FORM : Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee				
Scrutiny Decision (add Minute, Dates and any Ref Number)	Committee/Task and Finish	Lead Officer(s) to Take Action	Progress/Action Taken	Status

12 October 2016				
Min. No. 447 – Revenue and Capital Monitoring for the Period 1st April to 31st August 2016 (DEH) – Recommended	Homes & Safe Communities			
(2) That a site visit be arranged to the new service at Long Meadow when the facility was up and running.			The Operational Manager for Housing confirmed that the facility would be appropriate for visitors shortly and an invite would be extended to Members on Friday 29 th September 2017.	Ongoing
15 February 2017				
Min. No. 813 – Youth Justice Plan 2016/17 (DSS) – Recommended	Homes & Safe Communities			
(2) That the Ministry of Justice be informed of the Committee's concerns in relation to the recommendation that responsibility for the Youth Justice System be devolved to Local Authorities, particularly in light of the reduction of grants; and that the content of the letter be approved by the Chairman of the Committee.			<p>YOS Manager has been emailed to draft letter for approval by the Chairman.</p> <p>At its meeting on 14th June, 2017 Committee was advised that a letter was sent on 4th April, 2017 but there was no response received to date.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that a response was still required and requested that a further letter be sent, for response, ahead of the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>A second letter was sent to Deputy Director of Youth Justice on 23rd June, 2017. Still awaiting a response.</p>	Ongoing

HOMES AND SAFE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

MONTH	REPORT TITLE
13 th September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Justice Plan • Youth Offending Service (YOS) End of Year Performance Report • Quarter 1 (2017-18) Performance Report: An Inclusive and Safe Vale. • Environment and Neighbourhoods Strategy (Operational Delivery Plan) Monitoring • Scrutiny Committees' Draft Annual Report 2016-17 • 1st Quarter Decision Tracking and Forward Work Programme
11 th October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *CFWP – Revenue Monitoring • *CFWP – Capital Monitoring • *CFWP - Tenant Reward Scheme Proposals • *CFWP - Tenant Engagement Strategy • *CFWP - Six monthly report on Community Safety and a police officer be requested to attend once a year to present to the Committee • *CFWP - Housing Customer Service Strategy (Operational Delivery Plan) Monitoring • Homes 4 U (Lettings Strategies) • Vale Community Alarm System Update Report • Long Meadow Facility Update
8 th November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *CFWP - Air Quality Progress Report 2017 • 2nd Quarter Decision Tracking and Forward Work Programme • Report on CCTV Operations
6 th December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *CFWP – Quarter 2 Performance Reporting • *CFWP - Initial Housing Revenue Account Budget Proposals 2018/19 • *CFWP – Initial Capital Programme Budget Proposals 2018/19 – 2022/23 • *CFWP – Initial Revenue Budget Proposals 2018/19 – 2022/23 • *CFWP Introduction to Public Open Space Protection Orders
17 th January 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *CFWP – Revenue Monitoring • *CFWP – Capital Monitoring • Improvement Objectives Part 1 / Corporate Plan

**CFWP = Cabinet Forward Work Programme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd Quarter Decision Tracking and Forward Work Programme
14 th February 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *CFWP - Housing Investment Programme Update • Council's Annual Self-Assessment • Transportation TFG Implementation Plan update report
14 th March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *CFWP – Revenue Monitoring • *CFWP – Capital Monitoring • *CFWP – Quarter 3 Performance Reporting • Service Plans • Target Setting • Six monthly report on Community Safety and a Police Officer be requested to attend once a year to present to the Committee • *CFWP - Housing Customer Service Strategy (Operational Delivery Plan) Monitoring • Environment and Neighbourhoods Strategy (Operational Delivery Plan) Monitoring • Youth Offending Service (YOS) Performance Monitoring Report
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4th Quarter Decision Tracking and Forward Work Programme

Other reports requested by Committee to be added into schedule as and when available.

- Q1 Housing and Building Services performance report 2014-15 - Report / presentation on the responses received as a result of the different consultation methods employed (08 Oct 14: Min No 510)
- Asset Management Strategy (includes Fuel Poverty)
- Community Investment Strategy (includes Financial Inclusion and Digital Inclusion) and report on Digital Inclusion and Creative Communities (15 Mar 17: Min No. 933)
- Customer Care and Community Strategy
- Barry Communities First Cluster Annual Progress Report (annually in April) (14 Apr 15: Min No 1095) [**from Scrutiny Committee (Economy and Environment)**] [last reported 25 Jul 16: Min No 224]
- Housing Compliance Policies evaluation of the impact of the new policies to be provided in November 2017 (09 Nov 16: Min No 514)
- Operational Delivery Plan for the Customer Service Strategy six monthly monitoring report (07 Dec 16: Min No 583)
- Wrap up report on Empty Homes (07 Dec 16: Min No 585)
- Report in regard to investigating the appropriateness and feasibility of starting a sinking fund for future repairs to leasehold properties following completion of the

**CFWP = Cabinet Forward Work Programme

Welsh Housing Quality Standard works in the Summer 2017 (07 Dec 16: Min No 588)

- Report on future housing (to include the work being carried out by the Audit service on contracts) (07 Dec 16: Min No 588)
- Accommodation with Care for Older People's Strategy be brought to a future meeting of the Committee (15 Mar 17: Min No 933)
- Report on Financial Inclusion Streams (12 Jul 17: Min No 135)

Requests for Consideration

N.B. The schedule is a proposed list of items for consideration and may be subject to change depending on prevailing circumstances.

****CFWP = Cabinet Forward Work Programme**