

To the Chair and Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PLAN 2016/2017 UPDATE

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
The Mayor	All	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Committee is asked to consider the Overview and Scrutiny work programme for 2016/17 receives an update on progress and agree future items for consideration.

EXEMPT REPORT

2. The report does not contain exempt information.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Committee is asked to;
 - Review the list of unresolved issues on the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee work plan attached at Appendix A and agree when items be programmed for consideration or removed;
 - Receive a verbal update from the Scrutiny Panel Chairs or Vice Chairs on the work of their Panels.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. Regular review of the overview and scrutiny work plan enables the Committee to ensure it remains relevant and is responding to important issues for citizens and the borough. The work plan update helps support openness, transparency and accountability as it summarises outcomes from overview and scrutiny activities. Citizens are able to contribute to the work of overview and scrutiny by attending meetings or contributing to reviews.

BACKGROUND

5. Overview and Scrutiny has a number of key roles which focus on:
- Holding decision makers to account
 - Policy development and review
 - Monitoring performance (both financial and non-financial)
 - Considering issues of wider public concern.

Monitoring the Work Programme

6. Members will recall that the work plan was amended at the last meeting and a copy is attached for further consideration and for Chairs of Panels to verbally update at the meeting. The Committee is asked to consider at each meeting any unresolved issues in the appendix and agree when items should be programmed or removed from the list. It should be noted that the work plan highlights those items that have been considered up to end of December, 2016 and those that are planned at the time this agenda is published.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for the Committee to develop a work plan for 2016/17.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

8. This report provides the committee with an opportunity to monitor and develop the 2016/17 work plan.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL’S KEY OUTCOMES

9.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster’s vital services</i> 	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the council’s key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy through robust recommendations, monitoring performance of council and external partners services and reviewing issues outside the remit of the council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.</p>
	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing</i> 	

	down the cost of living	
	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	
	<p>All families thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
	Council services are modern and value for money.	
	Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.	

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

10. To maximise the effectiveness of the Overview and Scrutiny function, it is important that the work plan is manageable and that it accurately reflects the broad range of issues within its remit. Failure to achieve this can reduce the overall impact of the function. National research has identified that over ambitious work plans that include too many items are a common cause of frustration for Scrutiny Members as they fail to achieve any outcomes. The work plan is reviewed at each ordinary meeting giving officers the opportunity to advise on the capacity available to undertake any additional work. This provides an opportunity to ensure work plans are regularly monitored and reviewed.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

11. The Council's Constitution states that subject to matters being referred to it by the Full Council, or the Executive and any timetables laid down by those references Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee will determine its own Work Programme (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 6a).
12. Specific legal implications and advice will be given with any reports when Overview and Scrutiny have received them as items for consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no specific financial implications associated with this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

14. There are no specific human resources issues associated with this report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

15. There are no specific technological implications resources issues associated with this report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

16. There are no specific equality issues associated with this report. Equality issues are considered by Overview and Scrutiny when it considers individual work plan issues.

CONSULTATION

17. During May and June 2016, OSMC and the standing Panels held work planning sessions to identify issues for consideration during 2016/2017.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

18. None

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

Christine Rothwell, Senior Governance Officer

Tel: 01302 735682 email: christine.rothwell@doncaster.gov.uk

Caroline Martin, Senior Governance Officer

Tel: 01302 73491 email: caroline.martin@doncaster.gov.uk

Simon Wiles
Director of Finance & Corporate Services