

**POLICY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
Work Programme 2022/23**

**Chair:** Councillor Colin McLaren

**Lead Officer:** Elizabeth Drogan, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

**Report Author:** Constitutional Services

**7<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

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**Purpose of the Report**

For the Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review the Committee's proposed Work Programme for 2022/23.

**Recommendations**

The Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note and comment on the attached Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2022/23.

## 1. Background

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 4.1 requires each Overview and Scrutiny Committee to prepare and maintain a Committee Work Programme.
- 1.2 The Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme presents the issues that the Committee will be considering and scrutinising during the 2022/23 Municipal Year. The Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee works to the following terms of reference as agreed by the Council in June 2020 -
- a) To lead the development of the overview and scrutiny process in Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council, including responsibility for Member development with regard to overview and scrutiny.
  - b) To undertake strategic level scrutiny (having regard to the Prioritisation Framework where relating to significant policy/service change or an area of public or local interest) relating to:
    - Oldham Council.
    - Wholly owned Local Authority Companies.
    - Strategic Partners and Partnerships.
    - Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) and the city region generally.
    - Education (ensuring there is appropriate statutory representation of co-opted members).
    - Community issues which would include crime and disorder, cohesion, housing and environment and regeneration issues etc and
    - Area based issues.
  - c) To develop proposals for submission to the Cabinet and/or to scrutinize proposals of the Cabinet in respect of Policy Framework items, such items being as described at Article 4.1 to the Council Constitution.
  - d) To develop proposals for submission to the Cabinet and/or to scrutinize proposals of the Cabinet in respect of the Budget and related strategies etc., such items being as described at Article 4.1 to the Council Constitution.
  - e) To be the designated 'crime and disorder' committee pursuant to s19 of the Police and Crime Act 2006.
  - f) To establish Task and Finish groups, Inquiries etc to give in depth consideration to issues within the purview of the Committee.
  - g) To consider all Call-Ins (with the exception of called in business from the Commissioning Partnership Board) (In the event a call-in related to an education issue, the statutory co-optees would be invited to participate in that matter at the meeting).
  - h) To consider relevant matters referred from Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.11(g).
  - i) To make recommendations to the Cabinet or to any partner organisation on issues scrutinised relevant to those bodies, and where appropriate, direct to Council.
- 1.3 In drafting the Committee Work Programme, the work programme and outcomes from the 2021/22 Municipal Year have been reviewed to ensure continuation of

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business where appropriate. The business likely to come forward through the year has been considered and, where possible, scheduled in the programme. Such items particularly relate to the Committee's more 'strategic' roles of scrutinising the Council's key policy items, annual budget proposals, proposals with significant service and or budgetary implications, and considering the implications for the Borough and for the Council of proposals being developed at the Greater Manchester (GM) level and by the Council's strategic partners.

- 1.4 Overview and scrutiny should be regarded as a 'dynamic' process in that issues should be expected to pass from one Committee to another at appropriate times: for example, activities and services following from approval of a Policy would in many cases be expected to be monitored by the Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Variation from this approach would be where this Committee reserves a particular issue for its own consideration on the basis that the item is deemed 'strategic'. In addition, any issue that falls within the terms of reference of the Health Scrutiny Committee would, in the first instance, be assumed to be the responsibility of the Health Scrutiny Committee. In all cases, the flow of business across Committee will be managed by the Statutory Scrutiny Officer in consultation with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. It should, however, be noted that the scheduling of Committee business is, to some degree, in the hands of others: for example, consideration of GM-level business will need to reflect the decision-making timetable of the GM Combined Authority.
- 1.5 The Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme at this stage only notes business scheduled for meetings of the Committee and those items where there is a realistic prospect of consideration within the year. However, the use of workshops or of task and finish groups are a tool of the overview and scrutiny function, enabling longer and more in-depth consideration of issues than is possible in a committee setting. Such events will be recorded in the Work Programme as they are called for, scheduled and held.
- 1.6 The initial Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2022/23 is attached as an Appendix to this report. The Work Programme will be updated and re-submitted to each meeting of the Committee (excluding dedicated budget meetings) as the year progresses.

## **2 Options/Alternatives**

- 2.1 Option 1 – To receive and consider the Committee Work Programme for 2022/23.  
Option 2 – Not to consider the Work Programme.

## **3 Preferred Option**

- 3.1 Option 1 is the preferred option as there is a Constitutional requirement for the Committee to have a Work programme.

## **4 Consultation**

- 4.1 Consultation has taken place with lead Officers around scheduling and consideration of business relevant to the Committee. Initial consultation with the

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Chair were undertaken and will continue with the Chair and the Committee through the Municipal Year.

**5 Financial Implications**

5.1 N/A

**6 Legal Services Comments**

6.1 N/A

**7. Co-operative Agenda**

7.1 N/A

**8. Human Resources Comments**

8.1 N/A

**9 Risk Assessments**

9.1 N/A

**10 IT Implications**

10.1 N/A

**11 Property Implications**

11.1 N/A

**12 Procurement Implications**

12.1 N/A

**13 Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

13.1 N/A

**14 Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

14.1 N/A

**15 Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

15.1 No

**16 Key Decision**

16.1 No

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**17 Key Decision Reference**

17.1 N/A

**18 Background Papers**

18.1 None.

**19 Appendices**

19.1 Appendix 1 – Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2022/23.