

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SCRUTINY PANEL

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| <p>Setting the Scrutiny Panel's Work Programme 2019/2020</p> |
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17 JULY 2018

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To invite the Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel to consider its work programme for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

REVIEW OF 2018-2019

2. The topics considered by the Panel in 2018-2019 are listed below for Members' information:
 - Housing Delivery Vehicles – Review.
 - Air Pollution – Review.
 - Middlesbrough's Historic Buildings – Update.
 - Flood Risk – Update.
 - City Centre Strategy – Update.

Topics agreed in 2018/2019 – not investigated

- Integrated Transport.

BACKGROUND

3. At the start of every Municipal Year, scrutiny panels discuss the topics that they would like to review during the coming year.
4. Work programmes are useful as they provide some structure to a scrutiny panel's activity and allow for the effective planning and preparation of work.
5. As part of the process for establishing the work programme, support officers gather information/views from a number of sources. Below is a list of topics which are anticipated to be of particular interest to the scrutiny panel. Members are advised that the list of possible topics is not exhaustive and that additional topics can be added and considered at the scrutiny panel meeting.

Topical issues

| Topic | Details |
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| Recycling | <p>Increasing recycling rates and promoting environmental sustainability.</p> <p>“Budgetary constraints have put unprecedented pressure on all local authority services, not least collection of waste and recyclables. Council and provider alike must do more for less, often with fewer staff to provide the service and communicate with residents – but with no let-up in society’s expectations of an effective and an environmentally responsible service.” ¹</p> |
| Waste Management/Waste Disposal Facility | <p>Development of waste disposal facility for 2025 and beyond.</p> <p>“The SUEZ energy-from-waste (EfW) plant (near the Household Waste Recycling Site) at Haverton Hill processes municipal and confidential waste for the four Teesside local authorities of Middlesbrough, Stockton, Redcar and Cleveland, and Hartlepool.</p> <p>This means that most of the waste generated in the Tees Valley that can't be recycled is diverted from landfill and used to generate electricity.” ²</p> |
| Integrated Transport | <p>Ensuring that Middlesbrough is connected⁵ – easy to get to and from and navigate around.</p> <p>“Integrated transport involves the combining of different modes of transport to maximise ease and efficiency for the user in terms of time, cost, comfort, safety, accessibility and convenience.</p> <p>A successful integrated transport system should result in higher demand for public transport, with a knock-on reduction in congestion and pollution.”³</p> |
| Infrastructure Delivery Plan | <p>Implementation of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan</p> <p>“Deliver the Infrastructure Delivery Plan to ensure that the public services and amenities are in place to support expansive development growth”.⁴</p> |
| City Centre Living | <p>“Increasing the number of people living and working in the city centre”. ⁵</p> <p>Middlesbrough City Centre Strategy 2019-2023 – Priority 2 – Attract and Enhance.</p> |

¹ SUEZ in United Kingdom Website <https://www.suez.co.uk/en-gb/our-offering/local-authorities/recycling-recovery-and-waste-management/municipal-collections>

² Middlesbrough Council Website <https://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/recycling/where-your-waste-goes>

³ https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Integrated_transport_system

⁴ Middlesbrough Investment Prospectus 2017

⁵ Middlesbrough City Centre Strategy 2019-2023

Suggestions

| Suggestion | Details |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Teesside Crematorium – improvements and impact of new Stockton crematorium | Submitted by Councillor Saunders |
| Dog Warden services in Middlesbrough, looking at the delivery, provision, powers they have and ways of improving efficiency | Submitted by Councillor Rathmell |
| The process by which highway repairs are identified and dealt with | Submitted by David Kerr |
| The review of the Local Plan | Submitted by Councillor M Storey |
| Revitalising Town Centres | Submitted by Councillor M Storey |
| Electric Infrastructure – is it ready for the future of energy? | Submitted by Councillor Furness |
| Future of transportation – electric cars and buses/autonomous vehicles/cycling | Submitted by Councillor Furness |
| Broadband | Submitted by Growth and Place |
| Boho | Submitted by Growth and Place |

Updates

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| Flood Risk | Statutory requirement of the Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel |
| MHomes update and forward plan | Submitted by Councillor M Storey |

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| Update on the Boho Digital Expansion site | Submitted by Councillor M Storey |
| Update on the Snow Centre and progress | Submitted by Councillor M Storey |
| Update on Centre Square | Submitted by Councillor M Storey |
| Update on our Historic Buildings and the local Conservation areas and how we are protecting them | Submitted by Councillor M Storey |

6. It should be noted that the topics and updates outlined above are suggestions. The content of the scrutiny panel's work programme is entirely a decision for the panel to make. When considering the work programme, the panel is advised to select topics that are of interest to it, as well as topics that the panel feels by considering, could add value to the Local Authority's work.
7. In addition to undertaking the agreed work programme, scrutiny panels have also previously responded on an ad-hoc basis to emerging issues - such as considering relevant new legislation, guidance or Government consultation documents. This approach occasionally results in further topics being identified for investigation or review throughout the year.
8. On occasion ad-hoc scrutiny panels may also be established throughout the year to undertake additional investigations, for example to examine areas of work which overlap more than one scrutiny panel.
9. The scrutiny panel is also advised that, under the terms of the Local Government Act 2000, local authorities have a responsibility of community leadership and a power to secure the effective promotion of community well-being. Therefore, in addition to the scrutiny panel's generally recognised powers (of holding the Executive to account, reviewing service provision, developing policy, considering budget plans and performance and financial monitoring), panels also have the power to consider **any** matters which are not the responsibility of the Council but which affect the local authority **or** the inhabitants of its area. For example, nationally, local authorities have undertaken scrutiny work on issues such as post office closures, rural bus services, policing matters and flood defence schemes.

Scrutiny work plan prioritisation aid

10. Members may wish to use the aid attached at **Appendix 1** to prioritise issues where scrutiny can make an impact, add value or contribute to policy development.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

11. The scrutiny panel is asked to consider and agree its work programme for the 2019/20 municipal year.
12. When considering its work programme, the scrutiny panel is asked to ensure that topics agreed for inclusion:
 - Affect a group of people living within the Middlesbrough area.
 - Relate to a service, event or issue in which the Council has a significant stake or over which the Council has an influence.
 - Are not issues which the Overview and Scrutiny Board or the scrutiny panels have considered during the last 12 months.
 - Do not relate to an individual service complaint.
 - Do not relate to matters dealt with by another Council committee, unless the issue deals with procedure.
13. It is suggested that the scrutiny panel has a mixture of working styles in its programme. This can include detailed and in-depth reviews, shorter topics, or one-off investigations.
14. Once the scrutiny panel has identified the areas of priority, support staff will draw those topics into a programme for approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

RECOMMENDATION

15. That the scrutiny panel identifies topics it would like to include in its work programme for 2019/20, for consideration/approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

16. Throughout the report, reference is made to website information published by Middlesbrough Council and SUEZ.

Contact Officer

Susan Lightwing

Democratic Services Officer

Democratic Services

Finance, Governance and Support

Tel: 01642 729712 Email: susan_lightwing@middlesbrough.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

