

Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel		
Title	Comments of the Public Accounts Select Committee on financial scrutiny	
Contributor	Public Accounts Select Committee	Item 3
Class	Part 1 (open)	21 May 2019

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report informs the Business Panel of the comments and views of the Public Accounts Select Committee, arising from discussions held at the Committee's meeting on 9 May 2019.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 Business Panel is asked to consider the views of the Select Committee as set out in this report and provide a response.

3 Public Accounts Select Committee views

- 3.1 On 9 May 2019, the Public Accounts Select Committee considered its work programme for the upcoming year. The Committee resolved to refer its views to the Business Panel, as follows:

The coming year will be a critical period for the Council's finances. The Public Accounts Select Committee wishes to reemphasise the significant and sustained pressures on the Council's budget. The Committee recognises its pivotal role in scrutinising the Council's finances and it intends to focus its efforts for 2019-20 on key areas, including both adult and children's social care. Nonetheless, the Committee points out the important part that all scrutiny committees have to play in examining the Council's budgets and scrutinising financial management.

The Public Accounts Select Committee requests that the Business Panel assures itself that all select committees have given due consideration to scrutiny of the Council's finances in the development of their 2019-20 work programmes. In particular, the Committee recommends that the relevant select committees should be tasked with scrutinising the capital programme expenditure within their remit (including the schools programme; major regeneration projects and the housing revenue account allocation) as well as the dedicated schools grant and the complete housing revenue account.

4 Further implications

- 4.1 At this stage there are no specific financial, legal, sustainability, equalities or crime and disorder implications to consider as a result of the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

Background papers

Public Accounts Select Committee agenda 9 May 2019: <https://tinyurl.com/pasc090519>

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