



Telford & Wrekin
C O U N C I L

Addenbrooke House Ironmasters Way Telford TF3 4NT

COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date	Wednesday, 31 March 2021	Time	6.00 pm
Venue	Remote Meeting		

Enquiries Regarding this Agenda

Democratic Services	Kieran Robinson	01952 382061
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<u>Committee Membership:</u>	Councillors E J Carter, G H Cook, T L B Janke, R T Kiernan, R Mehta, B J Thompson and C R Turley (Chair), Co-optees D Johnson
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AGENDA

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| 1. Declarations of Interest | |
| 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting | 3 - 4 |
| 3. Work Programme Review
To receive the work programme proposals of the Executive Director: Housing, Communities & Customer Services. The Director: Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services will also attend for this item. | 5 - 10 |
| 4. Chair's Update | |

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COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee held on Wednesday, 11 November 2020 at 6.00 pm in Remote Meeting

Present: Councillors E J Carter, R Mehta and C R Turley (Chair)

Also Present: Councillor D Wright (Cabinet Member for Economy, Housing, Transport and Infrastructure)

In Attendance: Gavin Ashford (Strategic Planning Team Leader), Katherine Kynaston (Director: Housing, Employment & Infrastructure), Anthea Lowe (Associate Director: Policy & Governance), and Kieran Robinson (Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer)

Apologies: Councillor T L B Janke and D Johnson

COMSC5 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr T Janke. Mr Johnson, Co-optee had sent his apologies and advised that he would be resigning as a co-opted member of the Committee.

COMSC6 Declarations of Interest

None.

COMSC7 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

COMSC8 Terms of Reference

Members received brief clarification of the proposed change to the Committee's terms of reference.

RESOLVED – that the terms of reference be approved.

COMSC9 Scrutiny Review of the Local Plan

The Committee received the presentation of the Director: Housing, Employment & Infrastructure. The presentation set out the details of the period of consultation for the Local Plan and the specific areas officers believed Scrutiny could have a valuable interest.

The initial public engagement period, 'the Issues and Options stage', would run until early January 2021, which would then be followed by the Preferred Options stage later that year. Officers were keen to work collaboratively with

Scrutiny during the engagement phases of the Local Plan. Two areas had been identified for the Committee to consider; the evolving role of the Plan in town & district centres and the role of the Plan in green spaces & biodiversity.

Officers provided Members with a short overview of the two options they had recommended to be scrutinised by the Committee. The Authority wished to encourage residents to shop local, by providing a mixed shopping environment that promoted health and wellbeing. The Council was also keen to balance growth with protection and enhancement of the natural environment, tackling climate change and improving public health.

The Local Plan offered the opportunity to identify issues and areas, formalise the Council's approach, and enhance its protection of the natural environment.

Members recognised the overlap in remits between this Committee and the Environment Scrutiny Committee on issues surrounding green spaces.

The Committee requested a copy of the presentation used by Officers.

COMSC10 Work Programme Review

Members heard from the Associate Director: Policy & Governance in relation to proposed updates to the Committee's work programme.

Following the previous presentation, the Chair advised that he would meet with the Chair of the Environment Scrutiny Committee to discuss next steps for the Committee's work on the Local Plan.

COMSC11 Chair's Update

None.

The meeting ended at 6.45 pm

Chairman:

Date: Wednesday, 31 March 2021

Community Scrutiny Committee – 2021/22 Proposed Work Programme Proposals

Yellow Highlight – Work carried over from 2019-2021 work programme

Topic	Issue	Purpose	Status	Service Area	SMT Feedback (where applicable)	Proposed Date
Safer & Stronger Communities (SSC)	Private Sector Housing	To understand the rules that govern social housing provision and private landlords, to understand the needs of residents and problems faced by the borough in delivery of housing and how these can be addressed through the use of enforcement powers. (To include an update on HMO licencing, empty property strategy and action plan, overview and application of enforcement powers in private sector housing)		Business, Development & Employment Housing & Communities		October 2021
SSC cont.	Neighbourhood Enforcement	Reporting to the Committee on Anti-Social behaviour, fly tipping, and Civil Parking Enforcement.		Housing & Communities Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services		July 2021

Topic	Issue	Purpose	Status	Service Area	SMT Feedback (where applicable)	Proposed Date
Safer & Stronger Communities Programme	Influence and review the impact of the new Safer/Stronger communities programme	Engaging the Committee in the ongoing development of the Safer and Stronger communities work programme. Expected to be delivered over two parts. This work will include an overview of Safer Streets and the new Safer & Stronger Communities Strategy & Action Plan		Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services		June 2021 and February 2022
Transport	Strategic Transport Review	Receive an overview of the Strategic Transport Review that will feed into the new Strategic Transport Strategy		Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services		July 2021
	Transport Strategy – Active Travel	To contribute to and influence the emerging transport strategy and action plan		Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services		June 2021
	Transport Strategy – EV	To contribute to and influence the emerging EV Strategy		Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services		April 2022
Transport cont.	Corporate Travel Plan	To contribute to and influence the corporate travel plan		Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services		November 2021

Topic	Issue	Purpose	Status	Service Area	SMT Feedback (where applicable)	Proposed Date
Other	Council Communications	<p>This item has been carried over having been postponed to assist the Council during flood and pandemic response throughout 2020 and early 2021.</p> <p>NB - Scrutiny considered third party engagement in 2018/19</p>		Corporate Communications.	Post pone due to the scale of the work programme in 2021 until 2022/23	2022/23

Members must note that the proposed dates and programme items subject to change as work programming continues. New issues may be referred to the Committee during the annual work programming process that is currently underway.

Previous Work Programme and suggestions from 2019/20 listed below many of which now feature in the proposed draft programme presented in the previous pages and highlighted in yellow.

	Issue / Topic	Purpose	Status / Source if New	Service Area	SMT Feedback (if any)	Proposed Date
**	Housing Strategies	Formerly - Homelessness and Housing	New	Housing & Communities	Housing Strategy recommended to come to scrutiny post-December Cabinet meeting	December 2020 – January 2021
**	Social and Private Rented Housing	To understand the rules that govern social housing provision and private landlords, to understand the needs of residents and problems faced by the borough in delivery of housing and how these can be addressed.	New – Scrutiny Chair	Housing & Communities	Recommended for October/November meeting.	October 2020 – November 2020
*	Council Communications	<i>(NB Scrutiny considered third party engagement in 2018/19)</i> <i>Was three separate items – Council Communications with Residents and Town and Parish Councils; Community Hubs; and Stronger Community</i>	New – Scrutiny Chairs	Cooperative Council Delivery Team / Neighbourhood & Enforcement Service	*	Following implementation of Comms structure

	Issue / Topic	Purpose	Status / Source if New	Service Area	SMT Feedback (if any)	Proposed Date
*	Transport (SMB suggest a spotlight review)	To examine subsidised routes, gaps in service provision, and the internal fleet offer	New – from Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services	It may be more productive to work to influence the emerging Integrated Transport Strategy and take a wider view of transport needs and not just focus on bus subsidy. Work on the strategy will commence in the Autumn.	December 2020 – with consideration being given to a focus session following that.
*	Planning and Development	Ensuring that properties have adequate allocated parking spaces. Planning applications must be accurate and include definitive plans and accurate application forms. HMOs need monitoring and enforcement where necessary – parking is an issue wherever there is an HMO. House and property design and specifications must be taking carbon reduction into account through the planning stages.	New – from Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council	Business, Development & Employment	To be considered as part of Local Plan review	Following review of regime that applies to housing sector.

	Issue / Topic	Purpose	Status / Source if New	Service Area	SMT Feedback (if any)	Proposed Date
	Civil Parking Enforcement	Monitoring	Monitoring	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services	This has been recommended as an item to come to scrutiny in the new year (2021) as activities had been halted during the pandemic and resumed in late Summer 2020.	February – March 2021
	Community Safety Partnership (Violence Reduction Partnership scrutiny)	Reviewed 2017-2019 strategy in July 2018.	Statutory responsibility	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services Housing & Communities	Scrutiny of this item has been suggested for March 2021 as a strategy review is ongoing as of September 2020.	March 2021