



Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Thursday 16th January 2020

Report of: Policy and Improvement Officer

Subject: Current Work Programme 2019/20: Safer & Stronger
Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

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The current work programme for 2019/20 is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and discussion. The work programme has been updated and items scheduled for some of the meetings. The work programme includes a list of items to be prioritised and scheduled and the Committee is asked to prioritise and agree remaining items to be scheduled in line with the sections of this report that refer to role of scrutiny, determining the work programme. Where an issue is not appropriate for inclusion on a meeting agenda, but there is significant interest from members, the Committee can choose to request a written briefing.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	X

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Consider and discuss the committee's work programme for 2019/20
- Prioritise and agree remaining items to be scheduled

Background Papers: [Sheffield Council Constitution](#)

Category of Report: OPEN

Current Work Programme 2019/20: Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee - Thursday 16th January 2020

1.0 What is the role of Scrutiny?

1.1 Scrutiny Committees exist to hold decision makers to account, investigate issues of local concern, and make recommendations for improvement. The Centre for Public Scrutiny has identified that effective scrutiny:

- Provides 'Critical Friend' challenge to executive policy makers and decision makers
- Enables the voice and concern of the public and its communities
- Is carried out by independent minded governors who lead and own the scrutiny process
- Drives improvement in public services and finds efficiencies and new ways of delivering services

1.2 Scrutiny Committees can operate in a number of ways – through formal meetings with several agenda items, single item 'select committee' style meetings, task and finish groups, and informal visits and meetings to gather evidence to inform scrutiny work. Committees can hear from Council Officers, Cabinet Members, partner organisations, expert witnesses, members of the public. Scrutiny Committees are not decision making bodies, but can make recommendations to decision makers.

2.0 Legislative Powers relevant to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

2.1 Under the Police and Justice Act 2006, every local authority is required to have a Crime and Disorder Committee with the power to scrutinise the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership or Community Safety Partnership as they are now referred. In Sheffield the Crime and Disorder Committee is the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee and the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) is the Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership.

2.2 The requirements of the 2006 Act were enacted by the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 which came into force for local authorities in England on 30 April 2009. Under the Act the Crime and Disorder Committee (in Sheffield the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee) can:

- Scrutinise decisions made and actions taken in connection by the responsible authorities that make up the CDRP / Community Safety Partnership
- Request information from the responsible authorities
- Require attendance of officer or employees or responsible authorities to answer questions or to provide information.

- 2.3 The Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership is made up of all the public services in the city, with representatives from the private and voluntary sectors. The Partnership considers issues across the breadth of community safety, such as: crime, anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol misuse, community cohesion, preventing offending and reoffending, and protecting vulnerable people.
- 2.4 The bodies represented on the Partnership have a statutory duty to work together to prevent crime and disorder in their area. The Partnership is also required by statutory regulation to produce an annual assessment of the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and substance misuse, and agree an annual partnership plan. This is referred to as the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment. The Committee usually considers an annual reporting item from the partnership, and would expect this January/March 2020. The work programme could incorporate a more present through the year scrutiny of Sheffield's community safety partnership (The Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership).
- 2.5 The Police and Crime Panel was established with the statutory function to scrutinise and hold to account the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire. The Committee have at times received an update on the work of the Police and Crime Panel.

3.0 Determining the work programme

- 3.1 Attached to this report at Appendix 1 is a current work programme 2019/20.
- 3.2 It is important the work programme reflects the principles of effective scrutiny, outlined above at 1.1, and so the Committee has a vital role in ensuring that the work programme is looking at issues that concern local people, and looking at issues where scrutiny can influence decision makers. The work programme remains a live document, and there will be an opportunity for the Committee to discuss it at every Committee meeting, this might include:
- Prioritising issues for inclusion on a meeting agenda
 - Identifying new issues for scrutiny
 - Determining the appropriate approach for an issue – e.g. select committee style single item agenda vs task and finish group
 - Identifying appropriate witnesses and sources of evidence to inform scrutiny discussions
 - Identifying key lines of enquiry and specific issues that should be addressed through scrutiny of any given issue.
- 3.3 Members of the Committee can also raise any issues for the work programme via the Chair or Policy and Improvement Officer at any time.

4.0 Meeting Dates 2019/20

4.1 Meetings have been scheduled for Thursdays 5-7pm on the following dates:

- 16th January 2020
- 13th February 2020
- 12th March 2020

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Consider and discuss the committee's work programme for 2019/20
 - Prioritise and agree remaining items to be scheduled
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Thursday 19th September 5-7pm			
<i>Abbeydale Road (LAC) Selective Licensing – update post implementation</i>	<i>Monitoring the impact of the impact of the scheme over 6/12 months - Cabinet Decision 20th June 2018 - implementation scheduled 1st November 2018 - progress report 10 months on from implementation</i>	<i>Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety, Neighbourhood Intervention and Tenant Support Team, Place</i>	
<i>Universal Credit in Sheffield an update:</i>	<i>Start with a briefing of 'what it looks like in Sheffield: Impact and Support, organisations involved' - Committee can then determine what more they want to know and who to attend; follow on post introduction of UC in the city</i>		<i>For information</i>
<i>Work programme 2019/20</i>		<i>Policy and Improvement Officer</i>	<i>Standing Item</i>
Thursday 24th October 5-7pm			
<i>Cohesion Sheffield - an update on city wide framework, joint strategy, and area projects</i>	<i>Understanding the local cohesion structure and system; cohesion is impacted by a number of factors and this would be to receive a report of work undertaken by Cohesion Sheffield to implement the framework and strategy, especially an update on area based projects</i>	<i>Angela Greenwood, Mike Fitter</i>	
<i>City of Sanctuary</i>	<i>Update and review</i>	<i>City of Sanctuary</i>	

<i>Controlling Migration Fund</i>	<i>Check back on this fund – How we are using it</i>	<i>Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety, Director of Neighbourhoods; members of public who asked questions at last meeting (19.09.2019)</i>	
<i>Work programme 2019/20</i>		<i>Policy and Improvement Officer</i>	<i>Standing Item</i>
Thursday 12th December 5-7 pm – the meeting was cancelled, with all items moving to 16th January and additional meeting put in 13th February 2020			
Thursday 16th January 5-7pm			
Challenge for Change	Report on latest project of Challenge for Change Tenant Scrutiny Panel - Customer Access	Members of the Tenant Scrutiny Panel; lead officer - Louise Cassin, Housing and Neighbourhoods Service	
South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit	An update on this new unit for South Yorkshire	Violence Reduction Unit - Rachel Staniforth/Angela Greenwood/Lee Berry	
Hate Crime in Sheffield	Hate Crime is a CSP (Community Safety Partnership) priority, an action plan was a recommendation of this Committee 2016/17; This item would be to receive a report of performance on this CSP priority as part of this Committee's Statutory role to scrutinise the CSP; and a progress update on the Hate Crime Action Plan, including how (what routes) are people reporting hate crime		TBC
Work programme 2019/20		Policy and Improvement Officer	Standing Item

Thursday 13th February 2020 5-7pm			
TBC - Housing - Private Rented Sector, housing affordability and affordable housing, housing supply	Committee want to know what affordable housing looks like in Sheffield; how do we maintain affordability; and issues of appropriate housing, for example, catering for new way of living for ageing population, and young people's housing opportunity (especially care leavers); city fairness and equality in housing	Cabinet Members with responsibility for Planning, Housing Strategy, Housing Delivery	
TBC - Refugee Needs Review	Added to work programme following meeting on 24th October about Cohesion, City of Sanctuary, Controlling Migration Fund		for information
TBC - Page Hall Selective Licensing Review	Identified and added to the programme at the meeting on 24th October		for information
Work programme 2019/20		Policy and Improvement Officer	Standing Item
Thursday 12th March 5-7 pm			
Community Safety Partnership Annual Report	"Statutory role for this Committee as the Crime and Disorder Committee to scrutinise the Sheffield Community Safety Partnership (CSP)		
Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/20 Draft Content & Work Programme 2020/21	This report provides the Committee with a summary of its activities over the municipal year for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/20; and a list of topics which it is recommended be put forward for consideration as part of the 2020/21 Work Programme for this committee.	Policy and Improvement Officer	

Items to be prioritised and scheduled 2019/20			
101 service - The Police non-emergency number - operation and performance update	Performance is still of concern to members, receive an update on the operation and performance of this number in South Yorkshire - impact on non-emergency crime reporting data, is it fit for purpose	South Yorkshire Police - see work programme of SY Police and Crime Panel	TBC if required
Housing + update	Committee received an update March 2018 and would like to know how it is going		March 2020?
Other areas of work - not scheduled as agenda items			
Gun and knife crime scrutiny review	Committee work to date report needs to be updated into a formal review report, gathering more information if required - small task group of the Committee to work on this; and to scope with Children, Young People & Families Support Scrutiny Committee activity, and work on Violent Crime Reduction in the city		Task and Finish Group

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