

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>General overview and scrutiny committee</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>27 October 2015</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Draft work programme</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Governance services</b>

## **Classification**

Open

## **Key decision**

This is not an executive decision.

## **Wards affected**

Countywide

## **Purpose**

To consider the committee's work programme and related scrutiny activities.

## **Recommendation**

**THAT the draft work programme (Appendix 1) be noted, subject to any amendments the committee wishes to make.**

## **Alternative options**

- 1 It is for the committee to determine its work programme to reflect the priorities facing Herefordshire. The committee needs to be selective and ensure that the work programme is focused, realistic and deliverable within existing resources.

## **Reasons for recommendations**

- 2 The committee needs to develop a manageable work programme to ensure that scrutiny is focused, effective and produces clear outcomes.

## **Key considerations**

### **Draft work programme**

- 3 The work programme needs to focus on the key issues of concern and be manageable allowing for urgent items or matters that have been called-in.
- 4 Should committee members become aware of issues please discuss the matter with the Chairman and the Statutory scrutiny officer.
- 5 A revised work programme is appended (Appendix 1). The work programme will remain under continuous review during the year.
- 6 Revisions to the work programme include:
  - The Housing strategy item expected at the November 2015 meeting has been deferred, potentially to form part of an agenda for an additional meeting in December 2015.
  - It is suggested that an item on the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership be received in March 2016.
  - A seminar is being planned on the Accommodation strategy.
  - Officers have been asked to provide updates on the current position with Community infrastructure levy and on digital issues; further information will be circulated to committee members at the earliest opportunity.

### **Forward plan**

- 7 Committee members are reminded that the current Forward plan is available through the Councillors' handbook intranet site.

## **Community impact**

- 8 The topics selected for scrutiny should have regard to what matters to residents.

## **Equality duty**

- 9 The topics selected need to have regard for equality and human rights issues.

## **Financial implications**

- 10 The costs of the work of the committee will have to be met within existing resources. It should be noted the costs of running scrutiny will be subject to an assessment to support appropriate processes.

## **Legal implications**

- 11 The council is required to deliver an overview and scrutiny function.

## **Risk management**

- 12 There is a reputational risk to the council if the overview and scrutiny function does not operate effectively. The arrangements for the development of the work programme should help mitigate this risk.

## **Consultees**

- 13 The Chairman and Statutory scrutiny officer meet on a regular basis to review the work programme.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 Draft work programme

## **Background papers**

None identified.