

<b>Report of:</b>	The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Board and the Director of Legal and Governance Services
<b>Submitted to:</b>	Council
<b>Date:</b>	25 October 2023
<b>Title:</b>	Scrutiny Progress Report
<b>Report for:</b>	Information
<b>Status:</b>	Public
<b>Strategic priority:</b>	All
<b>Key decision:</b>	No
<b>Why:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Urgent:</b>	No
<b>Why:</b>	Not applicable

**Executive summary**

To update the position in respect of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board and scrutiny panels. The current position regarding progress made by the Board and each of the panels is set out below.

**Purpose**

1. To update the position in respect of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board and scrutiny panels.

**Background and relevant information****OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

2. The Overview and Scrutiny Board met on 20 September 2023.

At that meeting the Board considered / received information in respect of the following:

- Executive Member Update – The Mayor and Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

- Members were updated with the Mayor's priorities and work within his portfolio area. These included the Mayor's work on the Council's Section 24 Notice and the development of the Council Plan.
- Executive Forward Work Programme
  - Members noted the Executive Forward Work Programme.
- Middlesbrough Local Boundary Review 2023
  - Members received a draft submission of the Council's Ward Boundary proposal. OSB suggested some amendments to the submission and were advised a revised draft would be brought to OSB's meeting on the 18 October 2023. OSB were also advised all Members had been invited to submit their own proposals to the Local Government Boundary Commission and needed to do so before 31 October 2023.
- Scrutiny Chairs Updates.
  - Members were updated about the activity within each Scrutiny Panel.

## **SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATES**

3. The updated position in respect of the work of each of the Council's scrutiny panels is shown below.

### **Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel**

4. The Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel had its second meeting of the municipal year on 12 September 2023 and members received an introduction to the CQC Inspection from the Director of Place.
5. The Panel received a short presentation on what makes effective scrutiny and from there considered and discussed which topics to scrutinise this year. Suggestions had been submitted from Councillors, Officers and Members of the Public. The Panel selected three topics:
  - Care Homes and DDA compliance
  - Staying put agency
  - Hospital discharge
6. The date of the next meeting will be on Tuesday 17 October 2023 and it is the Panel's intention to start its new topic of Care homes at that meeting.

### **Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel**

7. The Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel met on 18 September 2023. At that meeting, the Panel considered the 2023/2024 Work Programme.
8. Suggestions for review topics had been submitted by Councillors, Officers, and Members of the Public. The Interim Director of Children's Care, the Head of SEN and Vulnerable Learners, the Head of Partnerships, and the Head of Access to Education and Alternative Provision were in attendance and provided additional information requested by Members at the meeting. The Panel agreed the following topics:
  - School Attendance; and
  - Allocation of School Places.
9. The Panel intends to commence the School Attendance review at the next meeting, which has been scheduled for 30 October 2023.

### **Environment Scrutiny Panel**

10. The Panel met on 12 September 2023 and considered suitable topics for its 2023/24 Work Programme. Topic suggestions had been received from Councillors, Officers and members of the public. The Panel agreed to add the following topics to its work programme:-

- Waste Management
- Community Councils and Wider Community Engagement

The Panel also agreed that the following updates should be received during the course of the year:-

- Flood Risk Management.
- Toxic Chemicals in the River Tees/Crustacean Deaths Working Group.
- RIPA (Regulatory Investigatory Powers).
- Prevent and Channel.
- Community Safety Partnership.
- Off-road Bikes – update on previous scrutiny topic.

The Panel met again on 9 October 2023 and received an introduction to its new scrutiny topic of Waste Management. Members also discussed possible terms of reference for the review which would be submitted to the Panel's next meeting, on 13 November 2023, for final consideration.

### **Health Scrutiny Panel**

11. The Health Scrutiny Panel met on 11 September 2023. At that meeting, the Panel received an overview of the You've Got This programme.

12. The Programme Director and the Programme Officer were both in attendance to present:

- information on the vision and key messages of the You've Got This programme;
- an overview of the community-focused work undertaken in Middlesbrough; and
- details of how the programme aims to contribute to the broader ambitions of South Tees.

13. The Panel received information on the areas of work, projects and initiatives that You've Got This has supported, such as the delivery of Prepwell (prehabilitation before surgery), the Holiday Activity Fund (HAF) and Creating Active Schools (CAS).

14. On 11 September, the Panel also agreed the following topics for inclusion in its work programme for the 2023/24 municipal year:

#### Topic carried over from 2022/23:

- Dental Health and the Impact of Covid-19

#### In-depth reviews:

- Avoidable Deaths and Preventable Mortality
- Obesity

#### Update:

- Women's Health Services (including the development of women's health hubs)

15. At its next two meetings, scheduled to be held on 23 October and 20 November 2023, the Panel will be looking to conclude its evidence gathering in respect of its topic of Dental Health and the Impact of Covid-19.

## **Regeneration Scrutiny Panel**

16. The Regeneration Scrutiny Panel met on 6 September 2023 and received a presentation from the Head of Planning on Middlesbrough's Local Plan, how it was prepared, the content and the timescale for development and approval.
17. The Panel considered and discussed which topics to scrutinise this year. Suggestions had been submitted from Councillors, Officers and Members of the Public. The Panel selected three topics:
  - Planning Capacity
  - How Middlesbrough Council can fund Culture in the future
  - Housing Association Properties
18. The date of the next meeting has been moved to Wednesday 11 October 2023 and it is the Panel's intention to start its new topic of Planning Capacity at that meeting.

## **South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee**

19. The South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee (STHSJC) met on 27 September 2023. At that meeting, the Committee considered the following items:
  - Protocol for the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee
  - An Overview of NHS Health
  - An Update on the Live Well South Tees Health and Wellbeing Board
  - Setting the Work Programme for 2023/24

## **Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee**

20. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee (TVHSJC) met on 6 October 2023. At that meeting, the Committee considered the following items:
  - North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Strategy / Joint Forward Plan
  - Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust - CAMHS Update
  - Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust - Adult Learning Disability Respite Services Update
  - Work Programme 2023-2024

## **Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

23. The Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 2 March 2023.
24. At its meeting on the 2 March 2023 the Committee considered the following:-
  - Martin Waters, Business Growth Manager of TVCA delivered a presentation to the committee on supporting local businesses.
  - Councillor Bob Cook from Stockton Council together with Shona Duncan Head of Education & Skills at TVCA presented a report with an update on the activity and forward plan to date. The Committee sought clarity on the number of apprentices in Tees Valley and were informed that there were around 500 live vacancies at this time.
  - The TVCA Monitoring Officer discussed the requirements for the Committee to either deal with presentations or reports.

- It was explained that the time of the next meeting could not be confirmed until after the May elections, when new members would have been ratified by TVCA cabinet.
- Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report 2022-2023
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Business Update
- EES Update

## **SCRUTINY REPORTS SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE**

25. Since the last update to Council, the following Final Scrutiny report has been submitted to Executive:-

Executive – 24 January 2023 - Final Report of Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel in respect of a review of the role of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in supporting Adult Social Care (with a focus on COVID-19 and Recovery).

### **What decision(s) are being recommended?**

26. That Council note the report.

### **Rationale for the recommended decision(s)**

27. The Constitution requires the Council to be provided with an update with regard to the work of the Overview and Scrutiny function.

### **Other potential decision(s) and why these have not been recommended**

28. That an update on the work of the scrutiny function is not provided to full Council. This would not comply with the requirements for updates on the scrutiny function, to be reported to full Council.

### **Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)**

#### ***Legal***

29. The Constitution requires regular updates on the scrutiny function, to be submitted to full Council.

#### ***Strategic priorities and risks***

30. The relevant risks this decision would influence are cited below, with an explanation as to why they are relevant and how it would affect each risk.

<b>Risk No</b>	<b>Risk Description</b>	<b>Impact</b>
O8-054	Failure to adhere to Local Code of Corporate Governance and deliver governance improvements outlined in the Annual Governance Statement.	If updates on the work of the scrutiny function were not provided to Council, it would not be in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

#### ***Human Rights, Equality and Data Protection***

31. The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. It is considered that an equality impact assessment is not required.

**Financial**

32. There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report

**Actions to be taken to implement the recommended decision(s)**

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline

**Appendices**

1	
2	
3	

**Background papers**

Body	Report title	Date

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