

COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Monday, 17 September 2018 at 1.30 pm in the Bridges Room - Civic Centre

From the Chief Executive, Sheena Ramsey

Item	Business
1	Apologies for Absence
2	Minutes of the last meeting (Pages 3 - 10)
3	Review to Address Skills Shortages & Increase Employment Opportunities - First Evidence Gathering Session (Pages 11 - 14) Report of the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment and the Strategic Director, Care Wellbeing and Learning
4	OSC Review - Roads and Highways - Progress Update (Pages 15 - 16) Report of the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment
5	Annual Work Programme (Pages 17 - 20) Report of the Chief Executive and the Strategic Director. Corporate Services and Governance

This page is intentionally left blank

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MEETING

Monday, 18 June 2018

- PRESENT:** Councillor N Weatherley (Chair)
- Councillor(s): T Graham, B Clelland, S Dickie, K Dodds, F Geddes, M Graham, M Hood, H Kelly, K McClurey and J Turnbull
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor M Brain, Councillor A Douglas, Councillor L Green, Councillor J McElroy, Councillor B Oliphant
- APOLOGIES:** Councillor(s): D Burnett, S Hawkins, J McClurey and J Simpson

CPL1 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED -That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2018 be agreed as a correct record.

CPL2 CONSTITUTION

The Committee received a report which notified Committee of the constitution of the Committee and the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair as agreed by Council for the 2018/19 municipal year.

RESOLVED - That the information presented within the report be noted.

CPL3 ROLE AND REMIT

The Committee received a report which set out the Role, Remit and Terms of Reference for the Committee. The Committee has specific responsibility for performing the overview and scrutiny role in relation to:

- Economic development
- Lifelong learning
- Culture, including leisure
- Community safety
- Housing
- Physical Development and Regeneration
- Transport, planning and public transport
- Local Environment

- Protection of the Environment

RESOLVED - That the information contained within the report be noted.

CPL4 TWAM VERBAL UPDATE

The Committee heard from Iain Watson, Director of Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums (TWAM). TWAM is a major regional museum, art gallery and archives service. They are supported by the five local authorities and Newcastle University. TWAM is also a National Portfolio Organisation funded by Arts Council England.

The mission of the organisation is to help people determine their place in the world and define their identities, so enhancing their self-respect and their respect for others.

TWAM has just completed a phase of organisational change following a review of governance arrangements in 2012. A new structure has been set up with the Strategic Board, Baroness Joyce Quinn is the Chair. A Trading Company has been established TWAM Enterprises, Geoff Hodgson is the Chair, with Councillor Angela Douglas being the Strategic Board representative. This has been set up in order to maximise commercial income. The company following set up TUPE transferred on 12 May employees from the operating side of the organisation, ie shops and catering.

TWAM looks after 3 Art Galleries, Laing, Hatton and The Shipley and are able to attract national artists. The Shipley hosts a collection of Dutch Flemish from the 16th and 17th centuries. They also have a superb collection of craft and design and is one of the top 4 exhibitions of craft and design. The Shipley also has the Rothschild collection and the Liz Rothschild Bursary and Annual Lecture in November.

The Shipley also runs a programme of community activities including a family programme, work with Equal Arts and has groups of weavers, knitters and lacemakers. The gallery also works closely with the library and with the Jewish Community. This year they recorded 29,500 visits which represented a 12% increase on the previous year. 6000 school children have visited and there have been 32,000 web visits and 14,000 social media.

53% of visitors come with their children, 49% of which are from lower socio-economic groups.

It has been found that people are 60% more likely to present in good health following experiences within the cultural programme. TWAM works closely with the Baltic and Sage Gateshead and are involved in 10 Year Programme – City of Dreams which is aimed at improving life chances of children and young people. Iain was proud to announce that Ian Renwick, Chief Executive of Gateshead NHS Foundation Trust was also a Strategic Board member which would provide positive links to the promotion of health and wellbeing.

The Committee thanked Iain for his attendance and useful information provided.

RESOLVED - That the information contained within the update be noted.

CPL5 THE COUNCIL PLAN - YEAR END ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE DELIVERY 2017-18

The Committee received the Council Plan, Year End Assessment of Performance and Delivery 2017/18 report.

The Committee were advised that for 11 indicators data was unavailable and will be reported at the six-monthly interval in 2018/19. 1 indicator has been deleted as data is no longer collected by ONS and DWP.

Some of the key achievements were highlighted to the Committee and included the following:

- £2.1m of European funding was secured for the “Gateshead Goes Local” Community-Led Economic Development programme which aims to support 1700 local residents in the urban area of Gateshead, moving them closer to the labour market and into work and/or self-employment.
- Development of the “Go Gateshead” brand, most notably the launch of the new website which has provided a more accessible platform for customers to access information
- The Council recently enhanced its reporting function and enforcement response to fly-tipping, previously reports came in mainly by telephone, now the reporting mechanism and response is much more efficient and effective with reports being triaged.
- Work has commenced on the Council’s first commercial housing site with the development of 22 apartments at Woodhouse Mews. Planning permission has also been granted for the next commercial development of 36 houses for sale at Valley View (the former Lyndhurst School).
- Since the implementation of the Volunteers Plan in 2013, the number of registered volunteers has increased, there are now over 1500 volunteers and over 200 volunteer roles.

The following areas have been identified for improvement:

- In 2018/19 the Council will scale-up its approach to targeted recruitment and training in order to maximise the take-up of job vacancies arising through inward investment and regeneration projects over the next five years.
- A management options appraisal for the Gateshead International Stadium is underway and a Health Equality Audit for the Go Gateshead Sport and Leisure Service will be concluded in 2018/19, findings from both will be reported in late 2018.
- In Development, Transport and Public Protection, processes are further being streamlined to quicken application and verification processes for parking and street works permits, with virtual permits being the long term aim,

- The phased demolition of Clasper Village is now complete with the Council aim to deliver 184 homes that provide a positive social, environmental and economic return to Gateshead.

RESOLVED - (i) That the information contained within the report be noted;
(ii) That the report be referred to Cabinet on 17 July for their consideration.

CPL6 OSC REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL AND PARTNER'S APPROACH TO ROADS AND HIGHWAYS - FINAL REPORT

The Committee received the final report on the outcome from the Review of the Role of Council and its Partners with regards to Roads and Highways.

The Aims of the Review was focussed on gathering evidence in four main areas:

- Funding and repairs
- Traffic congestion
- Enforcement; and
- Road Safety

Vision 2030 set out the 6 big ideas for Gateshead, transport related closely to the themes of “City of Gateshead”, “Sustainable Gateshead” and “Active and Healthy Gateshead”. The Tyne and Wear Local Transport Plan which sets out the transport policy framework for Gateshead, identifies three main challenges for the transport network.

- Supporting economic development and regeneration
- Addressing climate change
- Supporting safe and sustainable communities

Evidence sessions were undertaken in each of the four main areas identified as the aims of the review. The following issues were identified:

Funding and Repairs – Available funding is not sufficient to maintain the highway, future actions include

- A further annual OSC session to be arranged to review the position of annual spending on highway maintenance
- Further work will be undertaken to improve the effectiveness of the Highway Asset Management Plan and attract higher levels of funding from government
- Members briefing to be circulated providing details of how members can keep up to date about roadworks in the borough
- Investigate improved ways of keeping ward members updated as to progress on transport and highway issues in the ward

Traffic Congestion – as with many urban areas traffic congestion is a significant

problem, with various economic , social and environmental consequences. Future actions include:

- Encouraging the use of sustainable forms of transport in Gateshead
- Ensure background studies are done to inform future bids for Government Funding

Enforcement – effective parking management and enforcement contributes to a number of wider objectives, including congestion, safety, air quality, accessibility and fairness. Future actions include:

- Progressing plans to introduce bus lane enforcement. This will help target specific problem areas identified by residents and the Police.
- Target areas suffering the worst parking problems and investigate schemes that will address the issues and enable enforcement to take place
- Investigate the options available to the police and Council to enforce pavement parking
- Investigate the options available to the Council and Police to take action against unsafe parking near schools.

Road Safety – Information on trends in road safety and the benefits of better safety was noted in relation to

- Lives saved and injuries prevented
- People living full and healthy lives
- Preventing emotional and physical trauma
- Saving public money
- Supporting wider policies
- Tackling health inequalities
- Improving quality of life

A presentation was received from the Police in relation to their road safety activity. This highlighted the difficulties and concerns around enforcing speed limits particularly at night. Whilst the good work done by the police was recognised it was also identified that more could be done, further actions include:

- Investigate opportunities to liaise with the police over deployment of resources for speed enforcement
- Investigate opportunities to work with the police on road safety education
- Consider the extension of community speedwatch to other areas in Gateshead.

The Committee is asked to agree final recommendations as outlined below and to agree to the Chair presenting this report to Cabinet as representing the Committee's findings and recommendations from the review process.

- That the funding position for highway maintenance continues to be monitored, with further sessions for members arranged as appropriate

- That options for closing the shortfall in highway maintenance funding continue to be investigated
- That arrangements for keeping local members informed of highway repair and maintenance activity in their ward are reviewed
- That current policies aimed at reducing traffic growth and encouraging sustainable modes of transport are maintained
- That the benefits of joint working between the Council and the Police in the areas of road safety and speed enforcement are recognised and opportunities are taken to improve the effectiveness and build on existing relationships.
- That an update of progress against the actions identified is reported back to Committee on an annual basis.

It was suggested that the Chair of this Committee should also write to the Police and Crime Commissioner and highlight the concerns of Portfolio Holders and this Committee.

RESVOLVED - That subject to the additional comment regarding the letter to the police and crime commissioner the recommendations be noted and presented to Cabinet at its next meeting.

CPL7 OSC REVIEW - WORK TO ADDRESS SKILL SHORTAGES AND INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES - SCOPING REPORT AND EVIDENCE GATHERING

The Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed that the focus of its review for 2018/19 will be looking at how to address skills shortages and increase employment opportunities.

The review will explore Gateshead's existing skills and employment profile and examine how skills shortages are being addressed, both now and in the future, as well as how employment opportunities are being maximised for local people.

The review aims to examine the existing approach to tackling skills shortages and maximising the take-up of local employment opportunities with appropriately skilled individuals from the resident workforce.

Meeting the skills and employment needs of disadvantaged residents and those under-represented in the labour market is an important thread through the whole review, eg action to improve outcomes for Looked After Children and those with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities.

Potential Areas of Focus include:

- Educational Attainment – improving the performance of young people in early years and at school (up to Key Stage 4).
- Post-16 Education and Training – the opportunities for post-16 learners both in full-time education and work-based settings
- Workforce Development – training and progression for those in-work

- Skills support for the Unemployed – addressing skills requirements for the unemployed and economically inactive
- Increasing Employment Opportunities for Local People – maximising the take-up of local jobs by unemployed and under-employed residents

It is proposed that officers and representatives from partner organisations involved in education, skills and employment support provision and employers. It is envisaged that this could include, subject to confirmation:

- Gateshead Council – Early Help, Learning and Schools, Economic Development
- Local College, eg Gateshead College and Newcastle College
- Independent Training Providers – private and employer owned
- Northumbria University
- Gateshead Businesses and Employers
- Jobcentre Plus
- Independent Employment Support Providers

The following sessions are proposed for the Committee to undertake evidence gathering sessions.

- 17 September – Educational Attainment
- 29 October – Post – 16 Education and Training
- 10 December – Workforce Development
- 28 January – Skills support for the unemployed
- 11 March – increasing employment opportunities for local people

Officers will then prepare a report based on the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to bring back for Committee approval.

RESOLVED - That the scope, process and timescales as set out be agreed.

CPL8 WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme report was presented for the Committee to note any changes/amendments for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED - That the information in the report be noted.

Chair.....

This page is intentionally left blank

TITLE OF REPORT:	Review to Address Skills Shortages & Increase Employment Opportunities – First Evidence Gathering Session
REPORT OF:	Paul Dowling, Strategic Director, Communities & Environment Caroline O’Neill, Strategic Director, Care, Wellbeing & Learning

SUMMARY

This report gives detail of the evidence gathering session that will take place on the 17th September 2018. The views of the Committee are being sought on the evidence presented.

Background

1. Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that the focus of its review in 2018/19 will be work to address skills shortages and increase employment opportunities.
2. The review will help the Committee to have a truly holistic view of the current skills and employment position and the challenges we face both now and in the future, as well as looking at best practice in other areas which could be developed in Gateshead.
3. The Committee will also consider how we or our partners currently work; highlight gaps in provision and identify more effective partnership working opportunities for the benefit of our residents and their ability to access employment opportunities, with a view to agreeing a set of recommendations.

Purpose of this session

4. The scoping report, agreed by OSC on the 18th June 2018, laid out the position in Gateshead in terms of skills and employment. Broadly, these are:
 - Whilst skills levels are improving, Gateshead continues to have a higher than average number of residents with no/low-level skills and a lower than average number with high-level skills.
 - Levels of benefit dependency and health-related issues remain significantly higher than national comparisons.

- A mismatch of skills, both nationally and locally exists, with research¹ showing large mismatches between skills young people are developing and the jobs available.
 - Challenges exist between learner supply and employer demand when trying to address the wider skills needs of the economy.
 - National research shows 1 in 5 workers in elementary type roles are classed as underemployed and 13% of part-time workers are people who could not find a full-time job. This is particularly concerning given the nature of Gateshead's employment base, with just under 40% of employees in entry level jobs² and just over 25% of the working age population working part-time.
5. This is the first in a series of evidence gathering sessions being undertaken for this review, looking at a life-long journey of skills development and employment. The purpose of this session is to look at two key areas of development; early years and careers education.
6. This session will hear two presentations of ten minutes from:
- Jan Batchelor, Childcare Support Lead Officer, Care, Wellbeing and Learning, Gateshead Council
 - Ryan Gibson, National Facilitator: Careers Education, North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP)
7. Gillian will provide an overview of early years childcare and parental employment, as well as the value of early education for children and how early years entitlements support social mobility, looking at both Gateshead's current performance and future challenges.
8. Ryan will provide an overview of North East Ambition, a regional programme of activity that centres on the Gatsby Good Career Guidance Benchmarks, successfully piloted from 2015 to 2017 and now part of Government's National Careers Strategy. The aim of the programme is to ensure every young person can identify routes into work, supported through experience and exposure to the world of work; looking at both the regional and local challenges and progress to date.

Issues to Consider

9. When considering the evidence outlined above, the Committee may wish to consider the following:

Early Years

- Gateshead's take up of the two-year old offer for disadvantaged children is currently 83%, which is 11% above the national average.
- Children's two-year integrated assessment provides an opportunity for health visitors and early years practitioners to identify children who would benefit from additional support at an early stage.

¹ Research by the Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion on the behalf the LGA

² SOC 2010 Major Group 6-9, Nomis 2018

- Research has shown the importance of high quality provision in improving outcomes for children. Within Gateshead, 96% of childminders and 100% of private, voluntary and independent nurseries, pre-schools and out of school clubs have been grade by Ofsted as either “Good” or “Outstanding”
- The Local Authority is fulfilling its duty to ensure there are sufficient childcare places, including places for the 2, 3 and 4-year old entitlements.
- The early years’ entitlements are funded from the Early Years Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. The amount Local authorities receive from government has been challenged nationally. There is no commitment from Government to review funding allocations before 2020 and this may lead to some providers becoming unsustainable.
- Childminder recruitment and retention is an issue. Since 2012, there has been a national decrease in the number of childminders of 27%. In Gateshead, this figure stands at 31%.
- The percentage of children achieving at least expected levels across the Early Learning Goals covering the three prime areas of learning in 2017/18 is 84.60%. This figure compares with the national average of 79%.

Careers Education

- The Aspires research concluded that young people make career limiting decisions by age 10, which they solidify by age 14.
- Young adults who recalled four or more activities (with employers) while at school were five times less likely to be NEET and earned, on average, 16% more than peers who recalled no such activities³.
- There are nationally over 700,000 job vacancies and entrepreneurship and self-employment have never been more vibrant...yet youth unemployment remains high and young people do not know what is available to them or how to get there⁴.
- Social Mobility is at the heart of the Gatsby Good Careers Guidance Benchmarks, with Sir John Holman stating, “if young people and their parents know more about the range of careers open to people with the right qualifications, they will have a clearer idea of the routes to better jobs.”
- There is no single ‘magic bullet’ for good career guidance: it is about doing a number of things, identified in the benchmarks, doing them consistently, doing them well and doing them for each and every student⁵.

Future evidence gathering sessions

10. As agreed in the scope, future evidence gathering sessions will cover the following:

October

- Schools and extra-curricular activities
- Post-16 Education

December

- Post-18 HE

³ Dr Anthony Mann, Education and Employers Taskforce research

⁴ The Careers and Enterprise Company

⁵ Sir John Holman, The Gatsby Foundation

- In-work progression/career development

January

- Skills for the unemployed

March

- Increasing employment opportunities for local people

Recommendation

11. It is recommended that the Committee:

- Gives its views on the evidence presented
- Notes the proposals outlined at point 10 of the report, as the focus for future evidence gathering sessions.

Contact: Sarah Douglas

Ext: 2030

TITLE OF REPORT: OSC Review - roads and highways – progress update

REPORT OF: Strategic Director, Communities and Environment

SUMMARY

The final report of the Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee review of roads and highways was presented in June 2018. This report provides an update on progress in taking forward the recommendations from the review.

Background

1. The final report of the Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee review of roads and highways was presented in June 2018. The recommendations from this were:
 - 1) that the position on highway maintenance continues to be monitored, with further sessions for members arranged as appropriate;
 - 2) that options for closing the shortfall in highway maintenance funding continue to be examined;
 - 3) that arrangements for keeping local members informed of highway repair and maintenance activity in their area are reviewed;
 - 4) that current policies aimed at reducing traffic growth and minimising congestion are maintained;
 - 5) that the importance of effective enforcement of traffic restrictions by both the Council and Police continues to be recognised;
 - 6) that the benefits of joint working between the Council and Police in the areas of road safety and enforcement are recognised, and that future opportunities are taken to reinforce existing relationships.

2. This report provides an update on progress over the last 2 months in taking forward the above.

Progress

Position on highway maintenance

3. Trends in recorded highway defects remain at a high level, with a consequent impact on the ability to undertake repairs in a timely fashion. During the first quarter of 2018/19, some 2304 footway trips and 1407 potholes were identified in Gateshead.

4. A Members' Seminar on the topic of road maintenance has been arranged for 10th October. A specific progress report on this topic will be prepared for OSC for the meeting in March 2019.

Maintenance funding

5. Short term measures in relation to closing the funding gap include:
 - achieving the top rating (level 3) in the Department for Transport's performance assessment approach. This has meant that the risk of a cut to the Local Transport Maintenance allocation to Gateshead of £138,000 has been averted;
 - commencing a review of practice in relation to road repairs. This will examine current processes to see whether and where there may be scope for further streamlining and efficiencies.
6. Notwithstanding the above, significant additional funding needs to be identified to support maintenance in the future. No straightforward option exists for bridging this gap. A number of options are being considered and further reports on options will be considered over coming months.

Keeping members informed

7. Options are under consideration for keeping members better informed of highway defects and repairs and other transport ward issues. An additional member of staff has been appointed to set up a system and work through outstanding matters.

Maintain current policies

10. It is intended to continue the current overall policy approach of the Council towards transport. A separate document is being drafted which will help explain the approach more succinctly, and tie it in with air quality considerations.

Enforcement of traffic restrictions/benefits of joint working with the Police

11. Following the conclusion of the review the Chair of OSC has written to the Police and Crime Commissioner on these matters and a response has been received. This emphasised the particular matter of speed enforcement identified by the Committee.
12. A Members' Seminar has been held on the issue of Speed Awareness Courses on 5th September.

Recommendations

13. That the progress in relation to the identified actions as set out above is noted, and that further progress reports are provided in due course.

Contact: Anneliese Hutchinson Ext: 3881

TITLE OF REPORT: Annual Work Programme

REPORT OF: Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive
Mike Barker, Strategic Director, Corporate Services and
Governance

Summary

The report sets out the provisional work programme for Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2018/19.

1. The Committee's provisional work programme was endorsed at the meeting held on 23 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. Any changes proposed to the programme are set out in bold and italics for ease of identification.

Recommendations

3. The Committee is asked to
 - a) Note the provisional programme;
 - b) Note that further reports on the work programme will be brought to the Committee to identify any additional policy issues, which the Committee may be asked to consider.

This page is intentionally left blank

Communities & Place OSC 2018/19 Work Programme	
18 June 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution / role and remit • The Council Plan – Year End Assessment and Performance Delivery 2017-18 • OSC Review of the Council and Partner's Approach to Roads and Highways – Final Report • OSC Review - Work to address skill shortages and increase employment opportunities - Scoping Report and Evidence Gathering • Verbal Update - TWAM/Beamish • Work Programme
17 Sept 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review – Work to address skill shortages and increase employment opportunities - Evidence Gathering • OSC Review of the Council's and Partner's Approach to Roads and Highways – Monitoring Report • Work Programme
29 Oct 2018	<p><u>Part 1 of Agenda</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Adhoc Policy Issue – Gambling Statement of Principles</i> <p><u>Part 2 of Agenda</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review – Work to address skill shortages and increase employment opportunities - Evidence Gathering • Work Programme
10 Dec 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review – Work to address skill shortages and increase employment opportunities -Evidence Gathering - • The Council Plan – Six Monthly Assessment of Performance and Delivery 2018 -19 • <i>GO Gateshead Sport and Leisure – Progress Update – moved from 17 Sept – agreed with Chair</i> • Work Programme
28 Jan 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review –Work to address skill shortages and increase employment opportunities - Evidence Gathering • Managing the Environment – waste/litter/dog fouling - Progress Update • Work Programme
11 March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review –Work to address skill shortages and increase employment opportunities - Evidence Gathering • The Flood and Water Management Act 2010: Annual Progress Report • Beamish - Annual Update • Management of Highways – potholes /traffic

	lights/street lights – Progress Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Programme
29 April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review – Work to address skill shortages and increase employment opportunities - Final Report • OSC Review of the Council's and Partner's Approach to Roads and Highways – Monitoring Report • Annual Report of the Gateshead Housing Customer Scrutiny Panel • Annual Work Programme Review

Issue to slot in

- **Postal Provision**
- **Air Quality Issues.**