

TITLE OF REPORT: Work Programme 2018-19 and Development of Work Programme for 2019 - 20

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Summary

This report is set out in two parts. The first part sets out the provisional work programme for Care, Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2018-19 and the second part details the current position / next steps in the development of the work programme for this OSC for the municipal year 2019-20.

2018-19 Work Programme

1. The Committee's provisional work programme was endorsed at the meeting held on 17 April 2018 and Councillors have agreed that further reports will be brought to future meetings to highlight current issues / identify any changes / additions to this programme.
2. Appendix 1 sets out the work programme as it currently stands and highlights proposed changes to the programme in bold and italics for ease of identification.

Development of 2019-20 OSC Work Programmes

Background

3. Every year each Overview and Scrutiny Committee draws up a work programme based on the Council's policy framework which is then agreed by the Council as part of the policy planning process.
4. The Committee's work programme is a rolling programme which sets the agenda for its six weekly meetings. It is the means by which it can address the interests of the local community, focus on improving services and seek to reduce inequalities in service provision and access to services.
5. Under the Council's constitution the issues which will be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees come from a number of sources:
 - During the year the Committee may choose to scrutinise decisions made by the Cabinet to ensure decisions are taken properly;
 - The Committee may be requested by the Cabinet to carry out reviews of particular issues in accordance with the Council's policy priorities;

- The Committee will receive six-monthly reports on performance for comment to Cabinet;
- The Committee will receive reports on relevant service improvement reviews at key stages of development to confirm to Cabinet that reviews are progressing appropriately;
- Section 119 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and Section 126 of the Police and Criminal Justice Act 2006 enable any member of the Council to refer to a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee any local government matter and any crime and disorder matter which affects their ward or constituents (Councillor Call for Action - CCfA).
- Members of the Committee may identify particular issues for consideration;
- Members may also examine issues in the Council's Forward Plan; and
- In addition, where the Committee has reasonable concerns about a particular executive decision the call-in mechanism is available.

Current Position

6. The process for developing all the OSC work programmes for 2019-20 is now underway and views are currently being sought from councillors' on potential priority issues for inclusion which fall within the remits of the relevant OSCs and support the 5 pledges under the Thrive agenda:-
 - Put people and families at the heart of everything that we do
 - Tackle inequality so people have a fair chance
 - Support our communities to support themselves and each other
 - Invest in our economy to provide sustainable opportunities for employment, innovation and growth across the borough.
 - Work together and fight for a better future for Gateshead
7. At this OSC meeting on 22 January 2019 there will be an opportunity for the OSC to comment on / discuss emerging issues for this OSC / put forward additional issues for consideration.

Next Steps

8. Subsequently, in line with usual practice, partner organisations will be consulted on the emerging themes for each OSC for 2019 – 20 with a view to OSCs considering any feedback/ additional suggestions / endorsing their respective work programmes at their March / April 2019 OSC meetings and referring them to Council for agreement.

Recommendations

9. The Committee is asked to:-
 - a) Note the provisional work programme for 2018-19;
 - b) Note that further reports on the 2018-19 work programme will be brought to the Committee to identify and additional policy issues which the Committee may be asked to consider.
 - c) Comment on the emerging issues for this OSC's 2019-20 work programme / highlight any additional issues for consideration.

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