



## Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

**Report of:** Policy and Improvement Officer

**Subject:** Work Programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme: Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

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This report is a summary of the work of the Committee 2020/21. The usual pattern of meetings was disrupted by Covid-19, meetings were held virtually, and this Committee met in October, November, December 2020, January, February and lastly April 2021.

The work programme attached at Appendix 1 is the completed work programme 2020/21, it includes potential items the Committee might like to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22.

**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:**

- Note the work programme completed 2020/21
- Agree potential items to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22

**Background Papers:** [Sheffield Council Constitution](#)

**Category of Report:** OPEN

## **Work Programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme: Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021**

### **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 Governance and Scrutiny (formerly 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 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny has updated its activity with several blogs and handy advice for scrutiny in Covid-19, and the Covid Act. These can be found on their web pages - <https://www.cfgs.org.uk/> .

1.3 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 Work programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme 2021/22**

2.1 The usual pattern of meetings was disrupted by Covid-19, meetings were held virtually, and this Committee met six times in 2020/21. Each year the Committee determines a work programme, which remains through the year. Appendix 1 is the completed work programme 2020/21.

2.2 In practice with previous years the outgoing Committee will highlight potential items to include in a future work programme 2021/22, examples of these are set out in Appendix 1.

### **3.0 Recommendations**

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Note the work programme completed 2020/21
- Agree potential items to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22

## Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

### WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

**Last updated:** 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Please note:** this version is the completed work programme 2020/21

<b>Safer &amp; Stronger Communities</b>		<b>Thursday 5-7pm</b>	
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reasons for selecting topic</b>	<b>Lead Officer/s</b>	<b>Agenda Item/ Briefing paper</b>
<b><i>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020</i></b>			
<i>Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse during Covid 19</i>	<i>Members wished to investigate the impact that the lockdown associated with Covid 19 had on incidence of Domestic Abuse and the support services available</i>		<i>Agenda Item</i>
<b><i>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020</i></b>			
<i>Hanover Tower Block</i>	<i>Requested by members following the publication of a full investigation report by the Council</i>	<i>Janet Sharpe, Director</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<b><i>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020</i></b>			
<i>Fire Integrated Risk Management Plan</i>	<i>Requested by Members to allow input to the consultation – to include an invite to wider membership.</i>	<i>Chris Kirby, Stuart Booth</i>	

<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b>			
<i>Housing Repairs Service</i>			
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021</b>			
<i>Homelessness and Rough Sleeping</i>			
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021</b>			
Sheffield Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership Annual Report	Annual report of Sheffield's Community Safety Partnership	Cllr Paul Wood, Maxine Stavrianakos, Mark Seston	
<b>Potential items for future work programme 2021/22</b>			
Housing Repairs – Further update			
Social Housing			
Violent crime and Anti-Social Behaviour			
Selective Licensing			