

**ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**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 2016/17.

**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 (where necessary). In accordance with the recent independent review of the scrutiny function there will be an increasing emphasis on accountability and performance management in the composition of the work programme for the year ahead.
- 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 Annual Scrutiny Debate.
- 2.7 In terms of the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee, central to this will be the document “Sunderland - Transforming Our City The 3,6,9 Vision. A copy of the link for this document will be provided and copies will be available at the meeting.

### **3. Draft Work Programme 2016/17**

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider the issues it wishes to consider for the year ahead. A draft Committee Work Programme based on some of the key issues facing the Council and raised during the Scrutiny Debate is attached marked Appendix 1. This will hopefully provide a useful framework for developing the work programme for the year.
- 3.2 During the year the Committee will have the opportunity to review service performance and will be involved in key strategic policy such as the Core Growth Strategy and other planning documents. These will be included in the work programme when timescales become available.

### **4. Recommendations**

That the Scrutiny Committee consider and agrees a draft Annual Scrutiny Work Programme for 2016/17 and incorporates emerging issues as and when they arise throughout the forthcoming year;

### **5. Background Papers**

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