

Sustainable Development Select Committee		
Title	Select Committee work programme 2019-20	
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item 6
Class	Part 1 (open)	30 April 2019

1. Purpose

1.1. To ask members to agree an annual work programme for the select committee.

2. Summary

2.1. This report:

- Provides a summary of the committee's work in 2018-19
- Provides the context for setting the 2019-20 work programme
- Asks members to agree on priorities for the 2019-20 municipal year
- Sets out the process for business panel approval of the work programme
- Sets out how the work programme can be monitored and developed

3. Recommendations

3.1. The Select Committee is asked to:

- Note the meeting dates and committee terms of reference
- Note the key decision plan at appendix F
- Consider the provisional work programme at appendix B
- Consider additional items for the work programme
- Consider opportunities for public participation
- Agree a work programme for 2019-20
- Ensure the work programme is manageable within the number of scheduled meetings and time available at each meeting.

4. Meeting dates

4.1. The meeting dates below were agreed at the Council AGM on 3 April 2019:

- Tuesday 30 April 2019
- Thursday 23 May 2019
- Thursday 4 July 2019
- Wednesday 11 September 2019
- Monday 28 October 2019
- Wednesday 4 December 2019
- Tuesday 21 January 2020
- Monday 2 March 2020

5. The role of the Select Committee

- 5.1. The committee looks at issues relating to the protection of the environment such as: the best use of natural resources; air quality; energy saving and the reduction of all types of pollution.
- 5.2. It can review and challenge reports written by managers of Council services. It can also study topics that are important to local people and share its findings with the Council's Mayor and Cabinet about:
 - Economic development, business support, employment and training
 - The Council's planning policies (but not planning control and building control)
 - Roads and pavements, parking traffic and transport
 - Projects to rebuild or change local areas
 - Rubbish, bins, recycling and cleaning the streets
 - Street and market trading (but not giving permission for people to trade or other things that the Council's licensing committee is responsible for)
 - The work carried out by those responsible for preventing and managing flooding.
- 5.3. The committee's full terms of reference are set out in appendix A.

6. Provisional 2019-20 work programme

- 6.1. The committee's scrutiny manager has drafted a provisional work programme for the committee to consider (see appendix B).
- 6.2. The provisional work programme currently includes:
 - items suggested by the committee in the previous year
 - items suggested by council officers
 - issues arising as a result of previous scrutiny
 - items the committee is required to consider by its terms of reference
- 6.3. The committee should also give consideration to:
 - issues of importance to Local Assemblies (appendix C)
 - decisions due to be made by Mayor and Cabinet (appendix F)
 - issues suggested by members of the public (see paragraph 8.10)
- 6.4. Suggestions made by the committee at the last meeting of 2018-19
 - A review of the Council's approach to illegal dumping
 - The development of the night time economy strategy
 - The Council's work to support the local economy
- 6.5. Suggestions from officers in view of forthcoming developments
 - Home energy conservation (further to new guidance from the government)

The Committee should also note that at its meeting on 27 February 2019, the Council adopted a motion declaring a climate emergency:

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO2 levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm) and continue to rise. This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity;

Without significant and sustained action, the world will exceed the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2050. The government's policies and programmes to cut carbon emissions by 80% by 2050 are insufficient.

Individual and collective action is needed to make this reduction. Society needs to change its laws, taxation, infrastructure and culture to recognise and meet the full cost of greenhouse gases.

The public sector has a fundamental role in enabling individuals and communities to make sustainable low carbon choices.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published in October 2018, describes the enormous harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause compared to a 1.5°C rise. The IPCC identify that limiting global warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector and local communities;

In Lewisham, the consequences of inaction to address this climate emergency will include:

- Increased risk of flooding and damage to buildings, infrastructure and the local economy.
- Health problems, particularly for children, older people and those with pre-existing conditions.
- Higher living costs including energy, food, travel and insurance costs.
- Increases in social injustice and inequality.
- Financial and emotional consequences for residents with families around the world adversely affected by the impact of a changing climate

Councils around the world, including the Mayor of London and other local authorities in London and the UK have responded by declaring a 'climate emergency' and committing resources to address this emergency.

Lewisham Council resolves to:

1. Declare a 'climate emergency'
2. Recognise that a changing climate will have severe and enduring social, economic and environmental implications, and that tackling climate change is an issue of inequality as the greatest impact will be on the most vulnerable and those least able to protect themselves.

Call on the Mayor and Cabinet to:

1. Pledge to do everything within their power to make Lewisham carbon neutral by 2030.
2. Launch a review to report to on delivering a Zero-Carbon Lewisham including:
 - Publishing a new Lewisham Action Plan on Climate Change, with an interim draft ready for scrutiny by the Sustainable Development Select Committee and Mayor & Cabinet before the end of the municipal year 2019/20.
 - Setting specific and measurable targets to reduce carbon emissions for the Council and for the borough as a whole, including costed milestones to zero-carbon;
 - Consider systematically the climate change impact of each area of the Council's activities;
 - Increase local resilience to climate impacts already in the system.
3. Task an Executive Director with responsibility for reducing the carbon emissions resulting from the Council's activities as rapidly as possible, and ensuring a coordinated approach across housing, our corporate estate, transport, regeneration, planning and other services.
4. Continue to prioritise support for vulnerable residents through the Council's fuel poverty programmes working with partners at a community, borough wide and regional level to provide advice services and access to funding for heating, insulation and ventilation.
5. Accelerate existing programmes to deliver reductions in greenhouse gas emissions including delivery of heat networks in the borough, low carbon development and high quality housing, an efficient and low carbon corporate estate and support for renewables and for community energy.
6. Work with partner bodies across the borough and across London to ensure the climate emergency is adequately reflected in the development and implementation of all borough wide strategies and plans.
7. Reaffirm Lewisham's membership of UK100, and use our membership to work with other councils across the UK to meet climate change targets.
8. Draw up a communications strategy to support delivery of a Zero-Carbon Lewisham and enable Lewisham residents to make low carbon choices.
9. Call on the UK Government to provide the powers and resources to make this possible.

The Committee will need to consider this when deciding on items to add to its work programme. It should also help to determine what the focus of each of the items on the Committee's work programme should be.

6.6. Issues arising as a result of previous scrutiny

- Protection for pubs
- The redevelopment of Catford town centre
- Bakerloo line extension
- Fire safety in tall buildings

6.7. Items the committee is required to consider by its terms of reference

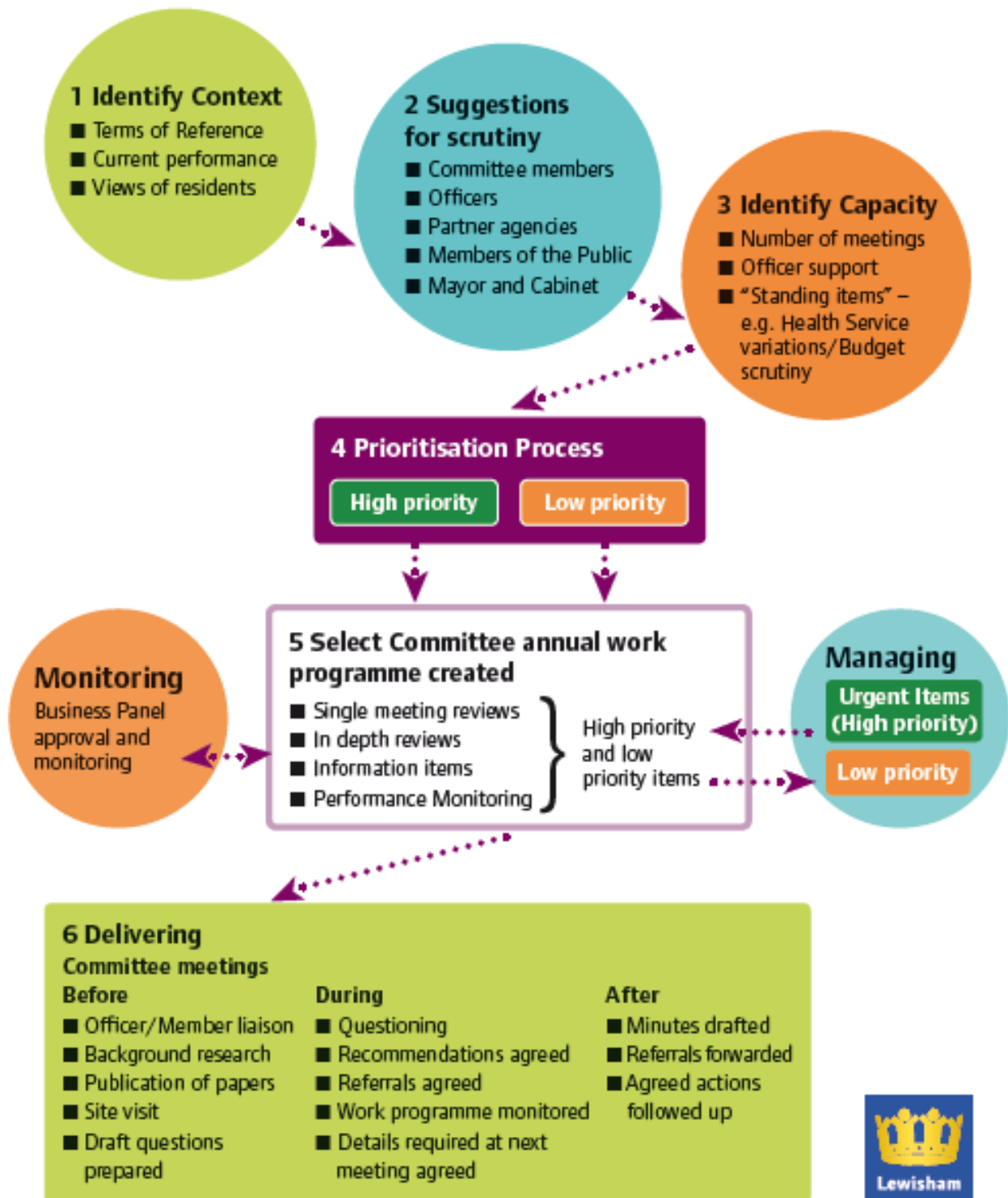
- Budget cuts proposals*

**The council continues to identify areas from which it will deliver significant budget reductions in order to agree a balanced budget, as required by legislation. Officers have committed to regular interactions with Members in order to facilitate the effective scrutiny of specific proposals. The committee will need to retain capacity in its work programme to consider these as is necessary.*

- 6.8. In previous years, the Committee has also considered these issues, which are closely aligned with its terms of reference:
- Development of the Lewisham Local Plan
 - Planning service annual monitoring report
 - The annual parking report
- 6.9. It is for the Committee to consider the provisional work programme and agree any additional items it would like to include.
- 6.10. The flowchart below (available on the Members Information Site) and the following section set out further guidance on the steps involved in setting, monitoring, managing and delivering the work programme:

Work Programme: Setting, monitoring, managing and delivering

Setting



7. Deciding on items to add to the work programme

7.1. When deciding on items to include in the work programme, the committee should consider:

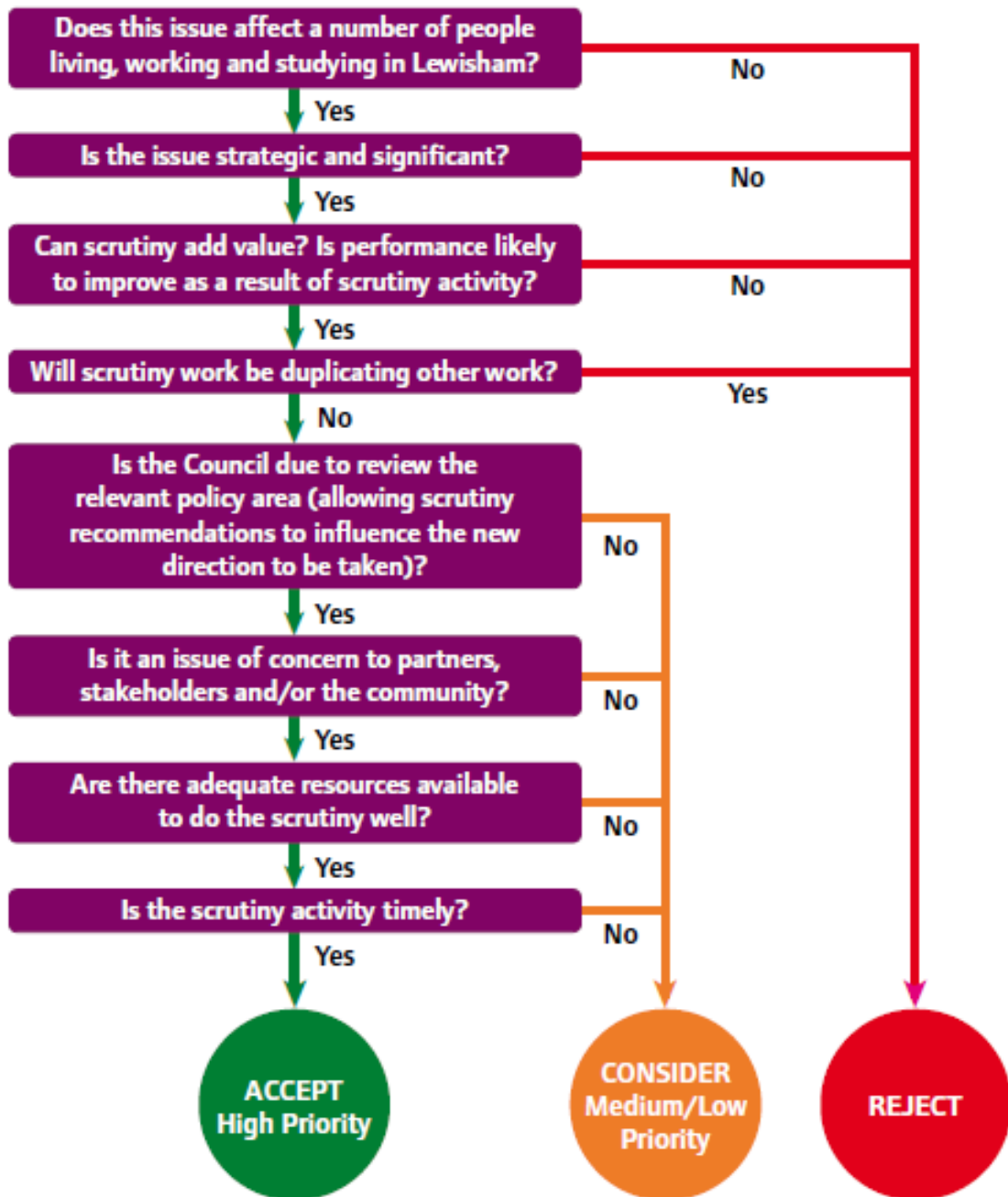
- the key services, programmes and projects within the committee's remit
- the criteria for selecting and prioritising topics (see flowchart below)
- suggestions already put forward (see paras 6.4 to 6.6)
- items committee required to consider by its terms of reference (para 6.7)
- the capacity for additional items (see paras 10.5 to 10.8 below)

7.2. Prioritising potential work programme items helps the committee to decide which items to include and which items it could potentially remove from its work programme if it decides to take any urgent high-priority issues over the course of the year.

7.3. It may help to designate items as either high or medium priority. Low priority items should not be included on the work programme.

7.4. The flowchart below (available from the Members Information Site) provides guidance on prioritising topics for scrutiny:

Scrutiny work programme – prioritisation process



8. Different types of scrutiny

8.1. Scrutiny can be carried out in a number of ways and it is important to consider which type of scrutiny is the most appropriate and proportionate for each item on the work programme.

8.2. Some items, for example, may only require a briefing report for information (and will not need to be considered at a formal committee meeting), while another may require more detailed analysis and questioning of a particular issue with input from stakeholders.

8.3. Some of the main ways of carrying out scrutiny are described below.

8.4. The committee should also note the comments submitted by scrutiny to the council's *Local Democracy Review* on how scrutiny can be even more effective, participative and open. Ideas and suggestions included:

- Focusing on fewer issues more closely linked to council priorities
- Formal questioning of cabinet members at committee meetings
- More engagement with the public outside of formal meetings
- Individual scrutiny members leading on defined topic areas
- Contributing to new policy proposals at an early stage

8.5. Standard items

8.6. The majority of work programme items tend to be standard items, where scrutiny is carried out as part of a single meeting and members:

- agree what information and analysis they wish to receive
- receive a report presenting that information and analysis
- ask questions of the presenting officer or guest
- agree, following discussion of the report, whether the committee will make any recommendations or receive further information.

8.7. In-depth reviews

8.8. For issues that require more detailed analysis and more extensive evidence gathering, the committee may decide to carry out an in-depth review over a series of meetings.

8.9. The committee can use a range of methods to investigate and gather evidence as part of an in-depth review. This includes:

- inviting expert witnesses and specialists to meetings
- consulting relevant sections of the community
- requesting specific information and analysis from council officers
- individual members participating in meetings, events and visits – and reporting back to the committee

- 8.10. In order to increase public participation in scrutiny, the committee may also decide to ask members of the public to contribute to in-depth reviews by submitting evidence via the council website: [Open Overview and Scrutiny Investigations](#). This is a new tool available to scrutiny committees.
- 8.11. It is important to note that evidence gathering as part of an in-depth review can take place outside of the formal committee meeting setting. In previous years scrutiny committees have:
- carried out visits and fact-finding trips
 - consulted with local resident and special interest groups
 - asked individual members to report on a specific issue
- 8.12. In-depth reviews usually take place over at least four meetings:
- Meeting 1 - scoping and planning the review
 - Meetings 2 to 3 - evidence gathering
 - Meeting 4 - agreeing draft report and recommendations
 - Report sent to Mayor and Cabinet for consideration and response
- 8.13. If the committee would like to designate one of its work programme items as an in-depth review, this should be done at the first meeting of the municipal year to allow sufficient time to carry out the review. A scoping paper for the review will then be prepared for the next meeting.
- 8.14. The flowchart below (available on the Members Information Site) sets out more information on the different stages involved in scoping and carrying out an in-depth review:

How to carry out an in-depth review



Different types of scrutiny (continued...)

8.15. Single-meeting reviews

8.16. A more concise review where evidence is collected at one meeting and a brief report with recommendations produced for the next meeting. This approach allows a quicker turnaround for recommendations.

8.17. Policy development

8.18. This usually takes place when the council is due to renew a particular policy. Scrutiny might consider the options available and officer recommendations before a decision is made by Mayor and Cabinet.

8.19. It is important that select committees are engaged at an early enough stage to be able to actively influence and contribute to the new policy.

8.20. For example, in the past year the committee has scrutinised the development of Lewisham's new Local Plan and evidence base.

8.21. Performance monitoring

8.22. Scrutiny regularly uses performance information and data to examine the effectiveness of specific council services. This includes assessing the delivery of a particular project against a set timescale.

8.23. For example, in the past year the committee has monitored the performance of the council's parking service.

8.24. Information items

8.25. Some potential work programme items might be low priority and may only require a briefing report to be produced for the committee to note. There is no provision for discussion of information items. Information items can be circulated to committee member by email and questions can be put to the report author for a written response.

8.26. The council's *guide to overview and scrutiny* (available from the Members Information Site) provides further information on carrying out scrutiny.

9. The Committee's work in 2018-19

9.1. A brief overview of the wide range of issues the committee considered over 2018-19 is set out below. Members are asked to take this into consideration when setting the work programme for the coming year.

- Preserving local pubs

The Committee has a long standing interest in the role that local pubs play in Lewisham's communities and town centres. Following up from its 2012 review, the Committee invited guests to give evidence about the challenges facing Lewisham's pubs. The Committee agreed its review and recommendations in March 2019.

- Development of the Local Plan

The Committee has taken a close interest in the development of Lewisham's new Local Plan. The Plan will become the foundation of regeneration and development management in the borough. It will shape the borough, its neighbourhoods and communities for many years to come. Accordingly, the Committee has set aside time at every one of its meetings to consider the development of the evidence base for the plan as well as to review to consultations and collaboration taking place to inform the Plan.

- The regeneration of Catford town centre

The regeneration of Catford is one of the largest planned town centre redevelopments in London. Its proximity to central London as well as the quality of its transport links and green spaces mean that the Council is carefully evaluating the capacity for new homes and infrastructure. In line with its remit, the Committee is very interested in ensuring that the redevelopment is sustainable and focused on strengthening the local community.

Referrals to Mayor and Cabinet

9.2. Scrutiny committees have the option to refer their views on a particular item to Mayor and Cabinet in the form of a formal "referral". The Chair or a nominated member of the committee can attend Mayor and Cabinet to present the referral and add additional context to the committee's views.

9.3. Mayor and Cabinet are required by the council's constitution to provide a response to a referral within two months. The relevant Cabinet Member or senior officer may attend the committee meeting at which the response is due to be considered in order to present the response and answer questions.

9.4. In 2018-19 the Committee made referrals to Mayor and Cabinet on:

- Air quality
- The development of the Local Plan
- Budget cut proposals
- Parking
- Neighbourhood CIL
- Preserving Lewisham's pubs

- Fire safety in tall buildings
- Planning service annual monitoring report
- New Cross framework and station opportunity study

10. Approving, monitoring and managing the work programme

- 10.1. In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure rules outlined in the Council's constitution, each select committee is required to submit their annual work programme to the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel.
- 10.2. The Business Panel will meet on 7 May 2019 to consider provisional work programmes and agree a co-ordinated Overview and Scrutiny work programme, which avoids duplication of effort and which facilitates the effective conduct of business.
- 10.3. The work programme will be reviewed at each meeting of the committee. This allows urgent items to be added and items which are no longer a priority to be removed. Each additional item added should be considered against the priority criteria outlined in this report. If the committee agrees to add high priority items, it must also consider which medium/low priority items should be removed. There are eight meetings in this municipal year and the work programme needs to be achievable given the time available.
- 10.4. Members have previously requested additional guidance about prioritising and managing work programmes. The Council's constitution (part IV, section E) sets out the procedural rules for overview and scrutiny committees. The following issues were noted in 2014-18 as key issues:
- the length of meetings
 - the number of items scheduled for each meeting
 - the order of items at meetings

Length of meetings

- 10.5. Provision is made for committee meetings to last for **two and a half hours**. If the items scheduled for the meeting are not completed within this time the committee may decide suspend the Council's standing orders in order to complete committee business. The Council's constitution also provides the option for meetings to be adjourned by the Chair until a later date (with limitations). The suspension of standing orders and any decision to adjourn a meeting are matters for members of the committee and the Chair.
- 10.6. It is suggested that if standing orders are suspended, the meeting should continue for no longer that a further 30 minutes. Once a meeting has been in progress for more than three hours, especially if it takes place in the evening, the concentration of participants and the meeting's effectiveness declines.
- 10.7. The length of each item at Committee meetings will vary based on a number of factors – including the complexity of the subject under scrutiny; the number of issues identified by members and questions put to officers and guests.

The number of items scheduled for each meeting

- 10.8. It is for members of the committee to decide how many items should be scheduled for the meeting. However, giving consideration to the time available and the length of previous meetings of the committee, Members may wish to schedule **three items for each meeting**, leaving space available for Mayor and Cabinet responses and other urgent business.
- 10.9. The terms of reference of the committee are broad and there are many areas of service delivery and budgetary management that the committee could scrutinise. The prioritisation process set out earlier in the report is designed to help the Committee decide whether it should add items to its work programme. Where the committee identifies issues of interest that are low priority because, among other things: they are not due to be reviewed by the Council; there are inadequate resources available to carry out the scrutiny effectively; the issue has recently been reviewed by others; then members may wish to make a request to receive a briefing – or task the relevant scrutiny manager to identify sources of further information for circulation to the committee by email in order to provide context for future discussions.

The order of items at meetings

- 10.10. The Council's standing orders require that the minutes of previous meetings, declarations of interest and responses to select committees from Mayor and Cabinet are considered as the first items on select committees' order of business. At the beginning of the municipal year it is also necessary for a committee to decide on a chair and vice chair and to set a programme of business for the coming year at the earliest opportunity.
- 10.11. It has become standard practice for committees to consider items presented by guests and officers from partner organisations at the beginning of each agenda. This allows these speakers and presenters to be released from the meeting at the earliest opportunity.
- 10.12. The Committee has been asked to allocate a level of priority to each of the items on its work programme. Following the consideration of standing items and taking into account invitations to guests and external witnesses as well as the complexity and length of the reports on the agenda, work programmes are ordered by priority (high/medium).
- 10.13. Decisions about agreeing the order of business and changing the priority of items for discussion are made by the Chair, with the agreement of the Committee, where possible.

11. Financial Implications

- 11.1. There may be financial implications arising from some of the items that will be included in the work programme (especially reviews) and these will need to be considered when preparing those items/scoping those reviews.

12. Legal Implications

- 12.1. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, all scrutiny select committees must devise and submit a work programme to the Business Panel at the start of each municipal year.

13. Equalities Implications

- 13.1. The Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 13.2. The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 13.3. There may be equalities implications arising from items on the work programme and all activities undertaken by the Committee will need to give due consideration to this.

Background Documents

Lewisham Council's Constitution

Appendices

Appendix A – Committee's terms of reference

Appendix B – Provisional work programme

Appendix C – Local assembly priorities

Appendix D – Areas of the Council scrutinised by the Select Committee

Appendix E – Centre for Public Scrutiny criteria for selecting scrutiny topics

Appendix F – Notice of forthcoming executive decisions

Appendix A

The following roles are common to all select committees:

(a) General functions

To review and scrutinise decisions made and actions taken in relation to executive and non-executive functions

To make reports and recommendations to the Council or the executive, arising out of such review and scrutiny in relation to any executive or non-executive function

To make reports or recommendations to the Council and/or Executive in relation to matters affecting the area or its residents

The right to require the attendance of members and officers to answer questions includes a right to require a member to attend to answer questions on up and coming decisions

(b) Policy development

To assist the executive in matters of policy development by in depth analysis of strategic policy issues facing the Council for report and/or recommendation to the Executive or Council or committee as appropriate

To conduct research, community and/or other consultation in the analysis of policy options available to the Council

To liaise with other public organisations operating in the borough – both national, regional and local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working in policy development wherever possible

(c) Scrutiny

To scrutinise the decisions made by and the performance of the Executive and other committees and Council officers both in relation to individual decisions made and over time

To scrutinise previous performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives/performance targets and/or particular service areas

To question members of the Executive or appropriate committees and executive directors personally about decisions

To question members of the Executive or appropriate committees and executive directors in relation to previous performance whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over time or in relation to particular initiatives which have been implemented

To scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the borough and to invite them to make reports to and/or address the select committee/Business Panel and local people about their activities and performance

To question and gather evidence from any person outside the Council (with their consent)

To make recommendations to the Executive or appropriate committee and/or Council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process

(d) Community representation

To promote and put into effect closer links between overview and scrutiny members and the local community

To encourage and stimulate an enhanced community representative role for overview and scrutiny members including enhanced methods of consultation with local people

To liaise with the Council's ward assemblies so that the local community might participate in the democratic process and where it considers it appropriate to seek the views of the ward assemblies on matters that affect or are likely to affect the local areas, including accepting items for the agenda of the appropriate select committee from ward assemblies.

To keep the Council's local ward assemblies under review and to make recommendations to the Executive and/or Council as to how participation in the democratic process by local people can be enhanced

To receive petitions, deputations and representations from local people and other stakeholders about areas of concern within their overview and scrutiny remit, to refer them to the Executive, appropriate committee or officer for action, with a recommendation or report if the committee considers that necessary

To consider any referral within their remit referred to it by a member under the Councillor Call for Action, and if they consider it appropriate to scrutinise decisions and/or actions taken in relation to that matter, and/or make recommendations/report to the Executive (for executive matters) or the Council (non-executive matters).

(e) Finance

To exercise overall responsibility for finances made available to it for use in the performance of its overview and scrutiny function.

(f) Work programme

As far as possible to draw up a draft annual work programme in each municipal year for consideration by the overview and scrutiny Business Panel. Once approved by the Business Panel, the relevant select committee will implement the programme during that municipal year. Nothing in this arrangement inhibits the right of every

member of a select committee (or the Business Panel) to place an item on the agenda of that select committee (or Business Panel respectively) for discussion.

The Council and the Executive will also be able to request that the overview and scrutiny select committee research and/or report on matters of concern and the select committee will consider whether the work can be carried out as requested. If it can be accommodated, the select committee will perform it. If the committee has reservations about performing the requested work, it will refer the matter to the Business Panel for decision.

The Sustainable Development Select Committee has specific responsibilities for the following:

(a) To exercise all the functions and roles of the overview and scrutiny committee in relation to the following matters:

- to examine issues relating to the protection of the environment including 'green' issues such as the conservation of natural resources, energy efficiency and conservation and/or the reduction of all types of pollution and make recommendations to the Mayor and Cabinet as appropriate;
- to comment and consult on and make recommendations to the Mayor and Cabinet in relation to the following:
 - i. sustainable development, economic development, business support, employment and training;
 - ii. the formulation of the Council's planning policies, (including the preparation of the Council's Local Development Framework and other local plans for the use and development of land, but excluding planning control and building control functions);
 - iii. highways, parking, traffic and transport, and urban regeneration;
 - iv. the environment including waste disposal, environmental health, street and market trading (but not the granting of licences and related matters);
 - v. public protection, refuse collection and disposal, street cleaning, consumer protection, cemeteries and crematoria;
 - vi generally to examine the performance of the Mayor and Cabinet in relation to these matters.
- the review and scrutiny of the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management and coastal erosion risk management affecting the area.

Appendix C – Local assembly priorities

Blackheath

- Environment and Community.
- Provision for Older people, Young People and Children
- Parking, Streets and Waste.
- Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Brockley

- Creating a high-quality living environment – helping improve our local living environment and making Brockley a safer, cleaner and greener place to live, work and learn
- Creating development opportunities for Brockley residents
- Connecting communities – bringing Brockley residents together, fostering a sense of community spirit, mutual understanding and respect through community projects, events and activities. These could be art, music, drama or sports based. We are also keen to open up the criteria to include ideas around exciting intergenerational projects.

Catford South

Improving the Catford South Environment

Parking, Idling and CPZs

Improving Cycling Provision

General traffic issues in Catford South

Supporting Local Air Quality Campaigns

Improving Catford South for Residents

Fly-tipping, Litter and Bins

Greening through planting trees and flowers

Noise nuisance

Street cleaning

Developing more activities for Children and You People in Catford South

Activity for Teenagers

Activity for Young Adults

Developing activity for under 5s

Activity for Children aged 6-12 years

Improving the Cultural offer in Catford South

Developing Community Events

Access to Theatre and Music

Night time offer for adults better

Access the Visual Arts Film

Increasing opportunities for Older People Catford South Community

Providing activities and events for older people

Dementia Friendly Community Work

Improving the health of Older People

Maintaining the Independence of older people

General things that matter to Catford South Residents

Volunteering Opportunities

Crime and Safety

Supporting Local Business

Employment and Training

Crofton Park

- Activities for older people
- Activities for younger people
- The environment
- Health and wellbeing
- Supporting community cohesion

Downham

- Children and young people
- Older people and intergenerational projects
- Creating a high quality living environment

Evelyn

- Provision for young people and children
- Provision for older people, people with disabilities and intergenerational activities
- Skills development and access to local employment opportunities
- Community support on anti-social behaviour, crime and drug issues
- Housing issues / developments and improving the built environment
- Community capacity building, cohesion and events

Forest Hill

- Youth engagement and provision- looking for activities that will appeal and support new and existing schemes young people. These could include those that are Art, Music, Drama and Sports based. We are also keen to open

up the criteria to include ideas around exciting intergenerational projects.

- Making Forest Hill more attractive - looking for proposals that will help to keep Forest Hill streets clean and appealing. This could include the planting of trees and flowers or a proposal that would increase street art or improve an area.
- Community events – looking for proposals around events that include celebrations, e.g Christmas or events that engage residents and local groups offering education and relevant information to the Forest Hill area, as well as being fun.
- Supporting local Traders – looking for proposals that could support and promote Forest Hill as a vibrant town centre and the Kirkdale area for local businesses.

Grove Park

- Improving the town centre
- Crime and antisocial behaviour
- Neighbourliness, community activities, events and cohesion
- Community facilities
- Parking, road safety & traffic calming

Ladywell

- improving air quality and pollution
- campaigning for the inclusion of genuinely affordable housing in future development
- better provision for youth – including apprenticeships linked to local businesses
- community safety

Lee Green

- Traffic and pollution: traffic speeds and rat running.
- Parking in areas without restrictions: overparking causing problems for residents.

- Our environment: parks, green spaces, community gardens, streets, flytipping, litter, dog fouling, neglected or empty buildings.
- Community services: community centre and community events.
- Antisocial behaviour and crime: misuse of bikes, noise, drug dealing.
- Transport links and accessibility of railway stations in the ward.

Lewisham Central

- Improving health and wellbeing.
- Cleaner, better environment.
- Better access to activities for children and young people.
- Better access to activities and opportunities for the elderly.
- Promoting and improving community cohesion.

New Cross

- Unemployment and skills development
- Activities for older people and tackling social isolation
- Housing developments and the built environment
- Health, wellbeing and community safety

Perry Vale

- Children and Young People
- Unemployment and skills development
- Older people and intergenerational
- Crime and antisocial behaviour
- Environment and ecology

Rushey Green

- activities and opportunities for children (under 18) and young people (under 25)
- increasing opportunities for older people (55+)
- community cohesion – including events, activities and projects

designed to create a sense of community in Rushey Green

- culture and the arts – with particular reference to improving the wellbeing of people in the Rushey Green Area
- improving your local area – including local 'streetscape', environment and ecology.

The Rushey Green Assembly is also committed to keeping residents informed about the ongoing improvements to Catford town centre.

Sydenham

- bringing our community together
- health and wellbeing
- vibrant high street
- clean and green
- crime and anti-social behaviour.

Telegraph Hill

- Unemployment and skills development
- Activities for older people
- Neighbourliness and tackling social isolation.
- Community safety, wellbeing and tackling anti-social behaviour.

Whitefoot

- Healthy living including fitness, wellbeing and mental health.
- Creative arts – using art to bring Whitefoot residents together and foster a sense of community spirit, mutual understanding and respect.
- Improved parks, play areas and green spaces – helping improve our local living environment, making Whitefoot a safer, cleaner and greener place to live, work, and learn

Appendix D – Further information about areas of the Council scrutinised by the Sustainable Development Select Committee

Resources and Regeneration

The Resources and Regeneration Directorate has two principal functions. Its regulatory function helps the Council meet its statutory requirements and corporate priorities through a range of professional and administrative support services, as well as support to the democratic and political process. It acts as an enabler, facilitating service delivery through a framework and structure of support, advice and guidance. In addition, the Directorate is committed to regenerating the borough, renewing the physical fabric of the borough, enhancing the overall economic well-being of Lewisham and working in partnership with others to create sustainable communities.

Resources and Regeneration Directorate has six divisions providing a range of professional and administrative services.

Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration – (vacant)

Regeneration and Place – is committed to the optimisation of assets, working in partnership with others to regenerate the borough and create sustainable communities by:

- enabling and supporting the regeneration of Lewisham and helping to strengthen the local economy
- actively supporting the creation of safe, attractive, sustainable places and communities for the benefit of local people
- connecting people to economic, leisure and learning opportunities
- providing high quality, best practice stewardship of the Council's property assets
- delivering effective, value for money 'back office' functions which support the delivery of council and directorate priorities

Assistant Director Regeneration and Planning – **Freddie Murray**

Service Group Managers

- **Property, Asset Strategy & Estates** – Chris Damri
- **Commercial & Investment Delivery** – (vacant)
- **Capital Programme Delivery** - Kplom Lotsu
- **Highways, Transport and Asset Management** - Simon Moss
- **Estates Compliance and Contracts** – (vacant)

The Building Control function now sits in the Regeneration & Place division. The Building Control service operates on a trading account and competes with a multitude of private sector operators (Approved Inspectors) to provide

approvals under Building Regulations.

- **Civil / Structural Engineering Manager - Thiru Moolan**

Planning - The planning system guides the future development and use of land in the long term public interest. This is achieved through a positive and proactive approach to shaping, considering, determining and delivering development proposals. It is led by the Planning Service, working closely with those proposing developments and other stakeholders.

Head of Planning -Viv Evans (whilst Emma Talbot is on maternity leave)

Service Group Managers – Planning

- Spatial Policy Manager (including Planning Policy, Design and Conservation and Section 106 & CIL) - David Syme
- Development Management (including Planning Enforcement) – Christopher Dale
- Business Improvement Stakeholder Manager - Alison Bradshaw

Customer Services

The Committee is also responsible for the scrutiny of some of the activities of these divisions in Customer Services:

Environment - The Division operates services from Wearside Service Centre and Hither Green Crematorium. It is split into six service groups as follows:

- Waste Management/ Waste collection services
- Street Cleansing
- Green Scene (includes Pest Control, Environment & Community Development and Parks and Open Spaces)
- Fleet Services
- Bereavement Services
- Commercial and customer services

Head of Environment - Nigel Tyrell

Service Group Managers – Environment

- Waste Management - Michael Bryan
- Commercial and customer service – Pat Hollands
- Street Cleansing - Gerry McAneney
- Green Scene (includes Pest Control, Environment & Community Development and Parks and Open Spaces) – Vince Buchanan
- Passenger & Fleet Services - Noel Everest
- Bereavement Services - Alison Beck

Public Services

The Public Services division is based in Laurence House with the Register office in Lewisham High Street. Public Services provide access to a wide range of fundamental customer services across the Council and are the front door to many services that our residents, citizens and customers may require. The Division comprises of eight service groups: Customer Service Centre, Revenues, Benefits, Emergency Planning, Parking, Business Support, Directorate Casework and Independent Adjudicator. Public Services operates services from all Council Buildings. It is split into eight service groups as follows:

- Customer Service Centre (Telephony, Face to Face and Registration)
- Revenues (Council Tax, Business Rates, Debtors and Cashiers)
- Benefits (Housing Benefit, Council Tax Rebates and Concessionary Awards)
- Emergency Planning (Emergency Planning and Business Continuity)
- Parking
- Business Support
- Directorate Casework Team
- Independent Adjudicator

Head of Public Services - Ralph Wilkinson

Service Group Managers – Public Services:

- **Customer Services Centre** (Telephony, Face to Face and Registration) - Mark Ferris
- **Revenues** (Council Tax, Business Rates, Debtors and Cashiers) - Lorraine Richards
- **Benefits** (Housing Benefit, Council Tax Rebates and Concessionary Awards) - Mick Lear
- **Emergency Planning** (Emergency Planning and Business Continuity) – Laurie Grasty
- **Parking** – Seamus Adams

Appendix E – Criteria for selecting topics

The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) has developed a useful set of questions to help committees prioritise items for scrutiny work programmes:

General questions to be asked at the outset:

- is there a clear objective for scrutinising this topic – what do we hope to achieve?
- does the topic have a potential impact for one or more section(s) of the population?
- is the issue strategic and significant?
- is there evidence to support the need for scrutiny?
- what are the likely benefits to the council and its customers?
- are you likely to achieve a desired outcome?
- what are the potential risks?
- are there adequate resources available to carry out the scrutiny well?
- is the scrutiny activity timely?

Sources of topics

The CfPS also suggest that ideas for topics might derive from three main sources: the public interest; council priorities; and external factors. These are described below.

Public interest

- issues identified by members through surgeries, casework and other contact with constituents
- user dissatisfaction with service (e.g. complaints)
- market surveys/citizens panels
- issues covered in media

Internal council priority

- Council corporate priority area
- high level of budgetary commitment to the service/policy area (as percentage of total expenditure)
- pattern of budgetary overspend
- poorly performing service (evidence from performance indicators/benchmarking).

External Factors

- Priority area for central government
- new government guidance or legislation
- issues raised by External Audit Management Letters/External Audit Reports
- key reports or new evidence provided by external organisations on key issue

Criteria to reject items

Finally, the CfPS suggest some criteria for rejecting items:

- issues being examined elsewhere - e.g. by the Cabinet, working group, officer group, external body
- issues dealt with less than two years ago
- new legislation or guidance expected within the next year
- no scope for scrutiny to add value/ make a difference
- the objective