



# Doncaster Council

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Date: 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2018

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

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PLAN 2017/2018 – January 2018

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 2017/18 – January 2018, receive an update on progress and agree future items for consideration.

### EXEMPT REPORT

2. The report is not exempt.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Committee is asked to
  - Review the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee work plan attached at Appendix A;
  - Agree when items be programmed for consideration or removed from the work plan; and
  - Consider the Council's Forward Plan of key decisions attached at Appendix B
  - Note the correspondence made since the last meeting of the Committee to the Executive.

### 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:
  - Reviewing decisions made by the Executive of the Council
  - Policy development and review
  - Monitoring performance (both service indicators and financial)
  - Considering issues of wider public concern.
6. An updated version of the work plan will be regularly presented to OSMC for consideration and for Chairs of Panels to verbally update at the meeting. The Committee is asked to consider the unresolved issues in Appendix A 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 the end of December, 2017 and those that are planned at the time this agenda is published.

### Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions

7. Attached at Appendix B is the Council's Forward Plan of key decisions for consideration by the Committee.

### Correspondence with the Executive

8. Attached in Appendix C is a letter forwarded to the Mayor following the last OSMC meeting in December, relating to the armed forces community.

## OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for the Committee to review its work plan for 2017/18.

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

- 10.. There is no recommended option.

## IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

11.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i></li><li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i></li><li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting</i></li></ul>	<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</p>

	<i>Doncaster's vital services</i>	reviewing issues outside the remit of the council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.
	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i></li> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i></li> </ul>	
	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i></li> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i></li> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i></li> </ul>	
	<p>All families thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i></li> </ul>	
	<p>Council services are modern and value for money.</p>	
	<p>Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.</p>	

## **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

12. 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 will continue to be reviewed at each ordinary meeting and officers will advise on the capacity available to undertake any additional work. This provides an opportunity to ensure work plans can be regularly monitored and reviewed.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

13. 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). Specific legal implications and advice will be given with any reports when Overview and Scrutiny have received them as items for consideration.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

16. This report provides an overview on the work programme and there are no significant equality implications associated with the report. Within its programme of work Overview and Scrutiny gives due consideration to the extent to which the Council has complied with its Public Equality Duty and given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different communities.

## **CONSULTATION**

17. During May and June 2017, OSMC and the standing Panels held work planning sessions to identify issues for consideration during 2017/2018.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

18. Agenda, guidance and draft work plan produced following OSMC work planning events held during May and June 2017.

## **REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS**

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Council

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APPENDIX C

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19<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

Mayor Ros Jones  
Doncaster Council  
Floor 4  
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Waterdale  
Doncaster  
DN13BU

Dear Ros,

Armed Forces Community

Further to my original letter and response from the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, dated 9<sup>th</sup> November, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee at its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December, further discussed support for our Armed Forces Community.

Members were pleased to see that the Veterans Board (which the Panel understands is the Veterans Steering Group) provides regular updates to the Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Board, and have asked if a copy of that report could be made available to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee. As you know from our previous correspondence, the Committee is very keen to review the performance of this vital work on an annual basis.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Councillor Kevin Rodgers  
Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

cc: Jo Miller, Chief Executive  
Cabinet Members  
OSMC  
Damian Allen, Learning and Opportunities