

Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel		
Title	Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee Work Programmes 2018 – 19	
Contributor	Overview and Scrutiny Manager	Item 7
Class	Part 1 (open)	24 July 2018

Lateness: This report was not available for the original dispatch because the Sustainable Development Select Committee did not meet until the evening of 19 July to agree its work programme

Urgency: The report is urgent and cannot wait until the next meeting of the Business Panel because that will not be until after recess and the Business Panel is required to consider the proposed work programmes of each of the select committees at the earliest opportunity to ensure a co-ordinated overview and scrutiny work programme which avoids duplication of effort and facilitates the effective conduct of business.

1. Recommendation

1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel is asked to:

- Review and approve the proposed contents of the work programmes of the overview and scrutiny select committees (attached at appendix A) as discussed and agreed by members.

2. Purpose

2.1 In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny procedure rules outlined in Part IV E of the Council's Constitution, the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel is required to:

- Consider the proposed work programmes of each of the select committees and devise a co-ordinated overview and scrutiny work programme which avoids duplication of effort and facilitates the effective conduct of business.

2.2 The Business Panel may amend the work programme of any of the select committees to secure the most effective use of committee time and Council resources and to prevent overlaps. However, the Business Panel will not normally amend work programme unless it is necessary to ensure the effective conduct of Council business. Once the Business Panel has approved the select committee work programme, the select committee will implement it.

3. Select Committee Work Programme Setting 2018-19

3.1 The select committees have met to consider and agree their work programmes for the municipal year 2018-2019 (see appendix A). In developing their work programmes members have considered:

- standing items, e.g. performance reviews, inspection reports, annual budget scrutiny
- topics recommended for scrutiny by select committees at the end of the 2017-18 municipal year
- topics recommended for scrutiny by senior officers based on recent and future developments
- suggestions from individual members.

3.2 In choosing topics to be added to their work programme, and how they may wish to scrutinise them, members have also taken account of the Lewisham scrutiny prioritisation process, which supports members in identifying priorities and managing workloads (Appendix B).

3.3 The draft work programmes attached at appendix A reflect the discussions held at the first round of select committee meetings and present a broad and varied programme of scrutiny over the next twelve months, focussed on key policy issues, for Business Panel to consider.

3.4 The following in-depth reviews have been put forward by the select committees:

- School exclusions and alternative provision - Children and Young People Select Committee.
- Income Generation - Public Accounts Select Committee.
- The Impact of Prevent/Counter Terrorism strategies and stop and search on relations between the BAME community and the police - Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee.
- Sustainable Place Shaping – Sustainable Development Select Committee.

3.5 Whilst the Housing Select Committee has not agreed an in-depth review at this stage, it will be looking at some issues in an in-depth way, such as the housing element of the Local Plan. Similarly the Healthier Communities Select Committee has not agreed an in-depth review but will hold a mini-review of blue badge provision.

3.6 Whilst both the Housing and Sustainable Development Select Committees will be looking at the Local Plan, these pieces of work will be scoped to avoid overlap and duplication. Housing will focus on the affordable housing elements of the Local Plan whilst Sustainable Development will look at place shaping through sustainable regeneration and planning strategies.

4. Scrutiny of the Budget and Savings Proposals

4.1 The work programmes attached in the appendices to this report may need to be modified in order to accommodate the scrutiny of savings proposals brought forward for member consideration. It remains officers' intention to bring forward savings for scrutiny and decision as and when they are identified, although it is recognised that the annual budget cycle will mean the majority of savings for the following financial year will be developed over the summer for scrutiny and decision in the autumn. Time to scrutinise savings proposals has therefore provisionally been set aside in the

October/November round of meetings, on the proviso that this may need to be revisited as the year progresses. The select committees will therefore need to retain capacity in their work programmes to consider savings proposals as necessary.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The work programmes will be managed within existing budgets. However, formal recommendations to the Mayor arising out of any specific work items within the respective work programmes will be evaluated in the usual way through the process of formal reports.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel is required to consider and co-ordinate an overview and scrutiny work programme which avoids duplication and facilitates the effective conduct of business across the scrutiny select committees. Once the Business Panel has approved the overall work programme, the select committees will implement it.

7. Equalities implications

- 7.1 There may be equalities implications arising from items listed in the select committee work programmes and all activities undertaken by the select committees in discharging these items will need to give due consideration to this.
- 7.2 The delivery of the Council's equalities objectives is to be achieved through the delivery of all of the Council's strategies, plans and procedures. As such, all select committees, when planning their work programmes and scrutinising items, should bear in mind the delivery of the Council's equality objectives.

8. Background documents

- Lewisham Council's Constitution
- Draft minutes of the first meeting of the scrutiny select committees held in June/July 2018

If you have any questions about this report – please contact Charlotte Dale (Overview and Scrutiny Manager) 02083148286

Appendix A Select committee work programmes

Appendix B Lewisham scrutiny prioritisation process