

Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 May 2017

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2017/2018

1 Background

- 1.1 An annual Overview and Scrutiny work programming event is held. It is an opportunity for non-Executive Councillors to consider ideas for the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for the year.
- 1.2 The event for 2017/2018 was held on Thursday 6 April 2017.

2 Work Programme Event 2016

- 2.1 The Chief Executive opened the event and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee explained how the event would work. Directors, together with other Officers, provided assistance to Councillors when they considered suggested issues for review.
- 2.2 Cabinet Members informed the event of their priorities and objectives for the year
- 2.3 Councillors considered:
 - The suggestions put forward by the public and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for future Scrutiny review
 - Cabinet's priorities
 - Councillor's own ideas
- 2.4 Over fifty suggestions for future Scrutiny review were put forward by members of the public.

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3 Suggested Reviews for inclusion on the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2017/2018

3.1 In three Groups, Councillors, supported by a Director or Head of Service, put forward suggested issues for inclusion on the Overview and Scrutiny work programme 2017/2018.

3.2 The suggestions are in priority order, the first suggestion was suggested by all three Groups and second and third suggestions were proposed by two of the Groups, the other suggestions were put forward by one of the three Groups:

Cemeteries within the Borough - A review of cemeteries within the borough to include: crematorium provision, green spaces, financial implications, amenities and facilities, war graves and heritage.

Licensing Laws/Night-time economy - A review of the night-time economy, including safety and licensing laws

Dementia Friendly Town – A review investigating the town of Northampton becoming a Dementia Friendly Town

Culture and Tourism – A review investigating how Northampton, in particular its culture and heritage, could be promoted around the world.

Lease of land - A review focussing on small builds

Apprenticeships - A review of work provision for 16-24 year olds

Effectiveness of Neighbourhood Wardens – A review of Neighbourhood Wardens

Reports to future meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

It is suggested to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that reports will be requested to future meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the following topics:

- **Retail Experience, focussing on the high street**, in particular, it will be requested for an update on the

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recommendations contained within the previous O&S Report (Retail Experience 2013.)

- **Trips and Falls on Housing Land**, a review would be requested regarding statistics and information in relation to trips and falls on housing land

3.2 The event discussed the suggestions proposed by all three groups and agreed that the above proposed issues be prioritised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for inclusion in the O&S Work Programme 2017/2018.

4 Recommendations

4.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agrees its Work Programme for 2017/2018 from the issues suggested by the recent Work Programming event.

4.2 That membership of the three Scrutiny Panels is set and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee appoints the Chairs of the three Scrutiny Panels.

4.3 The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee invites other non-Executives, who are not a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to join the membership of the Scrutiny Panels.

4.4 That the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee communicates details of the Work Programme 2017/2018 with all Councillors, and Directors.

4.5 That the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2017/2018 is published on the Overview and Scrutiny page of the Council's webpage.