

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to consider and agree a work programme for the Committee for the municipal year 2021/22.

2. Background

- 2.1 The work programme is designed to set out the key issues to be addressed by the Committee during the year and provide it with a timetable of work. The Committee itself is responsible for setting its own work programme, subject to the coordinating role of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.
- 2.2 To be most effective, the work programme should provide a basis and framework for the work of the Committee, while retaining sufficient flexibility to respond to any important issues that emerge during the course of the year. The work programme is therefore intended to be a working document that the Committee can develop and refer to throughout the year.
- 2.3 In order to ensure that the Committee is able to undertake all of its business and respond to emerging issues, there will be scope for additional meetings or visits not detailed in the work programme.
- 2.4 The remit of the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee covers the following:-

Any matter relating to the economic prosperity of the city and the performance of services to support that including physical infrastructure, sector growth and skills, economic vibrancy, safer sunderland, licensing and trading standards, strategic transport, environmental services, libraries, heritage and tourism.

- 2.5 The work programme should reflect the remit of the Committee and the need to balance its responsibility for undertaking scrutiny, performance management and policy review.
- 2.6 The work programme should also reflect and be aligned to the key priorities of the Council as set out in documents such as the Sunderland Strategy and Corporate Plan, reflect issues highlighted following external assessments and issues raised during the Committee development sessions.

3 DETERMINING THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

3. On 15 June 2021, the Committee held a workshop session to discuss potential items for inclusion in the work programme.

- 3.1 The table below provides details of the issues considered for inclusion in the work programme:-

Regular Work Programme Items	
Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee Work Programme (Monthly)	To receive the Committee's work programme outlining future meetings of the committee and the items scheduled for those meetings.
28 Day Notice of Key Decisions (Monthly)	To consider the Council's 28 Day Notice of Key Decisions.
Single Item (Items to be scheduled when dates known)	
Covid 19 – Business Support	Update on Covid support programmes available to businesses
Business Improvement District (BID)	To consider the progress being made by the BID and an update on the effect of Covid 19 on city retail.
Economic Outlook Covid 19 and EU Exit Implications	To hear from the Chamber of Commerce on the opportunities and challenges facing the local economy including implication of the Covid pandemic and UK exit from EU.
Business Centres – Progress Report	To consider the progress made by the Council's Business Centres (Evolve, the Software Centre and Washington Business Centre).
Siglion Regeneration	To consider and review progress of on the development and regeneration undertaken by Siglion. Consider visit to sites.
Sunniside Area Regeneration	Detailed review of the plans for the Sunniside area – multi disciplinary approach. Consideration of a Task and Finish Group and visit.
Future High Street Fund	Plans for developments funded through the Future High Streets Fund
Sunderland Rail Station	To receive an update on the development of Sunderland Rail Station
Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor	To receive an update the progress of work on the Sunderland Strategic Corridor and plans for the future. To consider a visit to view progress.
Sunderland Port	To hear from the Port Manager on the progress being made by the Port – possible

	visit
International Advanced Manufacturing Park	To monitor progress in relation to IAMP
Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan	Consultation on plans for the new Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
E Scooter Pilot – Feedback	To consider feedback from the E Scooter pilot scheme operating in the city.
Improvements to Public Transport	Future plans to improve transport in the region including bus services, rail, metro and cycling
Low Carbon Annual Report and Action Plan	To consider the plans and progress being made to reduce the level of its carbon emissions by the Council and its partners
City Heat Networks Projects	To hear proposals for a City Heat Network Project
International Strategy	To review the work of the International Strategy Steering Group over the year and its contribution to economic growth and prosperity (tie in with Low Carbon Action Plan)
Housing Strategy - Progress	To monitor progress in relation to the priorities contained in the Housing Strategy. To include input from gentoo and provision of Affordable Homes
Environmental Enforcement	To review of the progress on Environmental Enforcement within the city. Details of enforcement before and during Covid and plans for service provision for the future
Environmental Services Update	To consider the services' response to Covid 19, its plans for the future and potential changes.
Leisure Centres	Effect of Covid on usage and plans for the future
Events/Cultural Sector Update	Plans for future events and culture sector – including Operation of the Sunderland Empire
Archaeology Overview	To hear from the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Team on their work in Sunderland
Annual Road Safety Report	To provide latest information on the level of

	road traffic accidents and fatalities in the city.
Annual Flood Defence Programme	Report on the programme of work for the year ahead

- 3.1 A draft Scrutiny Work Programme for 2020/21 is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 It should be noted that the work programme is a 'living' document and can be amended throughout the course of the municipal year. Any Elected Member can add an item of business to an agenda for consideration (Protocol 1 within the Overview and Scrutiny Handbook outlines this process).

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 That the Scrutiny Committee consider and agrees a draft Annual Scrutiny Work Programme for 2021/22 and incorporates emerging issues as and when they arise throughout the forthcoming year.

5. Background Papers

Notes of the Development session held on 15 June 2021

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