

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date and Time - **Monday 24 April 2023 – 6:30pm**

Venue - **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bexhill-on-Sea**

Councillors appointed to the Committee:

P.N. Osborne (Chair), Mrs V. Cook (Vice-Chair), J. Barnes, J.J. Carroll, C.A. Clark, S.J. Coleman, P.C. Courtel, Mrs D.C. Earl-Williams, P.J. Gray, K.M. Harmer (ex-officio), C.A. Madeley, C.R. Maynard and M. Mooney.

Substitute Members: Mrs M.L. Barnes, L.M. Langlands and R.B. Thomas.

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To authorise the Chair to sign the Minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13 March 2023 as a correct record of proceedings.

2. APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTES

The Chair to ask if any Member present is substituting for another Member and, if so, to declare his/her name as substitute Member and the name of the absent Member.

3. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

To consider such other items as the Chair decides are urgent and due notice of which has been given to the Head of Paid Service by 12 Noon on the day of the meeting.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

To receive any disclosure by Members of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the personal interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. Members are reminded of the need to repeat their declaration immediately prior to the commencement of the item in question.

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5. **REPORT OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE STEERING GROUP** (Pages 3 - 6)
6. **CALL-IN AND URGENCY PROCEDURES** (Pages 7 - 14)
7. **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL** (Pages 15 - 28)
8. **WORK PROGRAMME REVIEW** (Pages 29 - 34)

Malcolm Johnston
Chief Executive

Agenda Despatch Date: 14 April 2023

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Rother District Council putting residents at the heart of everything we do.

Rother District Council

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	24 April 2023
Title:	Report of the Climate Change Steering Group
Report of:	Climate Change Steering Group
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of Report:	To summarise the work of the Climate Change Steering Group to address the Climate Emergency since the last public meeting of the Climate Change Steering Group in March 2022.
Officer	
Recommendation(s):	It be RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Introduction

1. This report summarises the work of the Climate Change Steering Group (CCSG) carried out between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

Background

2. The CCSG was established by Cabinet following the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration on 16 September 2019. The CCSG is comprised of Councillors K.M. Field (Chair), S.J. Coleman, P.J. Gray, L.M. Langlands, P.N. Osborne and S.M. Prochak, MBE.
3. The CCSG meet monthly with the Agenda decided by the Members in liaison with officers.
4. The CCSG has met "informally" on the following dates: 12 May 2022, 23 June 2022, 26 July 2022, 31 August 2022, 18 October 2022, 24 November 2022, 23 January 2023, 23 February 2023 and 30 March 2023. The Minutes of the meetings can be viewed on the Council's website at the following link [Our climate action so far – Rother District Council](#).
5. In addition to the Members mentioned above, the following Councillors have also attended CCSG meetings in the last year: Councillors J. Barnes, Mrs V. Cook, P.C. Courtel, B.J. Drayson, C.A. Madeley, A.S. Mier, G.F. Stevens, H.L. Timpe and J. Vine-Hall.

Completed Projects

6. The following projects have been completed in the last year, with input and oversight of the CCSG:
 - a. Council Emissions Baseline: In July 2022, the Council's direct emissions data for the baseline year of 2019/20 and the following years 2020/21 and

- 2021/22 were calculated. A framework is now in place to monitor and capture emissions information on an annual basis, which will be published in an annual Climate and Sustainability report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) every September.
- b. Tree Planting in Bexhill: Following successful application to the Urban Tree Challenge fund, 26 trees were planted on Bexhill streets in Spring 2023: [New Street Trees for Bexhill | Trees for Cities](#) confirms the locations and species. £143,000 of funding was also secured from the Green Recovery Challenge fund to increase tree cover in Bexhill. Planting was complete by end of February 2023 at Bexhill Downs (1,500 whips), Sidley Rec (38 trees) and Southlands Open Space (9 trees).
 - c. Urban Forest 1066: The Bexhill i-Tree Eco study began in February 2021 and the final report, titled Urban Forest 1066 was signed off by CCSG in August 2022. This sets out the existing number, type and condition of trees in Bexhill.
 - d. Bexhill Tree Planting Strategy: A [Bexhill Tree Planting Strategy](#) was developed by Treeconomics and signed off by CCSG in February 2023, giving recommendations on how to improve tree cover in Bexhill.
 - e. Couch to Carbon Zero completed: In line with COP 27 in November 2022, the Council commissioned the Couch to Carbon Zero Sprint, inviting not only Council staff, but all residents and businesses of Rother to join in. This involved a 5-minute video on a different topic each day being received via email, with information and suggestions on how to reduce your personal carbon footprint. A third of staff and Members signed up, as well as 228 Rother residents.

Ongoing Projects

7. The following projects are ongoing:
 - a. Village Halls Energy Project: Following a successful application for £500k of funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy Climate Emergency Bonus Fund in June 2022, Phase 1 of the Village Halls Energy Project was launched in February 2023, with Net Zero plans for 39 halls across the district currently in development and expected by 31 May 2023.
 - b. Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCP) installation: On 28 March 2022, Cabinet approved procurement of a provider of EVCPs in off-street Council car parks at nil capital cost to the Council. A funding proposal is currently in progress to the On Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme with the remainder of capital costs being covered by the provider. Seven car parks across Battle, Bexhill and Camber are currently included within the proposal having been approved by the Distribution Network Operator. Each car park will support the charging of six electric vehicles, and subject to a successful funding bid, the charge points should be operational by the end of the calendar year.
 - c. Biodiversity Audit: In order to provide a baseline for biodiversity across the Council's estate, and set targets for enhancement, a Biodiversity Audit has been commissioned. The Audit will also help the Council prepare for the introduction of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) which will be mandatory from November 2023.
 - d. Parish and Town Council Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration support: All Parish and Town Councils have been offered assistance with declaring a Climate and Ecological Emergency and creating an Action Plan. To date 10 Councils have made declarations.

- e. Replacement of seasonal bedding plants with perennials: From May 2023, seasonal bedding will be replaced with herbaceous perennials, shrubs, hedges or pine trees at Bexhill Cemetery Garden of Remembrance, Polegrove Bowls Club, De La Warr Pavilion Car Park, East Parade and Lanes Gardens. The Environment Strategy Officer has advised the Parks Development Officer on nature friendly planting suggestions, specifically prairie style plating.

Presentations received by the Steering Group

8. Projects Officer (Environment), 23 June 2022 – Council’s Emissions Baseline – Projects Officer (Environment) presented to the CCSG data on the Council’s direct emissions from the baseline year 2021/20 to 2021/22.
9. Projects Officer (Environment), 23 January 2023 – Green Team Report – A report was presented to the CCSG on Green Team activities and achievements from May 2022 – January 2023.
10. Development Projects Manager, 23 January 2023 – Sustainable Procurement - The Developments Project Manager gave a presentation on the sustainability measures that had been implemented and were continuing to be embedded within the Council's procurement processes / criteria. As an example, he demonstrated the procurement process to appoint the Architect to complete a feasibility study for the redevelopment of the public conveniences at Camber Sands. Officers were working closely with the Procurement Hub to ensure that prospective contractor(s) included sustainability measures within all future contractual bids; development was ongoing.
11. Treeconomics, 23 February 2023 – Bexhill Tree Planting Strategy - The Chair welcomed John Rose of Treeconomics and Kate Sheldon and Suzanne Simmons of Trees for Cities to the meeting, who introduced the Bexhill Tree Planting Strategy (BTPS). The BTPS outlined the Council’s plans in collaboration with Treeconomics, i-Tree and Forest Research to increase the tree canopy across Bexhill, by providing a baseline for the existing urban forest, while strategically exploring opportunities for future planting. The BTPS signposted best practice and guidance regarding planting, care and management of new trees. It detailed information on the urban forest; policy; existing trees and woodland; planting; and monitoring and review.
12. On 23 February 2023, the Director – Place and Climate Change presented to Members details and results of a sustainability challenge he had set himself at the beginning of the financial year to carry out his normal duties without using his car for business mileage (daily commute not included). In order to assist, he had used the ‘transport hierarchy’ and set a target of 100 cycles to work within the financial year. A combination of cycling, use of buses and trains, walking and car share opportunities had been used on all visits made across the district and further afield, with actual travel time not differing that greatly from personal car use only.
13. On 30 March 2023, the Environment Strategy Officer advised the CCSG of the development and progress of the Biodiversity Audit. The first phase of the Biodiversity Audit includes sites owned by the Council which are 0.2ha or larger excluding sites in Bexhill. The Bexhill sites will be addressed in the second phase of the project. The Biodiversity Audit it intended to provide a baseline of

Council owned green assets to facilitate decision making in relation to nature recovery, biodiversity enhancement and Biodiversity Net Gain.

Conclusion

14. Over the past 12 months, the CCSG has met on 10 occasions overseeing the development and implementation of the projects outlined in this report.

Environmental Implications

15. This report is presenting the actions of the CCSG in delivering the Environment Strategy (2020).

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	External Consultation	No
Environmental	Yes	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	No	Exempt from publication	No

Chief Executive:	Malcolm Johnston
Report Contact Officer:	Lucie Bolton
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Appendices:	None
Relevant previous Minutes:	N/A
Background Papers:	None
Reference Documents:	None

Rother District Council

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	24 April 2023
Title:	Call-In and Urgency Procedures
Report of:	Chief Executive
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of Report:	To inform Members of the use of the call-in and urgency procedures during the period 1 March 2022 to 28 February 2023.
Officer	
Recommendation(s):	It be RESOLVED : That the report be noted.

Introduction

1. In accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Rule 17 (b) of the Constitution, the operation of the provisions relating to call-in and call-in and urgency shall be monitored annually and a report submitted to Council, via the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) with proposals for review, if necessary.
2. Attached at Appendix A are extracts from the Constitution of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules 16 (Call-in) and 17 (Call-in and Urgency). This report covers the meetings of the Executive from 1 March 2022 up until 28 February 2023. In total there have been 12 Executive meetings held during this period.
3. No Executive decisions have been called-in during the period to which this report relates, and no decisions of Cabinet, within the approved budget and policy framework, have been deemed and resolved as urgent decisions.

Call-In

4. As Members will be aware, the call-in procedure is the mechanism by which the OSC can review or challenge decisions made by the Executive, but which are not yet implemented. Executive decisions are published within three days of the meeting and those decisions that are subject to the call-in procedure are contained within Part II of the Minutes. The Executive Minutes are published electronically via the website and email notification is sent to all Councillors.
5. Executive decisions come into force and may then be implemented following the expiry of five working days following publication of the Minutes, unless the OSC objects to a decision and calls it in.
6. Any two non-Executive Members, one of whom must have been present at the Cabinet meeting, or the Chair of the OSC can request that a matter be called in. Once a decision is called in, its implementation is held in abeyance until the call-in procedure has been exhausted.

7. Following a call-in request, the OSC is required to meet within five working days in accordance with the procedure. It is worth noting here that the date and time of the call-in meeting is set by the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Chair of the OSC and key service officers. Call-ins have been considered by both the calling of additional meetings and the scheduled meetings coinciding within the prescribed timescales.

Call-In and Urgency

8. Members will be aware that the call-in procedure does not apply to recommendations to Council nor Executive decisions that have been agreed as urgent by the Chair of Council. Urgent decisions that are taken outside of the approved budget and policy framework are also excluded from the call-in arrangements. In agreeing any decision as urgent, the Chair of Council must be satisfied that any delay in the implementation of that decision would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interest. The potential time delay between an Executive decision being made, called-in, meeting the requirements of the call-in procedure and finally being implemented could be significant, and, in a worst case scenario, could be as long as six weeks.
9. During the period covered in this report, there have been no Executive decisions within the approved budget and policy framework, which have been designated and resolved as urgent and therefore outside of the call-in arrangements. The table below gives details of the numbers previously designated as urgent in the last three municipal years:

Period	Number of Decisions
March 2020 – February 2021	2
March 2021 – February 2022	2
March 2022 – February 2023	0

10. When preparing reports for the Executive, consideration is given by officers to whether the decision needs to be taken as a matter of urgency having regard to the possible delays that could occur in the implementation of that decision, if it were subject to the call-in procedure. In advance of the Executive Agenda publication, officers endeavour to identify any decision which needs to be taken as urgent, to seek the Chair of Council's permission for this, and to include rationale for the decision being treated as urgent within the report itself.
11. All decisions that are deemed as urgent, and therefore outside the call-in procedure, are reported to full Council at the next available meeting.

Conclusions

12. The call-in procedure continues to operate well, therefore it is not considered necessary to amend the current procedure. Non-Executive Members should continue to have trust and confidence in the call-in process.
13. There have been no occasions during the period to which this report relates, where it has been necessary to use the urgency provision.
14. It is not considered necessary to amend the call-in provisions and the OSC are recommended to note the report. Should Members wish to amend the

procedure this would require a recommendation to Council, via the Audit and Standards Committee, as a change to the Council's Constitution and operating procedures.

Risk Management

15. Failure to monitor the operation of the provisions relating to call-in and urgency is in breach of the Constitution and could leave the Council open to criticism.

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	External Consultation	No
Environmental	No	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	Yes	Exempt from publication	No

Chief Executive:	Malcolm Johnston
Report Contact Officer:	Lisa Cooper, Democratic Services Manager
e-mail address:	lisa.cooper@rother.gov.uk
Appendices:	Appendix A – Call-in Procedures
Relevant previous Minutes:	N/A
Background Papers:	N/A
Reference Documents:	N/A

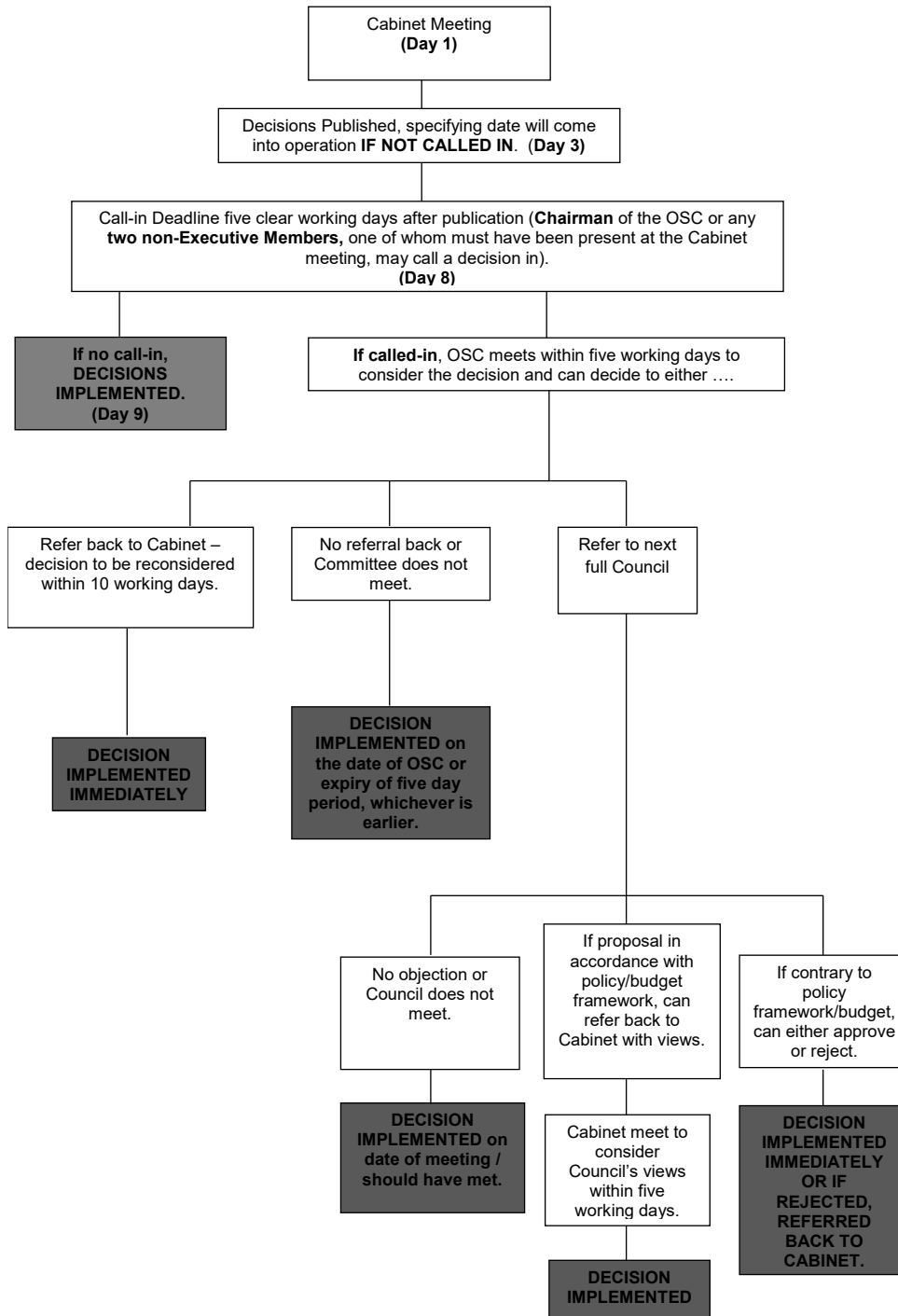
16. Call-In

A flow-chart setting out the following process can be found at the end of this section.

- (a) When a decision is made by the Cabinet or a key decision is made by an officer with delegated authority from the Cabinet, or an area committee or under joint arrangements, the decision shall be published, including where possible by electronic means, and shall be available at the main offices of the Council normally within two working days of being made. The person responsible for publishing the decision will send all Members of the Council copies of the records of all such decisions within the same timescale.
- (b) That record of the decisions will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days after the publication of the decision, unless the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or any two non-Executive Members objects to it and calls it in.
- (c) During that period, the Head of Paid Service shall call-in a decision for scrutiny by the Committee if so requested by the Chair or any two non-Executive Members, one of whom must have been present at the Cabinet meeting and shall then notify the decision-taker of the call-in. The request for the call-in must state the reasons for the call-in. The Head of Paid Service shall call a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on such date as they may determine, where possible after consultation with the Chair of the Committee, and in any case within five working days of the decision to call-in.
- (d) If, having considered the decision, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is still concerned about it, then it may refer it back to the decision making person or body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns or refer the matter to Council. If referred to the decision maker they shall then reconsider within a further 10 working days, amending the decision or not, before adopting a final decision.
- (e) If following an objection to the decision, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee does not meet in the period set out above, or does meet but does not refer the matter back to the decision making person or body, the decision shall take effect on the date of the Overview and Scrutiny meeting, or the expiry of that further five working day period, whichever is the earlier.
- (f) No further action is necessary if the matter has been referred to Council and the Council has not objected; and the decision will be effective in accordance with the provision below. However, if the Council does object, it has no locus to make decisions in respect of an Executive decision unless it is contrary to the policy framework, or contrary to or not wholly consistent with the budget. Unless that is the case, the Council will refer any decision to which it objects back to the decision making person or body, together with the Council's views on the decision. That decision making body or person shall choose whether to amend the decision or not before reaching a final decision and implementing it. Where the decision was taken by the Cabinet as a whole, a meeting will be convened to reconsider within five working days of the Council request. Where the decision was made by an individual, the individual will reconsider within five working days of the Council request.

- (g) If the Council does not meet, or if it does but does not refer the decision back to the decision making body or person, the decision will become effective on the date of the Council meeting or expiry of the period in which the Council meeting should have been held, whichever is the earlier.
- (h) Any decision referred back by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or by Council for reconsideration by Cabinet or the decision-taker(s) shall not be subject to further call-in, whether or not it is altered or adjusted to accommodate some or all of the concerns of the original call-in request.

Call-in Flow Chart



17. Call-In and Urgency

- (a) The call-in procedure set out above shall not apply where the decision being taken by the Cabinet is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The record of the decision and notice by which it is made public shall state whether in the opinion of the decision making person or body, the decision is an urgent one, and therefore not subject to call-in. The Chair of the Council must agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair's consent shall be required. In the absence of both, the Head of Paid Service or their nominee's consent shall be required. Decisions

taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

- (b) The operation of the provisions relating to call-in and urgency shall be monitored annually, and a report submitted, via the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to Council with proposals for review if necessary.

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Rother District Council

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	24 April 2023
Title:	Draft Annual Report to Council
Report of:	Chair, Councillor Paul Osborne
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of Report:	To inform Members of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from April 2022 to March 2023.
Officer	
Recommendation(s):	It be RESOLVED : That the contents of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Draft Annual Report to Council be considered and recommended as appropriate to Council.

Introduction

1. The Local Government Act 2000 states that where councils operate an executive style administration, there must be at least one committee that has the power to review or scrutinise decisions or actions which affect the authority's area or its residents. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) acts as a critical friend to the Cabinet (Executive) and other local service providers, helping to monitor performance and develop policies. The OSC also has the power to hold the Cabinet to account by "calling in" decisions before or after they have been taken.
2. The OSC cannot make decisions or policies themselves, but they have the power of influence. They make recommendations informed by partner and public opinions, performance information, examples of best practice and professional advice.
3. In accordance with Article 6, paragraph 6.3. (d) of Rother District Council's (RDC) Constitution, the OSC must report annually to Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amend working methods, if appropriate.
4. In compiling this report, consideration has been given to the terms of reference contained within Article 6 of the Constitution and how the OSC has fulfilled its role under these terms.
5. This report covers the period from April 2022 through to the end of March 2023; the report has been prepared before the last scheduled meeting of the OSC for the 2022/23 municipal year has been held.

Scrutiny Improvement Review

6. As Members may recall, the Council commissioned the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) to carry out a review and evaluation of the Council's scrutiny function, as one of the recommendations that came out of the review of the Council's Constitution.
7. The CfGS commenced the review in July 2022 which involved evidence gathering in person and online through conversations with Members and officers. They met with elected Members and officers, including the Council Leader and Cabinet Members, the Scrutiny Chair, Members of the Scrutiny Committee, and the Council's Senior Leadership Team (SLT).
8. As part of the feedback stage a facilitated workshop was held with Members and officers in January this year to reflect on the review and to discuss options for improvement. The SLT will be considering the themes identified and ways in which to progress the various suggestions for improvement within the existing resources available for discussion and progression with Members in the new civic year.

Scrutiny at Rother

9. Currently, RDC has 38 elected Members who represent the 21 wards within the boundaries of Rother. With nine Members currently appointed to Cabinet, this enables 29 Members to have the opportunity to be involved in Scrutiny.
10. During the period of this report, 62% of non-Cabinet Members have been involved in Scrutiny either through membership of the Council's Scrutiny Committee or in the Task and Finish Group(s).

Structure of Scrutiny Committees

11. During the period of this report, four Task and Finish Groups have been in operation. In addition to Scrutiny meetings, the Council can have up to four active Task and Finish Groups in place at any one time provided that the same service officers are not being involved in more than one active group at any one time.
12. There are 12 Members appointed on the OSC and they meet formally eight times a year. The OSC is politically balanced in that its make-up reflects that of the Council as a whole and its Chair and Vice-Chair are elected annually from amongst its membership. The Chair must be appointed from one of the opposition group serving on the Committee.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

13. The following Members were appointed by Full Council to the OSC in May 2022:

P.N. Osborne (Chair), Mrs V. Cook (Vice-Chair), J. Barnes, J.J. Carroll, C.A. Clark, S.J. Coleman, P.C. Courtel, Mrs D.C. Earl-Williams, P.J. Gray, K.M. Harmer (ex-officio), C.A. Madeley, C.R. Maynard and M. Mooney.
14. The following substitute Members were appointed to the OSC: L.M. Langlands (Association of Independents), G.F. Stevens (Conservative) and R. Thomas (Liberal Democrat). Due to the board membership requirements of the East

Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Mrs M.L. Barnes subsequently replaced G.F. Stevens. In accordance with the system, a formal substitution has been made on seven occasions during the period covered by this report.

15. The Committee has met nine times in person between April 2022 and the end of March 2023. An additional meeting was held in November 2022 to consider the temporary closure of Rye swimming pool.
16. Attendance at meetings by Members appointed to the Committee has been good, with an average of 89% of the Committee attending the meetings during the period of this report.
17. The average number of reports on the agenda for each meeting was four and the average length of a meeting was 2 hours and 8 minutes. A total of 200 members of the public were in attendance either in the Council Chamber or via the live broadcast at the nine committee meetings held during the period of this report. Dependent on the business to be considered, the relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holders continued to be invited to attend meetings.

Between April 2022 and the end of March 2023, the OSC received reports on a number of issues including:

- Annual Review of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy (2019-2024)
 - Anti-Poverty Strategy
 - East Sussex Temporary Accommodation Policy
 - Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28
 - Progress on the Environment Strategy (2020)
 - Recommendations of the Bexhill Town Centre Conservation Area TAN Task & Finish Group
 - Recommendations of the Health and Wellbeing Task and Finish Group
 - Recommendations of the Off-Street Car Parks Task and Finish Group
 - Review of the Constitution, Recommendations of the Constitution Review Steering Group
 - Rother District Council Owned/Leased Accommodation Complaints Handling Policy
 - Rother Health and Well-Being: Leisure Facilities Strategy
 - Technical Advice Notes - First Homes and 100% Affordable Housing
 - Temporary Closure of Rye Swimming Pool
 - Town Hall Renaissance Project
18. Standing items reviewed by the Committee included:
 - Annual Work Programme
 - Annual Report of the Rother Community Safety Partnership
 - Call-in and Urgency Procedures
 - Draft Annual Report to Council
 - Draft Revenue Budget
 - Key Performance Targets
 - Quarterly Progress Reports on the Annual Performance Plan
 - Revenue Budget and Capital Monitoring Programme

19. The Scrutiny Committee is designated as the Council's 'Crime and Disorder Committee' under section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006. This is not a separate working or steering group; it simply means that on an annual basis, as part of their regular Scrutiny business, the OSC reviews the work of the Safer Rother Partnership as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee.
20. The opportunities and challenges for 2022/23 included: Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and youth crime; rural crime; drug related harm; White Ribbon campaign; tackling modern slavery; and road safety.

Scrutiny Reviews

April 2022

21. **Progress on the Environment Strategy (2020):** Members received the report of the Director – Place and Climate Change, which outlined progress made on the Environment Strategy (2020) since the last report to the Committee in October 2021. Two environmental posts had and would be recruited to: Projects Officer (Environment) and Environment Strategy Officer. Various initiatives were in progress including the Bexhill i-Tree Study, Hedgerow Planting, Biodiversity, a second session of Carbon Literacy training for Councillors and officer, Electric Vehicle Charging Points in Council-owned Car Parks, Hydro-treated Vegetable Oil Waste Collection Fuel Trial, a new process for distributing Community Infrastructure Levy funding, allocated to projects that addressed climate emergency or those with a distinctive environmental benefit.

The Climate Change Steering Group had met four times since the previous update and a list of agreed projects was detailed in Appendix A to the report. Members noted the progress made.

July 2022

22. **Town Hall Renaissance Project:** Members received the report of the Director – Place and Climate Change, which presented the detailed business case for the redevelopment of the Town Hall site. A budget of £460,000 for the development of a planning application had been agreed at full Council in February 2021, subject to a review of the proposals by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Robinson Low Francis was appointed in 2021 as the project employer's agent, Austin Smith Lord was appointed as the architects and lead designers and a planning application was to be submitted in July 2022.

Members were guided through the high-level summary of the rationale for the development as detailed in the report, which included issues such as Climate Change, Financial, Regeneration/Employment, Staff Welfare and Office Accommodation and Funding.

Members agreed to defer making any recommendations until the results of the public engagement could be reported to a meeting of the Committee in September, prior to a meeting of Cabinet, and that the public engagement be extended to six weeks.

November 2022

23. **Environment Strategy Review:** Members considered the report of the Director – Place and Climate Change, which outlined progress made on the Environment Strategy (ES) (2020) since the last report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 April 2022. Two new staff members had joined the Council to lead work on carbon reduction and the ES. Delivery of the ES and action plan had significantly improved over the previous six months. There was a renewed focus within the Climate Change Steering Group and Members were guided through the projects being reviewed by the Steering Group.

The current adopted ES was outdated, and the strategic ambitions lacked clarity of focus. As such, a full review and rewrite of the strategy was required with a view to have a fully adopted revision by December 2023. Members were pleased to note the progress that had been made against the ES.

January 2023

24. **Review of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 (Part A):** Members received an update on the progress of the Improvement Delivery Plan of Priority 1 and Priority 3 of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 (Part A), together with an updated Improvement Delivery Plan and a summary of all the actions achieved since the Strategy's inception.

Members were pleased to note the progress made and made several recommendations to Cabinet, as detailed in Appendix 1. Other suggestions and ideas discussed would be brought to the attention of the Council's Housing Company via the Head of Housing and Community.

25. **Review of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 (Part B):** Members received an update on the progress of the Improvement Delivery Plan of Priority 2 of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 (Part B), together with an updated Improvement Delivery Plan and a summary of all the actions achieved since the Strategy's inception.

Members were pleased to note the progress made and made several recommendations to Cabinet, as detailed in Appendix 1.

26. The OSC also scrutinised the performance of services and the resources they use on a quarterly basis. In conjunction, the OSC considered the wider, strategic implications for the district and the lives of residents that are represented by individual indicators and targets. Just some of the themes addressed over the period were:

- **Housing and Communities:** Members were advised that the Number of Affordable Homes Delivered (gross) (supply), Homelessness Prevented and Homelessness Relieved and Cost of Temporary Accommodation (TA) targets were being met, but the other two targets of Number of all Households in TA and Number of Households on the Housing Register were not. The Council had a limited ability to influence the various factors that increased homelessness and the number of households in TA, so focus was

aimed at homelessness prevention measures as an indicator of performance for the Housing Service.

- **Financial Performance:** Both measures had met the target (Net income from all investment assets and Additional Income Generation). There were no changes to the income from assets, however there was an increase in additional income generation from £55k to £93,856.
- **Economic Development and Poverty:** Members were pleased to note that all three measures continued to meet their targets (Number of Council Tax Reduction Claimants, Council Tax Collection Rates and Business Rates Collection Rates).
- **Environment:** One measure had not met its target (East Sussex County Council Waste re-used, composted and recycled, reported one quarter in arrears), the other measure did not currently have a set target (Carbon Baseline).
- **Planning:** Members were advised that both measures did not meet their targets (Major Applications weeks/calendar days to process and Minor Applications days to process) but were improving towards the targets. Returns continued to show a downward trend and work continued processing improvements.

Recommendations to Cabinet

27. During the period of the report a total of 17 recommendations were made to Cabinet, all of which were supported with some amendments. Details of all recommendations made to Cabinet by the OSC can be seen at Appendix 1.

Call-In

28. The OSC has not found it necessary to call-in any decisions of the Cabinet for further scrutiny during the last year. The annual report on the Call-In and Urgency Procedures can be seen elsewhere on the Agenda for this meeting.

Task and Finish Groups

29. Members have previously requested that this Annual Report to Council incorporates a cumulative examination of the results of working groups, when they have concluded their work, to establish if their recommendations and outcomes have delivered their set objectives.
30. During the period of this report the Off-Street Car Parks Task and Finish Group (OSCPT&FG), reported back for the final time to the OSC in March 2023. The OSCPT&FG recommended various changes to car park signage and a proposed response on behalf of the Council to the East Sussex County Council's response to the Civil Parking Enforcement's first annual review, for onward recommendation to Cabinet. The OSCPT&FG also recommended that it be disbanded as its Terms of Reference had been met. The OSC agreed with the OSCPT&FG's recommendations and Cabinet was happy to support this.
31. The Health and Well-Being Task and Finish Group (HWBT&FG) was established in September 2022, to examine the role that the Council took, through its policies, strategies, and operations support to promote the health and well-being of its residents. The HWBT&FG met five times between November 2022 and February 2023 and reported back to the OSC in March

2023 with various recommendations for onward recommendation to Cabinet, and recommended that it be disbanded, as its Terms of Reference had been met. The OSC agreed with the HWBT&FG's recommendations; Cabinet agreed to amend one of the recommendations for clarification purposes and was happy to support all others. It was noted that the OSC would review progress against the recommendations in years one and three.

32. The Bexhill Town Centre Conservation Area Task and Finish Group (BTCCAT&FG) was established in November 2022 and met once in February 2023. The BTCCAT&FG reported back to OSC in March 2023 with various recommendations for onward recommendation to Cabinet, which were essentially not to publish a Technical Advice Note for windows in the Bexhill Town Centre Conservation Area and that the Conservation Area status be retained. The BTCCAT&FG also recommended that it be disbanded as its Terms of Reference had been met. The OSC agreed with the BTCCAT&FG's recommendations and Cabinet was happy to support most but amended one.
33. The Anti-Poverty Task and Finish Group (APT&FG) was reconvened in January 2023 to give consideration to voluntarily adopting the socio-economic duty to affirm the Council's commitment to preventing and combatting hardship, with particular considerations to any impact on those with protected characteristics as outlined in the Equality Act 2010. The APT&FG reported back to OSC in March 2023 and recommended that the Council adopted the socio-economic duty and that it be reflected in the new Corporate Plan. The OSC agreed with the APT&FG's recommendations and Cabinet was happy to support these, for onward recommendation to Council.

Overview and Scrutiny Chair's Statement

34. From the contents of this report, it is evident that this has been another busy and productive year for the OSC. As Chair, I am pleased with the progress that has been made in terms of improved scrutiny processes and comprehensive contributions from outside representatives. I would like to thank the Members of the Committee for their attendance and their input to the many debates that have taken place.
35. The Task and Finish Groups that we have established continue to do a lot of good work with regard to the individual tasks that they have been set. I would particularly like to thank the Members of these Task and Finish Groups, as well as outside representatives and officers for their time and input.
36. I would like to thank Councillor Mrs Vikki Cook, my Vice-Chair and Democratic Services, in particular Louise Hollingsworth, for their continued support throughout the year.

Risk Management

37. Failure to produce this report would be in breach of Article 6, paragraph 6.3. (d) of the Constitution.

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	External Consultation	No
Environmental	No	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	Yes	Exempt from publication	No

Chief Executive:	Malcolm Johnston
Report Contact Officer:	Louise Hollingsworth
e-mail address:	louise.hollingsworth@rother.gov.uk
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – References to Cabinet
Relevant previous Minutes:	N/A
Background Papers:	N/A
Reference Documents:	N/A

REFERENCES TO CABINET

From April 2022 until end March 2023, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) referred the following reports to Cabinet:

25 APRIL 2022

1. **REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION, RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION REVIEW STEERING GROUP:**

Members received the report of the Chief Executive which detailed the recommendations of the Constitution Review Steering Group. Members were happy to support the recommendations to Cabinet.

Cabinet was supportive of the OSC's recommendations for onward recommendation to Council.

18 JULY 2022

2. **ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY:** Members received and considered the report of the Head of Housing and Community which outlined the results of the six-week consultation (approved by Cabinet in March 2022) of the Anti-Poverty Strategy and recommended that the new Anti-Poverty Strategy be adopted. Members were happy to support the recommendations to Cabinet for onward recommendation to Council.

Cabinet was supportive of the OSC's recommendations.

29 SEPTEMBER 2022

3. **TECHNICAL ADVICE NOTES – FIRST HOMES AND 100% AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** Members received and considered the report of the Director – Place and Climate Change, which gave details of three Technical Advice Notes (TANs) to support the Adopted Development Plan (Core Strategy 2011-2028; Development and Site Allocations Plan (DaSa); and made Neighbourhood Plans), relating to First Homes, 100% Affordable Housing, and the Bexhill Town Centre Conservation Area. Members approved amended recommendations to Cabinet.

Cabinet noted the OSC's comments and approved amended recommendations to Council.

17 OCTOBER 2022

4. **ROTHER HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY:** Members received the report of the Head of Neighbourhood Services and a presentation by the Managing Director of Strategic Leisure Limited, who had completed the independent market research and drafted the Strategy report, which outlined the draft Rother Health, Well-Being and Leisure Facilities

Strategy for Members' consideration, prior to public consultation. Members made a number of recommendations to Cabinet.

Cabinet was supportive of all but one of the Committee's recommendations, which was amended and subsequently approved.

5. **EAST SUSSEX TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION POLICY:** Members received the report of the Head of Housing and Community which gave details of the East Sussex Temporary Accommodation Policy that had been written by the operational housing managers across all five districts and boroughs. Members recommended that the Policy be approved and adopted. The Policy outlined the standards applied to the size and location of Temporary Accommodation as well as the processes and procedures to follow.

Cabinet was supportive of the OSC's recommendation for onward recommendation to Council.

6. **ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL OWNED/LEASED ACCOMMODATION COMPLAINTS HANDLING POLICY:** Members received the report of the Head of Housing and Community which gave details of the proposed Rother District Council Owned / Leased Accommodation Complaints Handling Policy. The Policy would apply to all activity undertaken by Council staff or contractors that might be involved in property management and support of tenants and Members recommended it be approved and adopted.

Cabinet was pleased to acknowledge that the Policy was required as a direct consequence of the Council becoming a registered provider of accommodation and was supportive of the OSC's recommendation for onward recommendation to Council.

21 NOVEMBER 2022

7. **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023/24 TO 2027/28:** Members considered the report of the Chief Finance Officer on the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28, which would be considered by Cabinet at their meeting on 12 December 2022. Members were happy to support all but one of the recommendations to Cabinet which was reworded to read 'officers develop proposals, which will enable the Council to maintain or replenish its level of Revenue Reserves to one third of net expenditure or £5m, whichever was the lesser.'

Cabinet was supportive of the OSC's recommendations but removed the wording 'or replenish' from the OSC's reworded recommendation.

8. **TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF RYE SWIMMING POOL:** Members received a presentation by the Chief Executive Officer of Freedom Leisure (FL), outlining the reasons for and the events leading up to the temporary closure of Rye Swimming Pool. FL had been operating the leisure centre service for Rother District Council (RDC) since 2006 and had two managing contracts – Bexhill Leisure Centre and Bexhill Leisure Pool until 31 March 2024 and Rye Leisure Centre until 31 March 2026.

Members were presented with a timeline of the events and discussions that had taken place, ultimately leading to the temporary closure of the swimming pool,

together with details of the financial impact and other measures and mitigations that had been taken by FL to offset the additional utility costs and financial pressures.

Members recommended that Cabinet consider that RDC continue to work with FL and Rye Town Council to explore options and that a report be brought to the OSC in the new year outlining the options available and their financial implications. Cabinet was supportive of the OSC's recommendations and added that officers continue to lobby local MPs and local government organisations.

23 JANUARY 2023

9. **DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 PROPOSALS:** The OSC considered the draft Revenue Budget which outlined the likely financial position and key issues that Members needed to consider as part of the budget setting process. The Committee had been requested to consider the draft budget and make recommendations to Cabinet, to be considered at its meeting on 6 February 2023.

Cabinet noted the OSC's comments and agreed to increase Council Tax at Band D by £5.22 (2.70%) per annum and set at £198.60.

10. **KEY PERFORMANCE TARGETS 2023/24:** The OSC considered the report of the Director - Place and Climate Change which gave details of the current Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and their target levels of performance for the financial year 2022/23. It was intended to change the style of KPIs to better reflect indicators over which the Council had direct control and report other more wide-ranging factors through an annual state of the district report and the report invited Members to consider which of the proposed 25 KPIs for 2023/24, broken down into eight service areas, they wished to monitor.

After considerable discussion, Members felt unable to recommend which KPIs should be monitored, as the current performance for the proposed KPIs was not included within the report. Members therefore agreed to recommend all the suggested KPIs, with a couple of amendments, provided that Cabinet received details of the current performance to enable consideration of the proposed target in each case.

Cabinet was supportive of the KPIs and their performance targets recommended by the OSC for 2022/23, but amended two and added two to Planning and Development Management. It was acknowledged that the KPIs selected would adequately reflect a review of the Council's performance.

11. **ROTHER HEALTH AND WELL-BEING: LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY:** Members considered the report of the Head of Neighbourhood Services which outlined the results of the public consultation on the draft Health and Well-Being: Leisure Facilities Strategy for consideration and amendment, prior to final approval of the strategy by Cabinet and full Council.

The results were strongly supportive overall of the draft strategy and it was not considered necessary to change any of the recommendations, but for some

additional commentary be recommended to be added to paragraph 5.3 of the draft Strategy. Members were disappointed that Cabinet had not previously approved their suggested re-wording for Key Principle 2 of the Strategy that had put greater emphasis on RDC's role as a deliverer and agreed to recommend the rewording for a second time.

Cabinet was not supportive of the OSC's recommendation to amend the wording of Key Principle 2 but did support the recommendation to Council that the Strategy be approved and adopted as originally drafted, with additional commentary at paragraph 5.3.

12. **Review of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 (Part A):** Members received an update on the progress of the Improvement Delivery Plan of Priority 1 and Priority 3 of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 (Part A), together with an updated Improvement Delivery Plan and a summary of all the actions achieved since the Strategy's inception.

The OSC made recommendations to Cabinet to amend the Improvement Delivery Plan with proposed amended targets, which Cabinet was happy to support.

13. **Review of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 (Part B):** Members received an update on the progress of the Improvement Delivery Plan of Priority 2 of the Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 (Part B), together with an updated Improvement Delivery Plan and a summary of all the actions achieved since the Strategy's inception.

The OSC made recommendations to Cabinet to amend the Improvement Delivery Plan with proposed amended targets, which Cabinet was happy to support.

13 MARCH 2023

14. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFF-STREET CAR PARKS TASK AND FINISH GROUP:**

Members considered the report of the Off-Street Car Parks Task and Finish Group (OSCPT&FG) which summarised the work and final recommendations of the Group in reviewing the East Sussex County Council's (ESCC) response to the Civil Parking Enforcement's first annual review. The OSCPT&FG recommended various changes to car park signage and a proposed response on behalf of the Council to ESCC's response, for onward recommendation to Cabinet. The OSCPT&FG also recommended that it be disbanded as its Terms of Reference had been met.

The OSC agreed with the OSCPT&FG's recommendations and Cabinet was happy to support this.

15. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING TASK AND FINISH GROUP TASK AND FINISH GROUP:**

The Health and Well-Being Task and Finish Group (HWBT&FG) was established in September 2022, to examine the role that the Council took, through its policies, strategies, and operations support to promote the health and wellbeing of its residents. The HWBT&FG met five times between November 2022 and February 2023 and reported back to the OSC in March 2023 with various recommendations for onward recommendation to Cabinet, and that it be disbanded as its Terms of Reference had been met.

The OSC agreed with the HWBT&FG's recommendations; Cabinet agreed to amend one of the recommendations for clarification purposes and was happy to support all others. It was noted that the OSC would review progress against the recommendations in years one and three.

16. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BEXHILL TOWN CENTRE CONSERVATION TASK AND FINISH GROUP:**

The Bexhill Town Centre Conservation Area Task & Finish Group (BTCCAT&FG) was established in November 2022 and met once in February 2023. The BTCCAT&FG reported back to OSC in March 2023 with various recommendations for onward recommendation to Cabinet, essentially not to publish a Technical Advice Note for windows in the Bexhill Town Centre Conservation Area and that the Conservation Area status be retained. The BTCCAT&FG also recommended that it be disbanded as its Terms of Reference had been met.

The OSC agreed with the BTCCAT&FG's recommendations and Cabinet was happy to support most but amended one.

17. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ANTI-POVERTY TASK & FINISH GROUP:**

The Anti-Poverty Task and Finish Group (APT&FG) was reconvened in January 2023 to consider to voluntarily adopting the socio-economic duty to affirm the Council's commitment to preventing and combatting hardship, with particular consideration to any impact on those with protected characteristics as outlined in the Equality Act 2010. The APT&FG reported back to OSC in March 2023 and recommended that the Council adopted the socio-economic duty, that it be reflected in the new Corporate Plan.

The OSC agreed with the APT&FG's recommendations and Cabinet was happy to support these, for onward recommendation to Council.

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Rother District Council

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	24 April 2023
Title:	Work Programme Review
Report of:	Ben Hook – Director of Place and Climate Change
Ward(s):	N/A
Purpose of Report:	To consider the Work Programme and make recommendations for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the 2023/24 Civic Year.
Officer	
Recommendation(s):	It be RESOLVED : That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review the current Work Programme and make recommendations for priority considerations by the new Committee following the election.

Introduction

1. Each year, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) considers a number of items that should be reviewed. It has become normal practice for the OSC to conduct annual reviews of performance and delivery against key strategic areas. However, this has led to large agendas and long meetings which, at times, has stifled the quality of the debate and the depth of scrutiny. It has also left limited time for Members to pursue policy areas that are of interest to them.
2. Following the scrutiny review, it was identified that it might be necessary to rethink this approach to enable a greater focus on the development of new policy, review of forgotten or overlooked strategies and corporate performance.

Corporate Performance and Budget Monitoring

3. It is necessary that the OSC fulfils two key functions in relation to corporate performance. The first of these is to select and monitor delivery against Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The selected indicators for the 2023/24 financial year are heavily focused on direct operational delivery and services to customers.
4. The proposed indicators, while greater in number than previous monitoring years, offer a more holistic overview of Council performance. Given the ever-tightening financial position, it is increasingly important that the OSC is able to properly scrutinise the deployment of resources throughout the Council.
5. 27 KPIs were agreed and are broken down into eight service areas as listed below:
 - Corporate Core
 - Customer Services

- Environmental Health
- Estates
- Housing
- Neighbourhood Services
- Planning Development Management
- Revenues and Benefits

6. In addition to monitoring the KPIs, it is necessary for the OSC to scrutinise the performance against the set annual revenue and capital budgets. These two sets of monitoring take place quarterly and should be a key area of discussion at these meetings.

State of the District

7. It is recognised that the KPIs primarily offer an indication of the Council's operational performance. As such, it is proposed that an annual State of the District report is provided to the OSC to ensure that longer term strategic performance is monitored. This report will be broad in its scope and will seek to ensure that Members are kept informed of changes to the profile, demographic, and housing and economic landscape of the district. It also offers the opportunity for Members to interrogate the performance of a range of key strategic approaches which are more appropriately monitored on an annual basis, such as affordable housing delivery, carbon reduction, and economic development.

Current Work Programme

8. Table 1 shows the regular topics that have been discussed over the last two civic years and offer recommendations as to the work programme for next year:

Table 1

SUBJECT MATTER	FREQUENCY	RECOMMENDATION
Key Performance indicators	Quarterly	Mandatory function – retain on programme
Revenue Budget and Capital Programme Monitoring	Quarterly	Mandatory function – retain on programme
Crime and Disorder Committee	Annual	Mandatory function – retain on programme
Draft Revenue Budget Proposals	Annual	Mandatory function – retain on programme
Medium Term Financial Plan	Annual	Mandatory function – retain on programme
Annual Report to Council	Annual	Mandatory function – retain on programme
Review of progress against Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy	Annual	A new strategy will be forthcoming therefore recommend removing review of existing strategy at this time
Review of progress against the Environment Strategy	Six Monthly	A new strategy will be forthcoming therefore recommend removing review of existing strategy at this time

SUBJECT MATTER	FREQUENCY	RECOMMENDATION
Review of progress against the Anti-Poverty Strategy	Annual	This Strategy is now being led by the Rother Local Strategic Partnership – recommend removal of review from work programme at this stage
Review of progress against the recommendations of the Health and Wellbeing Task and Finish Group	Year 1 and 3 review	This is essential work to ensure these recommendations are delivered – Retain

9. Table 2 indicates the topics that have been discussed as ‘one-off’ issues and whether there is any follow up required:

Table 2

SUBJECT MATTER	FOLLOW-UP/ NO FOLLOW-UP
Town Hall Renaissance Project	Follow-up
Financial Assistance Policy	No Follow-up
Egerton Park Children’s Centre	No Follow-up
Economic Recovery Plan Update	No Follow-up
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	No Follow-up
Community Infrastructure Levy Policy	Follow-up
Update to the financial procedure rules	No Follow-up
Review of the Constitution	No Follow-up
Draft Anti-Poverty Strategy	No Follow-up
Planning Technical Advice Notes	No Follow-up
Rother Health Well-Being and Leisure Facilities Strategy	Follow-up
Temporary Accommodation Policy	No Follow-up
RDC Accommodation Complaints Handling Policy	No Follow-up

10. In addition to this, there a number of Task and Finish Groups that have been conducted over the last two civic years:
- Off-Street Car Parks
 - Anti-Poverty Strategy
 - Health and Well-Being
 - Bexhill Town Centre Conservation Area
11. Table 3 below outlines the items for consideration that have not yet made it to the work programme:

Table 3

SUBJECT MATTER	RECOMMENDATION
Regeneration inc. Leisure Centre, Fountains, Skate Park and Accessibility of Green Spaces across the district	A new regeneration/economic development strategy is to be developed and will be brought to the Committee as part of the review process
Review of the Economic Regeneration Strategy	A new regeneration/economic development strategy is to be developed and will be brought to the

	Committee as part of the review process
Peer Review	This is now over 12 months dated. Remove from list.
Draft Corporate Customer Services Strategy Proposals	Likely to be programmed within 2023/24 – retain on list
Review of the Tourism Strategy and the impact of Airbnbs	Potential for Task and Finish Group late 2023/24
Effectiveness of 'MyAlerts'	Potential for Task and Finish Group 2023/24
Update report from the Local Strategic Partnership	Retain on list
Update report from the Health and Well-Being Board	Retain on list
Corporate Plan review	Likely to be programmed within 2023/24 – retain on list
Review of the Financial Stability Programme	Retain on list
A review of Mental Health across the district	Remove from list

Conclusion

12. The OSC should agree the items for consideration they wish to recommend remain on the Work Programme for the new Council and those which should be removed. Members may also wish to consider what, if any, other subject areas they think would benefit from greater scrutiny in the forthcoming years.

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	External Consultation	No
Environmental	No	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	No	Exempt from publication	No

Chief Executive:	Malcolm Johnston
Report Contact Officer:	Ben Hook, Director – Place and Climate Change
e-mail address:	Ben.hook@rother.gov.uk
Appendices:	A – Work Programme Recommendations
Relevant Previous Minutes:	N/A
Background Papers:	N/A
Reference Documents:	N/A

Work Programme Recommendations

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WORK PROGRAMME 2023 – 2024		
DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT – MAIN ITEM IN BOLD	Cabinet Portfolio Holder
05.06.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Report: Fourth Quarter 2022/23 • Annual Work Programme • Housing Allocations Policy 	
10.07.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Revenue Budget and Capital Programme Outturn 2022/23 • Revenue Budget and Capital Programme Monitoring – Quarter 1 2023/24 	
11.09.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Report: First Quarter 2023/24 	
16.10.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium Term Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2028/29 	
20.11.23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Report: Second Quarter 2023/24 • Revenue Budget and Capital Programme Monitoring – Quarter 2 2023/24 	
22.01.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Revenue Budget Proposals 2024/25 • Key Performance Targets 2024/25 	
18.03.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and Disorder Committee: to receive a report from the Community Safety Partnership • Performance Report: Third Quarter 2023/24 • Revenue Budget and Capital Programme Monitoring – Quarter 3 2024/24 	
22.04.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call-in and Urgency Procedures • Draft Annual Report to Council 	
ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regeneration inc. Leisure Centre, Fountains, Skate Park and Accessibility of Green Spaces across the district • Review of the Economic Regeneration Strategy • Draft Corporate Customer Services Strategy Proposals • Litter Strategy • Review of the Tourism Strategy and the impact of Airbnbs • Impact of Airbnb and second homes in Rye/Winchelsea/Camber • Effectiveness of 'MyAlerts' • Update report from the Local Strategic Partnership • Update report from the Health and Well-Being Board • Corporate Plan review – to be referred back by Cabinet • Review of the Financial Stability Programme • Review of progress against the recommendations of the Health and Wellbeing Task and Finish Group 		

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