

Meeting: Finance Sub-committee

Date: 21 June 2017

Title: Finance Sub-committee Work Programme 2017-18

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Service: Law & Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to outline and draft work programme for the sub-committee for 2017-18 and seek any further suggestions from the Sub-committee for inclusion in the work programme.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to note the work programme for 2017/18.

3. Details

Background

3.1 The Finance Sub-Committee Terms of Reference are to:

- a. Undertake scrutiny of revenue and capital budget, and related performance management monitoring information, and any proposals that impact upon the Authority's revenue or capital budgets, and make recommendations, as appropriate, including recommendations for internal audit investigations, to the Cabinet and/or Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee.
- b. Review the effectiveness of arrangements for budget monitoring within the Authority and report, as appropriate, to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee.
- c. Liaise with the Authority's external auditors in relation to the budget monitoring processes and any other financial matters.
- d. Undertake specific reviews to examine the Authority's arrangements for ensuring the efficient and effective use of financial resources and then report its findings, along with any recommendations, to the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee. In carrying out such reviews, the Sub-committee must have regard to any key objectives contained in the Budget or Council Plan.
- e. Examine and challenge how the Authority is using its resources to deliver positive outcomes for local people in a way that provides value for money.

- 3.2 The process of establishing the 2017/18 overview and scrutiny work programme began in February 2017 with an email to all Members and Tier 1, 2 and 3 managers seeking topics for scrutiny. It was explained with this request that, as in previous years, the focus of overview and scrutiny would be on contributing to policy development.
- 3.3 A press release was issued on 7 February 2017 seeking the views of members of the public as to what services would be important for scrutiny to focus on.
- 3.4 The Senior Leadership Team also discussed the work programme and were looking to identify key policy areas for scrutiny to focus on. The work programme process and suggestions received to date was also discussed at a meeting of scrutiny chairs and deputies.
- 3.4 In addition to asking senior staff and Members to put forward ideas, an article was also placed on the Authority web site and communication platforms inviting members of the public to raise issues that they thought would be suitable for scrutiny to investigate.
- 3.5 As a result of this process the following item was put forward by the Budget Sub-group for inclusion in the work programme:
- Review of the budget consultation process.
- 3.6 In the past the Finance Sub-committee has undertaken scrutiny of Financial Management reports on a bi-monthly basis, as well as receiving regular updates on welfare reform and the red risks associated with the business and technical partnerships.
- 3.7 A draft work programme has been produced and is attached at Appendix A
- 3.8 The sub-Committee is asked to consider and approve the work programme for the forthcoming year, taking into account any additional topics members may wish to suggest at the meeting.

4. Appendices (if any)

Draft Work Programme 2017-18