

Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel		
Title	Public Accounts Select Committee Work Programme 2019 – 20	
Contributor	Overview and Scrutiny Manager	Item
Class	Part 1 (open)	21 May 2019

1. Recommendation

1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel is asked to:

- Review and approve the proposed contents of the work programme of the Public Accounts Select Committee (attached at appendix A) as discussed and agreed by members of that Committee.

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.

2.3 Due to the by-elections on 2 May 2019, the Public Accounts Select Committee meeting scheduled for the day of the election, has been moved to 9 May 2019. The Public Accounts Select Committee meeting therefore took place after the Business Panel meeting on 7 May where the work programmes for the five other select Committees were agreed. The Public Accounts Select Committee work programme is therefore being considered by Business Panel, separately, at this meeting on 21 May.

2.4 It is Business Panel's role to consider all the Select Committee work programmes and agree a coordinated scrutiny programme. It is not felt that there are any areas of overlap with items on the other five Select Committee work programmes.

3. Policy Context

3.1 The Council's recently adopted Corporate Strategy sets out the Council's priorities, namely:

1. Open Lewisham
2. Tackling the housing crisis
3. Giving children and young people the best start in life
4. Building an inclusive local economy
5. Delivering and defending: Health, Social Care and Support
6. Making Lewisham greener
7. Building safer communities

3.2 The Select Committees devise annual work programmes which cover areas of business that fall within, and contribute towards achieving, all corporate priorities. The implementation of the attached work programmes will therefore have implications for all policy areas.

3.3 The Select Committees have tried to make sure that their work programmes reflect the diversity of Lewisham's communities and that the views of residents are fairly represented in scrutiny processes. Any recommendations arising from scrutiny work carried out this year, will support the Council's corporate strategy and reflect the needs of local residents.

4. Public Accounts Select Committee Work Programme

4.1 The draft work programme attached at appendix A reflects the discussions held at the first meeting of the select committee and presents a broad and varied programme of scrutiny over the next twelve months, focussed on key policy issues, for Business Panel to consider.

4.2 The following in-depth review has been put forward by the Select Committee:

- **Income Generation and Commercialisation**

4.3 The review will build on the work carried out by the Committee in previous years. It will focus on changing the Council's culture around commercialisation and explore how best continued scrutiny of the commercialisation agenda should progress. The Committee will continue to receive updates from officers on the implementation of the Council's income generation strategy, whilst also drawing on examples of best practice from other councils.

4.4 In order to increase public participation in scrutiny, the Select Committee may ask members of the public to contribute to its work by submitting evidence via the council website: [Open Overview and Scrutiny Investigations](#).

5. Financial Implications

5.1 All scrutiny work programmes will be managed within existing budgets. However, formal recommendations to the Mayor arising out of any specific work items within 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 select committee work programmes and all activities undertaken by 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.
- 7.3 The Select Committees have tried to make sure that their work programmes reflect the diversity of Lewisham's communities and that the views of residents are fairly represented in scrutiny processes. Any recommendations arising from scrutiny work carried out this year, will support the Council's newly adopted corporate strategy and reflect the needs of local residents.

8. Background documents

- Lewisham Council's Constitution
- Draft minutes of the first meeting of the public accounts select committee held on 9 May 2019

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

Appendix A Select Committee work programme

Appendix B Lewisham scrutiny prioritisation process