



Report to Housing Committee

10th March 2023

Report of: David Hollis, Interim Director of Legal and Governance

Subject: Committee Work Programme

Author of Report: Rachel Marshall, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Summary:

The Committee's Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and discussion. This aims to show all known, substantive agenda items for forthcoming meetings of the Committee, to enable this committee, other committees, officers, partners and the public to plan their work with and for the Committee.

Any changes since the Committee's last meeting, including any new items, have been made in consultation with the Chair, and the document is always considered at the regular pre-meetings to which all Group Spokespersons are invited.

The following potential sources of new items are included in this report, where applicable:

- Questions and petitions from the public, including those referred from Council
- References from Council or other committees (statements formally sent for this committee's attention)
- A list of issues, each with a short summary, which have been identified by the Committee or officers as potential items but which have not yet been scheduled (See Appendix 1)

The Work Programme will remain a live document and will be brought to each Committee meeting.

Recommendations:

1. That the Committee's work programme, as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed, including any additions and amendments identified in Part 1;
2. That consideration be given to the further additions or adjustments to the work programme presented at Part 2 of Appendix 1;
3. That Members give consideration to any further issues to be explored by officers for inclusion in Part 2 of Appendix 1 of the next work programme report, for potential addition to the work programme;

Background Papers: None**Category of Report:** Open

COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**1.0 Prioritisation**

1.1 For practical reasons this committee has a limited amount of time each year in which to conduct its formal business. The Committee will need to prioritise firmly in order that formal meetings are used primarily for business requiring formal decisions, or which for other reasons it is felt must be conducted in a formal setting.

1.2 In order to ensure that prioritisation is effectively done, on the basis of evidence and informed advice, Members should usually avoid adding items to the work programme which do not already appear:

- In the draft work programme in Appendix 1 due to the discretion of the chair; or
- within the body of this report accompanied by a suitable amount of information

2.0 References from Council or other Committees

2.1 Any references sent to this Committee by Council, including any public questions, petitions and motions, or other committees since the last meeting are listed here, with commentary and a proposed course of action, as appropriate:

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| Issue 1 | |
| Referred from | |
| Details | ; |

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| <i>Commentary/ Action Proposed</i> | |

3.0 Member engagement, learning and policy development outside of Committee

3.1 Subject to the capacity and availability of councillors and officers, there are a range of ways in which Members can explore subjects, monitor information and develop their ideas about forthcoming decisions outside of formal meetings. Appendix 2 is an example 'menu' of some of the ways this could be done. It is entirely appropriate that member development, exploration and policy development should in many cases take place in a private setting, to allow members to learn and formulate a position in a neutral space before bringing the issue into the public domain at a formal meeting.

2.2 Training & Skills Development - Induction programme for this committee.

| Title | Description & Format | Date |
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Appendix 1 – Work Programme

Part 1: Proposed additions and amendments to the work programme since the last meeting:

| Item | Proposed Date | Note |
|--|----------------|--|
| DEFERRED: Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Fees | 10 March 2023 | Deferred to March meeting following Housing Policy Committee meeting held on 2 nd February 2023 |
| MERGED: Improving the Council Housing Repairs Service | 10 March 2023 | This item has been merged with the HNS and Repairs Performance Report on the same agenda |
| NEW: Update on Place Systems Review | 10 March 2023 | Added to March meeting |
| NEW: Customer Engagement Strategy 2023-25 | Meeting 1 2023 | Added to Meeting 1 2023 following at request at Housing Policy Committee |

Part 2: List of other potential items not yet included in the work programme

Issues that have recently been identified by the Committee, its Chair or officers as potential items but have not yet been added to the proposed work programme. If a Councillor raises an idea in a meeting and the committee agrees under recommendation 3 that this should be explored, it will appear either in the work programme or in this section of the report at the committee's next meeting, at the discretion of the Chair.

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| Topic | |
| Description | |
| Lead Officer/s | |
| Item suggested by | <i>Officer, Member, Committee, partners, public question, petition etc</i> |
| Type of item | <i>Referral to decision-maker/Pre-decision (policy development/Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring)</i> |
| Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 2)</i> | |
| Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 3)</i> | |

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| Lead Officer Commentary/Proposed Action(s) | |
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Part 3: Agenda Items for Forthcoming Meetings

| Meeting 6 | 10 March 2023 | Time | | | | |
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| Topic | Description | Lead Officer/s | Type of item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision Referral to decision-maker Pre-decision (policy development) Post-decision (service performance/monitoring) | (re: decisions) Prior member engagement/development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 2)</i> | (re: decisions) Public Participation/Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 3)</i> | Final decision-maker (& date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Cttee Another Cttee (eg S&R) Full Council Officer |
| HNS and Repairs Performance Report | Overview of HNS and Repairs Service performance | Janet Sharpe Tom Smith | Post-decision (service performance/monitoring) | N/A | | This Committee |
| Modifying Private Rented Solutions Policy | Approval of proposed Private Rented Solutions Policy amendments | Suzanne Allen | Decision | Yes | | This Committee |
| Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy- Action Plan | An action plan is required to detail how the priorities within the Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy will be delivered. | Suzanne Allen | Decision | Knowledge Briefings 17th November 2022, 01st December 2022 Full Strategy to Committee 15th December 2022 | Public participation and engagement detailed in full strategy | This Committee |

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| Private Sector Housing Regulation update | A report providing the Committee with a performance update on private sector housing enforcement activity and selective licensing | Darryl Smedley | Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | Knowledge Briefing 23 rd February 2023 | TBC | This Committee (referred from Full Council) |
| Deferred: Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Fees | Approval of annual charges for Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Fees | Jonathan South | Decision | Yes | | This Committee |
| NEW: Update on Place Systems Review | A report providing an update on the implementation of a new housing management IT system | Bev Mullooly | Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | No | | This Committee |
| Standing items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Questions/ Petitions</i> • <i>Work Programme</i> • <i>[any other committee-specific standing items eg finance or service monitoring]</i> | | | | | |
| Capital Finance Monitoring Report | Approval of Capital Finance Monitoring Report | Janet Sharpe | Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | N/A | | N/A |

| Meeting 1 2023 | TBC | Time | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Topic | Description | Lead Officer/s | Type of item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Decision</i> • <i>Referral to decision-maker</i> | <i>(re: decisions)</i> Prior member engagement/ development required | <i>(re: decisions)</i> Public Participation/ | Final decision-maker (& date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Cttee • Another Cttee (eg S&R) |

| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pre-decision (policy development)</i> • <i>Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring)</i> | <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 2)</i> | Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 3)</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Council • Officer |
|--|---|---------------|--|--|--|---|
| NEW: HNS and Repairs Performance Report | Quarterly overview of HNS and Repairs Service performance (including Capital Programme and Stock Increase Programme updates) | Janet Sharpe | Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | N/A | | This Committee |
| First Homes Policy | Approval of First Homes Policy | Suzanne Allen | Decision | Knowledge briefing for the Housing Policy Committee about the draft local eligibility criteria and developers' fee being proposed. | Guidance received at knowledge briefing with the Housing Policy Committee was that consultation with advice agencies such as Shelter as well as Planning consultants should be undertaken. | This Committee |
| NEW: Customer Engagement Strategy 2023-25 (Awaiting Form 1) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Report updating Committee on arrangements for tenant involvement and empowerment and approval of revised strategy</i> | Janet Sharpe | Decision | Through Knowledge Briefings and LACs | Through a range of tenant consultation | This Committee |
| Standing items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Questions/ Petitions</i> • <i>Work Programme</i> • <i>[any other committee-specific standing items]</i> | | | | | |

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| | <i>eg finance or service monitoring]</i> | | | | | |
| Revenue Finance Monitoring Report | Approval of Revenue Finance Monitoring Report | Tony Kirkham | N/A | | N/A | N/A |
| Capital Finance Monitoring Report | Approval of Capital Finance Monitoring Report | Janet Sharpe | Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | N/A | | N/A |

| Meeting 2 2023 | TBC | Time | | | | |
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| Topic | Description | Lead Officer/s | Type of item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision Referral to decision-maker Pre-decision (policy development) Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | (re: decisions) Prior member engagement/ development required (with reference to options in Appendix 2) | (re: decisions) Public Participation/ Engagement approach (with reference to toolkit in Appendix 3) | Final decision-maker (& date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Cttee Another Cttee (eg S&R) Full Council Officer |
| Housing Strategy | Approve final Housing Strategy | Suzanne Allen | Referral to decision maker | Yes | | This Committee and Full Council |
| NEW: HNS and Repairs Performance Report | Quarterly overview of HNS and Repairs Service performance (including Capital Programme and Stock Increase Programme updates) | Janet Sharpe | Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | N/A | | This Committee |
| NEW: Approach to council housing disrepair | appraisal of council housing disrepair and a strategy for improvement, including how they will implement the recommendations of the | Dean Butterworth | Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | Yes | | This Committee (referred from Full Council) |

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| | Housing Ombudsman's 2021 report "Spotlight on Damp and Mould"; | | | | | |
| Standing items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Questions/ Petitions</i> • <i>Work Programme</i> • <i>[any other committee-specific standing items eg finance or service monitoring]</i> | | | | | |
| Revenue Finance Monitoring Report | Approval of Revenue Finance Monitoring Report | Tony Kirkham | N/A | | N/A | N/A |
| Capital Finance Monitoring Report | Approval of Capital Finance Monitoring Report | Janet Sharpe | Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | N/A | | N/A |

| Items which the committee have agreed to add to an agenda, but for which no date is yet set. | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|--|---|---|---|
| Topic | Description | Lead Officer/s | Type of item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision Referral to decision-maker Pre-decision (policy development) Post-decision (service performance/monitoring) | (re: decisions) Prior member engagement/development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 2)</i> | (re: decisions) Public Participation/Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 3)</i> | Final decision-maker (& date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Cttee Another Cttee (eg S&R) Full Council Officer |
| Charged Gardening Scheme | Consideration of a charged gardening scheme for council tenants | Helen Scott | Policy and Implementation | Yes | | This Committee |
| Service Charges and Consultation arrangements | Consideration of the possible introduction of service charges for council tenants | Darryl Smedley | Pre-decision (policy development) – to commence formal consultation. | Yes | | This Committee |
| Net-Zero Roadmap - for existing public and private homes | Approval of plans for achieving Net Zero across SCC homes - Stage 1 | Nathan Robinson | Decision | Yes | | This Committee |
| Consultation on amendments to the Allocations Policy | Approval of proposed Allocation Policy amendments | David Wilkinson | Re-decisions (Policy development) | Yes | | This Committee |
| Older Persons Independent Housing Living Strategy | 5-year strategy setting out Sheffield's strategic approaches for helping our growing older population to live | Suzanne Allen | Decision | Yes; written briefings, all member briefings | Creative use of online engagement channels; working with VCF networks; stakeholder | This Committee |

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| | independently in their own homes across all housing tenures. | | | | reference groups; formal and informal discussion groups | |
| Gypsy and Traveller New Pitch and Sites Plan | | | | | | |
| Housing-related Support Review | | | | | | |

Appendix 2 – Menu of options for member engagement, learning and development prior to formal Committee consideration

Members should give early consideration to the degree of pre-work needed before an item appears on a formal agenda.

All agenda items will anyway be supported by the following:

- Discussion well in advance as part of the work programme item at Pre-agenda meetings. These take place in advance of each formal meeting, before the agenda is published and they consider the full work programme, not just the immediate forthcoming meeting. They include the Chair, Vice Chair and all Group Spokespersons from the committee, with officers
- Discussion and, where required, briefing by officers at pre-committee meetings in advance of each formal meeting, after the agenda is published. These include the Chair, Vice Chair and all Group Spokespersons from the committee, with officers.
- Work Programming items on each formal agenda, as part of an annual and ongoing work programming exercise
- Full officer report on a public agenda, with time for a public discussion in committee
- Officer meetings with Chair & VC as representatives of the committee, to consider addition to the draft work programme, and later to inform the overall development of the issue and report, for the committee's consideration.

The following are examples of some of the optional ways in which the committee may wish to ensure that they are sufficiently engaged and informed prior to taking a public decision on a matter. In all cases the presumption is that these will take place in private, however some meetings could happen in public or eg be reported to the public committee at a later date.

These options are presented in approximately ascending order of the amount of resources needed to deliver them. Members must prioritise carefully, in consultation with officers, which items require what degree of involvement and information in advance of committee meetings, in order that this can be delivered within the officer capacity available.

The majority of items cannot be subject to the more involved options on this list, for reasons of officer capacity.

- Written briefing for the committee or all members (email)
- All-member newsletter (email)
- Requests for information from specific outside bodies etc.
- All-committee briefings (private or, in exceptional cases, in-committee)
- All-member briefing (virtual meeting)
- Facilitated policy development workshop (potential to invite external experts / public, see appendix 2)
- Site visits (including to services of the council)
- Task and Finish group (one at a time, one per cttee)

Furthermore, a range of public participation and engagement options are available to inform Councillors, see appendix 3.

Appendix 3 – Public engagement and participation toolkit

Public Engagement Toolkit

On 23 March 2022 Full Council agreed the following:

A toolkit to be developed for each committee to use when considering its 'menu of options' for ensuring the voice of the public has been central to their policy development work. Building on the developing advice from communities and Involve, committees should make sure they have a clear purpose for engagement; actively support diverse communities to engage; match methods to the audience and use a range of methods; build on what's worked and existing intelligence (SCC and elsewhere); and be very clear to participants on the impact that engagement will have.

The list below builds on the experiences of Scrutiny Committees and latterly the Transitional Committees and will continue to develop. The toolkit includes (but is not be limited to):

- a. Public calls for evidence
- b. Issue-focused workshops with attendees from multiple backgrounds (sometimes known as 'hackathons') led by committees
- c. Creative use of online engagement channels
- d. Working with VCF networks (eg including the Sheffield Equality Partnership) to seek views of communities
- e. Co-design events on specific challenges or to support policy development
- f. Citizens assembly style activities
- g. Stakeholder reference groups (standing or one-off)
- h. Committee / small group visits to services
- i. Formal and informal discussion groups
- j. Facilitated communities of interest around each committee (eg a mailing list of self-identified stakeholders and interested parties with regular information about forthcoming decisions and requests for contributions or volunteers for temporary co-option)
- k. Facility for medium-term or issue-by-issue co-option from outside the Council onto Committees or Task and Finish Groups. Co-optees of this sort at Policy Committees would be non-voting.

This public engagement toolkit is intended to be a quick 'how-to' guide for Members and officers to use when undertaking participatory activity through committees.

It will provide an overview of the options available, including the above list, and cover:

- How to focus on purpose and who we are trying to reach
- When to use and when not to use different methods
- How to plan well and be clear to citizens what impact their voice will have
- How to manage costs, timescales, scale.

There is an expectation that Members and Officers will be giving strong consideration to the public participation and engagement options for each item on a committee's work programme, with reference to the above list a-k.