

WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

**REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT
COORDINATOR**

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report attaches, for Members' information, the current work programme for the Committee's work during the 2021-22 Council year.
- 1.2 The report also provides a number of potential topics as raised by Members, for a more in-depth review approach, for the Committee's consideration.

2. Background

- 2.1 The work programme is a working document which Committee can develop throughout the year. As a living document the work programme allows Members and Officers to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 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 (where necessary).

3. POTENTIAL IN-DEPTH REVIEW TOPICS

- 3.1 In-depth reviews can take a number of different forms from wide-ranging, cross-cutting reviews to more focused task and finish work. Reviews will usually examine intended policy outcomes but will also explore other issues such as service user's perspective, awareness of services and the processes involved in accessing services.
- 3.2 Policy development and policy review are necessarily part of the same process, since undertaking policy review will usually lead to making recommendations for developing policy.
- 3.3 Policy reviews are project planned with appropriate methodology applied to investigate the chosen topic. This may include meetings, site visits, surveys, public meetings or analysis of comparative practice in other local authorities.
- 3.4 Following the selection of a topic for review, the Committee will receive a report setting out a possible approach to the review. This will include the terms of

reference, definitions, links to corporate goals, partnerships, the national and local context, and proposals for gathering evidence.

- 3.5 The shortlist of topics for 2021-22 is listed below. The Committee is recommended to select one topic from this shortlist for an in-depth review. The list includes topics suggested as priorities at the discussions between members, officers and partners at the Scrutiny Work Programme Session held on 22 June 2021.

Potential Task and Finish or Review Work Topics	
Accessibility across the city	<p>To look at how accessible the city is for local residents and visitors including people with disabilities. The review would look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it means to be an age-friendly city; • What specific issues relate to mobility, sight and access in the City; • Is there appropriate disabled access and parking provision; • What barriers exist to accessing the city.
Impact of Decent Homes Standard	<p>A possible review to look at the importance of housing on people's health and how the pandemic has highlighted the health implications of better housing. The review would look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality and Condition of housing and its impacts on health; • Improvements in decent housing; • The benefits of a decent home standard; • What is the relationship between Covid-19, housing and health; • What are housing-related health inequalities.
GP Access in Sunderland	<p>To look in general at GP Access across Sunderland. The review would look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding what is meant by GP access; • What is a patient's expectations; • What is the overall local offer of GP Services; • What factors and barriers are influencing access including demand, practice mergers, the pandemic, recruitment and technology advancements; • Implications of move to ICS on GP offer.

4. Recommendations

4.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee:

- (a) notes and comments on the work programme of the committee, including amendments: and
- (b) considers and agrees a topic for policy review during 2021/22.

5. Background Papers

5.1 Scrutiny Agendas and Minutes

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