



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Name and date of Committee	ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER 2019
Report Number	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
Subject	COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2019/2020
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Cllr David Harvey, Chairman Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Email: david.harvey1@westoxon.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Keith Butler Head of Democratic Services Tel: 01993 861521 Email: keith.butler@westoxon.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	To provide the Committee with an update on its Work Programme for 2019/2020.
Annexes	Annex 1 - Approved Work Programme for 2019/2020
Recommendation	That the Committee notes the progress with regard to its 2019/2020 Work Programme.
Corporate priorities	To enable the Committee to review its Work Programme and support the Council's priorities to protect the environment whilst supporting the local economy, to meet the current and future needs of residents and to provide efficient and value for money services, whilst delivering quality front line services.
Key Decision	No
Exempt	No
Consultees/ Consultation	None

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. At the May meeting the Committee gave consideration to the development of its Work Programme for the year 2019/2020 having regard to the changes to the approach to scrutiny work adopted by Council on 22 October 2008.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1. Attached at [Annex I](#) is the approved Work Programme for 2019/2020 incorporating items rolled forward from last year, taking account of the discussions at the last meeting and providing an update on progress in relation to each item.
- 2.2. In addition to the items contained in the Work Programme there will still be the opportunity to bring forward one-off reports and papers on particular issues of interest to the Committee but it will also be necessary to maintain a general overview of the ways in which external agencies are responding to community concerns. The inclusion of a standing agenda item for Members' questions also provides the opportunity to raise relevant issues.
- 2.3. The Committee is invited to consider progress in respect of the agreed Work Programme for 2019/2020 which is attached in the [Annex](#) to this report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. None

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 5.1. Not applicable

6. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Whilst there may be climate change implications arising from specific items within the Work Programme, there are none arising directly from this report.

7. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

- 7.1. In accordance with the Constitution of the Council, Committee has the power to investigate any matters it considers relevant to its work area, and to make recommendations to the Council, the Executive or any other Committee or Sub-Committee of the Council as it sees fit.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1. None

ANNEX I

	Work Area	Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
1	Thames Water Flood Prevention and Infrastructure Issues	<p>The Committee has already undertaken significant work in respect of flooding issues.</p> <p>Thames Water has agreed to keep the Committee updated on progress with the strategies.</p> <p>At the meetings in June and July discussion took place about representatives of Thames Water and the Environment Agency being invited to attend an event to respond to Members' concerns regarding sewage treatment infrastructure and water quality in rivers in the District.</p> <p>This took place on Thursday 4 October.</p> <p>It was agreed that a similar event would be held later in the year – arrangements now made for a WODC Water Day being held on Tuesday 22nd October 2019.</p>	October 2019	Environment O&S
2	Open Space Grass Cutting	<p>Following the County Council's withdrawal of funding, West Oxfordshire had agreed to supplement the resultant shortfall in grass cutting.</p> <p>The Council has also been looking at options for a more coherent approach including collaborative working with town/parish councils but has found it difficult to make progress.</p> <p>It was agreed that a link to the Council's mapping system would be</p>	Adjourned for the present to be revisited when resources allow.	Environment O&S

	Work Area	Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
		circulated & training organised if necessary.		
3	Implementation of Car Parking Strategy	<p>At the June meeting it was noted that the Cabinet was to give consideration to the implementation of the Car Parking Strategy and agreed that this item be added to the Work Programme.</p> <p>At the July meeting there was discussion around the enforcement of on-street parking and the adequacy of bay markings, which are the responsibility of the County Council and the Group Manager undertook to establish whether other districts enforced on-street parking on behalf of the county.</p>	Further updates will be provided as appropriate.	Environment O&S
4	Low Carbon and Environmental Plan - Biodiversity	<p>The WODC Low Carbon and Environmental Plan was approved in February 2014.</p> <p>Members receive regular updates on progress with actions in the plan.</p> <p>In considering a report on 12 July, the Committee agreed to request an update from planning officers on biodiversity and how it is integrated with the planning function.</p> <p>The Cabinet was due to consider a report in June 2019 but this was deferred due to Government announcements. It was likely that a report would be forthcoming in September 2019.</p>	On-going	Environment O&S
5	Environmental Regulations	<p>At its meeting held on 21 July 2016 the Committee agreed to monitor the aftermath of Brexit and the dismantling of the Department for Energy and Climate Change in relation to environmental laws and regulations and, in particular, two issues with a direct bearing on West Oxfordshire; air quality and flood alleviation measures.</p>	On-going	Environment O&S

	Work Area	Comments	Meeting / Anticipated Completion Date	Originator
6	Oxfordshire Energy Strategy	A report on the Oxfordshire Energy Strategy will be submitted to this Committee prior to its consideration by Cabinet – deferred to October 2019.	October 2019	
7	Single Use Plastics	Update report from the working party & officers	Update to July 2019 meeting & Ongoing	Environment O&S
8	Waste Collection Data	Waste Team to provide tonnage data for plastics and other waste streams e.g glass for comparison	Ongoing / Rolling item to each meeting	Environment O&S
9	Review of Markets	To receive a report on the way in which the recommendations of the 2013 review of markets had been carried forward and to include Witney Farmers market.	Matt Kirby – October 2019	Environment O&S