

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

**BUSINESS & FINANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –
13 January 2020**

WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20 AND 2020/21

**REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: GOVERNANCE,
PROCUREMENT & COMMISSIONING**

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To enable the Business & Finance Scrutiny Committee to consider and agree the Committee's work programme for 2019/20 and 2020/21.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee agree items for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 work programme (Appendix 1); and
- 2.2 That the Committee agree meeting dates for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 municipal years.

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Priority Plan objective(s)?	
	No	
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	No	Borough Wide
DELIVERY DATE	The 2019/20 and 2020/21 [two year] work programme should be delivered in-year before the 2021/22 municipal year begins.	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	No	There are no direct financial implications foreseen as part of adopting the recommendations contained in this report. However, Scrutiny has a role in ensuring that local government is effective and accountable. This includes undertaking reviews and challenging and monitoring performance. There is provision for the cost of supporting the Scrutiny function in the Council's budget framework and the

		<p>work programme will need to be managed within those resources, any variance that arises will be reported as appropriate as part of the Council's financial monitoring process.</p> <p>The financial implications of adopting recommendations made by the Scrutiny function should be considered as part of specific reports proposing those recommendations.</p> <p>Scrutiny also plays an important part of the budget consultation process which is reflected in the work programme and is a key piece of work which feeds into the Council's overall budget strategy</p> <p>RP-8.1.20</p>
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes/No	<p>Overview & Scrutiny for local authorities was introduced as part of the modernisation of local government in Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000. It required every local authority to have at least one O&S committee, to: hold the Executive to account; undertake policy development and review; monitor and improve performance; investigate issues of public concern; and carry out external scrutiny including the NHS.</p> <p>Establishing a work plan, and resources as set out in this report will assist O&S to effectively meet its objectives.</p> <p>AL – 23/01/2020</p>
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	No	
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	Borough-wide impact.

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 1.1 The suggestions shown in Appendix 1 were considered by the Scrutiny Management Board on 12 November 2019 and referred to the

Business & Finance Scrutiny Committee to decide which issues should be included in the Committee's Work Programme. In making decisions about the work programme, the Committee should consider any feedback from both Senior Managers and Scrutiny Management Board and the following "Criteria for Scrutiny":-

- How far scrutiny can realistically change or influence things;
- The extent to which residents or businesses are affected by the issue;
- How well the Council and Partners are performing in the area; and
- What else is happening to avoid duplication or wasted effort.
- The extent to which triangulation of information can take place through the input of service users/frontline providers

1.3 The Committee should, in making decisions about the work programme, also consider the over-arching priorities for scrutiny as set by the Scrutiny Management Board on 12 November 2019:-

- The Environment;
- Housing; and
- Mental Health.

1.4 Scrutiny Management Board has not allocated a baseline for formal meetings during the municipal year for scrutiny of items on the Business & Finance Scrutiny Committee's work programme. The Committee should seek to schedule a baseline of four formal meetings during each municipal year covered by the 2019/20 and 2020/21 work programme. This schedule does not include informal or sub-group meetings which may be held to gather evidence as part of a review, briefing meetings or regional/external scrutiny meetings.

1.5 The work programme needs to be flexible to allow for important issues which emerge during the year to be scrutinised. However, if a new topic is added to the work programme, consideration must be given to removing an existing item to avoid the workload becoming unmanageable and losing focus.

2.0 PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 None.

3.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

3.1 Scrutiny Handbook.

**Report prepared by Kieran Robinson, Democratic & Scrutiny Services
Officer. Telephone: 01952 382061**

Business & Finance Scrutiny Committee – 2019/20 and 2020/21 Work Programme

Key:-

* New Suggestions Received and Shared with Scrutiny Assembly on 24 October 2019

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 Ongoing or Monitoring / Annual Item

	Issue / Topic	Purpose	Status / Source if New	Service Area	SMT Feedback (if any)	SMB Feedback (if any)
*	Local Enterprise Partnership	To receive:- Update report [September/ October] Annual business plan [February/March]	New - LEP Assurance Framework Requirement	Business, Development & Employment	*	Local Enterprise Partnership
	Budget Scrutiny	Consultation on draft budget & policy framework proposals published by the Leader and any alternative proposals developed by opposition groups.	Constitutional function	Finance & Human Resources		