



Report Reference Number: S/18/2

To: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 27 June 2018
Status: Non-Key
Ward(s) Affected: All
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Lead Executive Member: Councillor Mark Crane, Leader of the Council
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Title: Scrutiny Committee Work Programme and Executive Meeting Dates 2018-19

Summary:

Councillors are asked to consider items for inclusion on the Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for the 2018-19 municipal year. The Committee are also asked to note the meeting dates for the Executive in 2018-19 in order to agree attendance at these meetings by Scrutiny Committee Members.

Recommendations:

- i. That the Committee agree items for inclusion on the Work Programme 2018-19.**
- ii. That the Committee note the meeting dates for the Executive in 2018-19 and agree Scrutiny Committee Member attendance at these meetings.**

Reasons for recommendation

To ensure the Scrutiny Committee establishes a Work Programme that effectively scrutinises and contributes to supporting service improvement and delivery against the Council's Corporate Plan priorities, and to progress the relationship between the Scrutiny Committee and the Executive to facilitate the development of scrutiny at Selby District Council.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Committee annually formulates a Work Programme setting out their planned work for the year ahead.
- 1.1 The draft Work Programme for 2018-19 is provided in Appendix A of the report. A table of suggested selection criteria is provided in Appendix B of the report.

- 1.2 The LGA Peer Challenge in November 2017 identified strengthening scrutiny at Selby as a key recommendation. Following training delivered by Kirklees Council on 12 April 2018, the Scrutiny Working Group met on 24 April 2018 and made a number of suggestions of how to move forward with the task of developing scrutiny. One of these was ensuring the attendance of a Member of the Scrutiny Committee at each Executive meeting.
- 1.3 The schedule of Executive meetings for 2018-19 is attached at Appendix E for the Committee to note and agree Scrutiny Member attendance at each meeting; the suggestion of the Scrutiny Working Group was that this could be organised on a 'rota' basis.

2. The Report

- 2.1 Councillors are reminded that the role of the Scrutiny Committee is to implement an annual Work Programme which effectively scrutinises the decisions, actions and performance of the Council, those of its partner organisations and agencies delivering services within Selby District. A key aspect of the Work Programme is that it should be owned and developed by Councillors.
- 2.1 The Work Programme sets out the items to be considered at the scheduled meetings of the Committee. The provisional meetings scheduled will only be held, should the Committee decide there is an urgent issue which needs discussing.
- 2.2 Councillors may wish to supplement the scheduled meetings with an additional Task and Finish Group, to undertake an in-depth investigation.
- 2.3 The development of Scrutiny at Selby District Council was identified as requiring improvement by the LGA Peer Review Team; as such, raising the profile of the Scrutiny Committee at Executive meetings would contribute towards these improvements.

3. Alternative Options Considered

None.

4. Implications

4.1 Legal Implications

Effective Scrutiny arrangements form part of the governance framework of the Council.

4.2 Financial Implications

Travel expenses may be incurred for Councillors attending meetings.

4.3 Policy and Risk Implications

Not applicable.

4.4 Corporate Plan Implications

The Council's Corporate Plan sets out long term plans to make Selby District a great place to do business, enjoy life, make a difference, supported by the Council delivering great value. An effective scrutiny function is essential to fair and transparent decision making, which underpins the work of the Council.

4.5 Resource Implications

Through improving the work of scrutiny at Selby there may be some minor resource implications for officers in supporting the work of the Committee, such as reviews or 'deep dives' into specific subjects. It is anticipated that these will be contained within existing budgets.

4.6 Other Implications

Not applicable.

4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1** That the Scrutiny Committee considers items for inclusion on the annual Work Programme for 2018-19 and agrees the topics to be discussed over the forthcoming year, and agrees Scrutiny Committee Member attendance at Executive meetings in 2018-19.

6. Background Documents

None.

7. Appendices

Appendix A – Draft Work Programme for 2018-19
Appendix B – Suggested Selection Criteria
Appendix C – Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference
Appendix D – Forward Plan July 2018 to October 2018
Appendix E – Executive Meeting Dates 2018/19

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