

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

**Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre (Committee Room No. 1) on
Tuesday 10th September 2019 at 4.30 p.m.**

Membership

Cllrs Blackburn, Blackett, M. Dixon, Fagan, Foster, Jackson, Jenkins, Marshall, Scullion, Taylor, Thornton (Vice Chairman) Turner (Chairman).

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	No items.	

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Information contained in this agenda can be made available in other languages and formats on request

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

The reports contained in Part II of the Agenda are not for publication as the Committee is considered likely to exclude the public during consideration thereof as they contain exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part 1, Paragraph 3). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Part II

6. Siglion – Update Report

Joint Report of the Executive Director of City Development
and the Executive Director of Corporate Services

(Copy herewith).

E. WAUGH,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance,
Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

2nd September, 2019.

At a meeting of the ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on TUESDAY 9TH JULY, 2019 at 4.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor D. Turner in the Chair

Councillors Blackburn, Blackett, M. Dixon, Fagan, Foster, Jackson, Jenkins, Marshall, Scullion, Taylor and Thornton

Also in attendance:-

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, Sunderland City Council

Mr Phil Scott, Principal Environmental Health Officer

Mr Paul Wood, Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 11th June 2019

A copy of the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 11th June, 2019 was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 11th June, 2019 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

There were no declarations of interest made.

Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy

The Director of People, Communications and Partnerships submitted a report (copy circulated), for the Committee to consider the Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy for the regulation of housing and housing management standards in the private rented sector.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr Phil Scott, Principal Environmental Health Officer presented the report and was on hand to answer Members queries.

In response to Councillor Fagan's enquiry over the sharing of information with other authorities, Mr Scott advised that whilst South Tyneside had not adopted the policy yet, prosecutions could be taken into account from other areas during our investigations.

Councillor Jackson referred to paragraph 4.7 of the report and requested examples of how the income generated from the issue of civil penalties would be spent on improving private sector housing working practices.

Mr Scott informed the Committee that this was an unknown quantity at the moment and could be wide ranging in tackling a host of issues in the area such as Anti Social Behaviour or the possible funding of staff.

Councillor Jackson commented that it would be good to find out when this would be used and also queried what plans there were to work with the landlords of student accommodation as this was a very transient population and if the policy covered this. Mr Scott advised that each case would be reviewed on its own merits.

Councillor M. Dixon queried if this policy had risen due to Government legislation and the growth of the private sector. Mr Scott advised that the policy was direct from government legislation and to make sure all landlords were dealt with on a level playing field.

Mr Scott also advised Councillor M. Dixon that the reaction to this policy from landlords had been mixed but generally supportive and that it was correct that the local authority could face penalties if they did not carry out their statutory duties.

Councillor M. Dixon commented that the Portfolio Holder had recently undertaken to bring all empty properties back into use and enquired if this policy would help to address this problem and bring properties back into use. Mr Scott advised that it was very difficult to get empty properties back into use but this policy did include scope for enforced sales, if the property has a negative impact upon neighbours so whilst it was not a one size fits all, but multiple strands approach.

Mr Scott advised that they would target resources where the biggest problems were and what positive impact the policy could have through data reviews rather than on a ward to ward basis.

In response to Councillor Foster's enquiry, Mr Scott advised that the policy could include tenant behaviour on a case by case basis and could be dealt with by Council legislation through a combined approach to address poor behaviour.

With regards to the Chairman's query, Mr Scott informed that not all HMO's required a license as it was those with three or more stories and that they inspect these at least once per five year tenure. The license could be revoked if necessary.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

Cross Border Taxi Licensing Enforcement

The Director of People, Communications and Partnerships submitted a report (copy circulated) for the Committee to consider the proposals for the Council to enter into arrangements with other local authorities in the North East region to facilitate cross border licensing enforcement

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Mr Scott also presented this report and was on hand to answer Members queries.

In response to Councillor Marshall's query, Mr Scott advised that as a licensed authority, Uber could still be inspected as part of this enforcement.

Councillor M .Dixon enquired if there had been a massive problem in Sunderland with regards to taxi's not meeting the requirements. Mr Scott informed that he did not have the exact figures to hand but he would look into this and supply Councillor Dixon with these directly.

Councillor Taylor enquired as to any joint collaborative working with the DVSA and also suggested a campaign with the Environment Agency over the enforcement of HGV lorries. Mr Scott advised that they had worked in partnerships in relation to vehicles that might not be insured and that a campaign with the Environment Agency could be something to consider.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

Annual Work Programme 2019-20

The Director of People, Communications and Partnerships submitted a report (copy circulated), setting out the current work programme of the Committee for the 2019-20 Municipal year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer advised the Committee that the Coastal Communities report would be presented at the next meeting along with a report on Siglion as per Members request.

4. RESOLVED that the information contained in the work programme for 2019-2020 be noted.

Notice of Key Decisions

The Director of People, Communications and Partnerships submitted a report providing Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 17th June, 2019 (copies circulated).

(For copy report and notice – see original minutes).

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer reminded Members to contact him if they required further information on any of the items included in the notice.

With regards to the consideration of investment partner proposals for the funding of office and other developments on the vaux site, Councillor M. Dixon enquired if Members would be at liberty to ask questions on this due to the confidentiality involved in such topics.

Mr Diamond advised that he would seek to clarify the situation on Councillor Dixon's behalf.

5. RESOLVED that the Notice of Key Decisions be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked Members and Officers for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) D. TURNER,
Chairman.

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

10 SEPTEMBER 2019

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2019-20

REPORT OF THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report sets out the current work programme of the Committee for the 2019-20 municipal year.

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 The work programme is intended to be a working document which Committee can develop throughout the year, allowing it to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council 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 In delivering its work programme the Committee will support the Council in achieving its corporate outcomes

3. Current position

- 3.1 The current work programme is attached as an appendix to this report.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The work programme is intended to be a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2019-20.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme.

Contact Officer: Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer (Tel 0191 561 1396)
James.diamond@sunderland.gov.uk

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –WORK PROGRAMME 2019-20

REASON FOR INCLUSION	11 JUNE 19	9 JULY 19	10 SEPTEMBER 19	8 OCTOBER 19	5 NOVEMBER 19	3 DECEMBER 19	14 JANUARY 20	11 FEBRUARY 20	10 MARCH 20	7 APRIL 20
Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses				Coastal Communities Round 5 Project (Dan Hattle)						
Scrutiny Business	Remit and Work Programme of Committee Sunderland Cultural Strategy (Rebecca Ball)	Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy (Marion Dixon) Cross Border Taxi Licensing Enforcement (Marion Dixon)	Siglion (Jon Ritchie/Peter McIntyre)	Public Space Protection Orders (Stuart Douglass/ Michelle Coates) International Strategy (Catherine Auld) Sunderland Business Improvement District (Sharon Appleby)	Industrial Strategy (Richard Baker/Vince Taylor) Local Plan Update (Louise Sloan)	North East England Chamber of Commerce (Jonathan Walker) Business Centres (Catherine Auld)	Major Events (Victoria French) Sunderland Rail Station – Update (Mark Jackson)	Environmental Enforcement (Nicky Rowland) Housing Strategy - Update (Louise Sloan) Waste Recycling – Public Engagement (Ian Richardson)	Visit to Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Advanced Manufacturing (CESAM) Northumbria Road Safety Partnership (Paul Lewins) Habitat Regulations Assessment Interim Strategy (Dan Hattle)	Annual Report (Jim Diamond) International Advanced Manufacturing Park (Mark Jackson) Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor – Update (Mark Jackson)
Performance / Service Improvement										
Consultation Information and Awareness Raising	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 18-19

NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE,
COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS****1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Notice of Key Decisions) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions is included on the agenda of this Committee. The Notice of Key Decisions is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In considering the Notice of Key Decisions, Members are asked to consider only those issues where the Scrutiny Committee or relevant Scrutiny Panel could make a contribution which would add value prior to the decision being taken.
- 3.2 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions at the Scrutiny Committee meeting.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda

Contact Officer : Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer
0191 561 1396
James.diamond@sunderland.gov.uk

The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions (including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
170927/212	To approve in principle the establishment of a new police led Road Safety Partnership (Northumbria Road Safety Partnership) embracing the Northumbria Force Area.	Cabinet	Y	During the period from 17 September to 31 December 2019.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
190725/374	To approve implementation of the road repair and upgrade works, as part of the overall Port of Sunderland Enterprise Zone project, which is included in the Capital Programme 2019/20 – 2022/23.	Cabinet	Y	17 September 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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190813/375	To approve the Joint Protocol between Sunderland City Council and Together for Children, for the prevention of homelessness and provision of suitable accommodation for 16–17 year olds.	Cabinet	Y	17 September 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
190813/376	To agree the contract for the Operation of Beach Street Household Waste and Recycling Centre and Development of Replacement Facility.	Cabinet	Y	17 September 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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190813/377	<p>To</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> receive information relating to, and seek a decision on the proposal to commence the statutory processes required to increase the capacity of Willow Fields Primary School and St Paul's CE VC Primary School and; authorise the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods to procure capital works required for a new build primary school (Willow Fields Primary School) and extensions at Benedict Biscop Primary and St Paul's CE VC Primary School. 	Cabinet	Y	17 September 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	<p>Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN</p> <p>committees@sunderland.gov.uk</p>

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190813/378	To give approval to publish Sunderland City Council's Energy Company Obligation 3 Flexible Energy (ECO 3 Flex) Sunderland Statement of Intent, and to agree to the appointment of a single local provider to manage delivery of the ECO Flex Scheme within Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	17 September 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
190813/379	To approve joint commissioning with Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group of health input to the Initial Contact and Referral Team through the 0-19 Public Health Service.	Cabinet	Y	17 September 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
190815/382	To seek approval of a procurement process for the provision of a Security Guarding Contract for Council premises and related services	Cabinet	Y	17 September 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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190816/383	To seek approval for the payment of financial assistance to a Sunderland based company in relation to the company's own investment plans	Cabinet	Y	During the period 17 September to 31 October 2019	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
181024/312	To approve the Final Business Case in relation to the development of a Regional Adoption Agency and agree next steps leading up to the establishment of the Regional Adoption Agency.	Cabinet	Y	During the period from 15 October to 31 December 2019.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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190304/344	To consider investment partner proposals for the funding of office and other developments on the Vaux site.	Cabinet	Y	During the period from 15 October to 31 December 2019.	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
190522/360	To consider a proposal to recommend Council to agree an amendment to the Budget and Policy Framework to enter into a potential financial arrangement with a local organisation.	Cabinet	Y	During the period from 15 October to 31 December 2019.	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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190813/380	To seek approval to develop a strategic framework and action plan to enable the development of more resilient communities, including a more vibrant Social Enterprise sector.	Cabinet	Y	15 October 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
190114/325	To procure a contractor to undertake works at Jacky Whites Market.	Cabinet	Y	15 October 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk
190813/381	To seek Cabinet agreement for the level of investment and neighbourhood delivery model for first tier welfare rights advice provision for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2023.	Cabinet	Y	15 October 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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190521/358	To approve and make a capital contribution to Phase 4 of the Bridges comprising the redevelopment of the former Crowtree Ice Rink building to provide a new leisure use.	Cabinet	Y	10 December 2019	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Note; Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below.

Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team PO Box 100, Civic Centre, Sunderland, or by email to committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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Who will decide;

Cabinet; Councillor Graeme Miller – Leader; Councillor Michael Mordey – Deputy Leader; Councillor Paul Stewart – Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Geoffrey Walker – Health and Social Care; Councillor John Kelly – Communities and Culture; Councillor Amy Wilson – Environment and Transport; Councillor Rebecca Atkinson – Housing and Regeneration.

This is the membership of Cabinet as at the date of this notice. Any changes will be specified on a supplementary notice.

Elaine Waugh,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

19 August 2019