

COUNCIL	DATE 26 June 2024	ITEM NO. 6
TITLE Overview and Scrutiny - Annual Work Programme 2024-25	WARD(S) All	
CHIEF OFFICER Chief Executive	CABINET MEMBER N/A	
DECISION CLASSIFICATION <i>Non-Exempt</i>	IS THE FINAL DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REPORT TO BE MADE AT THIS MEETING Yes	

1. **Decision Required**

The Council is requested to:

- 1.1 Consider the proposed work programme for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its Scrutiny Panels for 2024-25 as set out at Appendix A, put forward in accordance with the Council's Constitution.
- 1.2 Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to vary the programme in consultation with the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. **Links to Our Greenwich missions**

- 2.1 This report relates to the delivery of all the high-level missions contained within the Royal Greenwich Strategy. The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme covers all areas of the Council and reviews the work of the Executive in delivering the objectives of the Corporate Plan.
- 2.2 This report relates to the Council's agreed missions as follows:
 - People's health supports them in living their best life.
 - People will not experience discrimination.
 - Those in financial need can access the right support, advice and opportunities to improve their situation.
 - Children and young people can reach their full potential.
 - Everyone in Greenwich is safer, and feels safer.
 - People in Greenwich have access to a safe and secure home that meets their needs.

- It is easier, safer and greener to move around the borough and the rest of London.
- Development delivers positive change to an area for existing and new communities.
- Neighbourhoods are vibrant, safe and attractive with community services that meet the needs of local residents.
- Greenwich plays an active role in tackling the climate crisis and improving environmental sustainability, in line with our commitment of being carbon neutral by 2030.
- Everyone has the opportunity to secure a good job.
- Town centres, high streets and shopping parades are vibrant, prosperous, well-maintained places that meet the needs of local people.
- Our economy attracts new high value businesses whilst strengthening its foundations.
- The voluntary, community and socially motivated sectors in Greenwich are strengthened and able to provide more support to the most in need
- Our Council is better at listening to communities, and communities feel they are heard.
- We develop networks with communities, key partners and businesses to meet need and address challenges together.
- We design our services around the needs of our residents.
- Our Council is an adaptive organisation, enabling it to navigate the increasing number of challenges it faces while remaining financially sustainable.
- Our Council works in the most efficient and effective ways possible.
- Our Council is a great place to work, with a diverse workforce who have the right skills and are motivated and empowered to deliver.

3. **Purpose of Report and Executive Summary**

- 3.1 To determine the 2024-25 work programme for the Overview and Scrutiny function as required under the Council's Constitution.

3. **Introduction and Background**

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution [Part B4(a)] states:
"The work programme of overview and scrutiny activities will be prepared on an annual basis and agreed by the Council" and makes it clear that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has responsibility for drawing up the work programme and making recommendation to Council.

3.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee reviewed the work programme and will agree on 18 June 2024 to recommend the programme set out at Appendix A for adoption by Council.

4. **Developing the Work Programme 2023-24**

4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee applied the following good practice guidelines in compiling its work programme, that it be -

- Informed by the priorities and concerns of local people.
- Led by scrutiny members.
- Manageable and realistic.
- Integrated effectively with corporate budget-making and strategic planning and policy setting processes and add value in contributing to the achievement of the Council's corporate objectives.
- Reflect a proactive approach to driving service improvement, rather than being simply reactive in response to decisions of the Executive.

4.2 The work programme should reflect the Council's priorities and should be targeted on issues where scrutiny can add real value. To enable this to happen, it is proposed to select items for the work programme on the basis of the following criteria:

- Relevance to Council priorities.
- Evidence of public demand or interest.
- Concerns about current performance.
- Opportunities to achieve savings or efficiencies.
- Potential to improve services.
- Realistic chance of making changes.
- Resources required to undertake the review.

4.3 It is recommended that the Chief Executive be given authority to vary the programme in consultation with the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee in order that matters arising from consideration of the Council's Corporate Plan and Performance Framework may be incorporated throughout the year.

5. **Options**

5.1 Option 1 – Do nothing.

5.2 Option 2 - To agree the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2024 – 2025 and that the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to vary the programme in consultation with the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny.

6. **Preferred Option**

6.1 Option 2.

7. **Reasons for Recommendations**

7.1 In line with the Constitution, the annual work programme has been prepared by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and submitted to Full Council for agreement.

8. **Consultation results**

8.1 Consultation on items for the work programme was undertaken with the public through requests for ideas on the website and in Greenwich Info. Councillors, community groups and the voluntary sector were also consulted and gave suggestions.

9. **Cross-Cutting Issues and Implications**

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.	Azuka Onuorah Interim Director of Legal Services 4 th June 2024
Finance and other resources including procurement implications	There are no financial implications arising from this report.	Damon Cook Director of Finance 10 June 2024
Equalities	The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low	Nassir Ali

	relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no apparent equality impact on end users. This report makes no direct contribution to the Council's Equality and Equity Charter and the Council's Equality Objectives 2020-2024.	Corporate Governance Manager 04 June 2024
Climate change	This report makes no direct impact to the Greenwich Carbon Neutral Plan agreed by Cabinet on 18 October 2020.	Nassir Ali Corporate Governance Manager 04 June 2024
Risk Management	Key risks attaching to the proposals in this report, together with applicable mitigating actions have been considered and detailed in the Background section above.	Nassir Ali Corporate Governance Manager 04 June 2024

10. **Report Appendices**

10.1 The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

- *Appendix A: Scrutiny Work Programme 2024-2025*

11. **Background Papers**

11.1 None

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