



Overview and Scrutiny Committee Agenda

Wyre Borough Council
Date of Publication: 17 January 2020
Please ask for : Peter Foulsham
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**Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on Monday, 27 January 2020
at 6.00 pm in committee room 2 Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde**

1. Apologies for absence

2. Declarations of interest

To receive any declarations of interest from any councillor on any item on this agenda.

3. Confirmation of minutes

(Pages 3 - 8)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 2 December 2019.

4. Business Plan 2020-21

(Pages 9 - 16)

The Corporate Director Communities, Marianne Hesketh, has submitted a report. The Leader of the Council, Councillor David Henderson, the Chief Executive, Garry Payne and Marianne Hesketh will attend the meeting to present the report and respond to comments and questions from members of the committee.

5. Scrutiny of performance

(Pages 17 - 18)

The committee will have an opportunity to discuss the way in which they might more effectively scrutinise the Business Plan's Quarterly Performance Statement. The Corporate Director Communities, Marianne Hesketh, will be present for the discussion. The most recent Quarterly Performance Statement (previously considered on 2 December 2019) has been re-submitted to provide a practical example on which to base the discussion.

6. Flooding Task Group - review of implementation of recommendations

(Pages 19 - 22)

The Head of Engineering Services, Carl Green, has submitted a report, summarising progress in the implementation of the Flooding Task

Group's recommendations, as agreed by the Cabinet on 28 November 2018. The Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder, Councillor Roger Berry, and Carl Green will attend the meeting to present the report and respond to comments and questions from committee members.

7. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/20 - update report (Pages 23 - 28)

The Corporate Director Resources, Clare James, submitted a report updating the committee about the delivery of the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/20.



Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting of Wyre Borough Council held on Monday, 2 December 2019 in the committee room 2 Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee members present:

Councillors Ibison, Collinson, Cropper, Fail, Leech, Longton, Minto and O'Neill.

Apologies for absence:

Councillors Matthew Vincent, I Amos, R Amos, Ballard, C Birch and E Ellison

Other councillors present:

None.

Officers present:

Neil Greenwood, Head of Environmental Health and Community Safety
Emma Keany, Democratic Services Officer
Clare James, Corporate Director Resources and Section 151 Officer
Roy Saunders, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager.

Chief Inspector Chris Hardy and Inspector Richard Hurt, Lancashire Constabulary were present for the item on Community Policing.

No members of the public or press attended the meeting.

30 Declarations of interest

None.

31 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 21 October 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

32 Neighbourhood policing

Chief Inspector Chris Hardy submitted a briefing paper providing an overview of the policing arrangements in Fylde and Wyre.

Two questions had been submitted to Chief Inspector Hardy prior to the

meeting, to which he had responded as follows:

Q1 Would you please bring the hot-spot map to the meeting? Members have expressed interest in seeing and understanding this.

Ans. *“I will bring the hotspot map they are informative to an extent but often anything more than a handful of crimes appears as one big mark – I will still bring them.”*

Q2. We understand that 156 new police officers are being proposed for Lancashire by the Government. How many of those will be in Wyre?

Ans, *“The uplift and what this looks like is still a work in progress with a team working on this. All areas, NHP, Rural policing response etc will be looking for an uplift but it is far too early to start assigning numbers. All areas though should see an increase.”*

Chief Inspector Hardy said that he was pleased to have been able to attend this meeting, but he informed members that he was due to start a new role as Chief Inspector for the Lancaster and Morecombe area the following day. He said that the new Chief Inspector for the Fylde and Wyre area was Marie Howarth.

He explained the structure of the new neighbourhood policing arrangements and the restructuring of policing teams, as set out in his briefing paper.

Chief Inspector Hardy and Inspector Hurt also responded to questions from members of the Committee on various policing issues, as follows:

- With regard to additional resources, 153 more officers had been allocated for Lancashire, but it was not yet known where they would be posted to.
- Rural crime had been a significant issue locally, including organised criminals coming to the area from other parts of the country. Tackling such crime was much more difficult and resource intensive than the localised, more opportunistic burglaries that had previously been the norm in rural areas. All officers based in Fleetwood and Gartsang received training on rural crime issues. The need to gain the confidence of farmers and rural communities was recognised and plans were being made for a neighbourhood watch scheme for farmers.
- The national decision making model in place for prioritising calls to the police and allocating resources to respond, based on the assessed level of threat, risk and harm, was explained.
- Late night policing arrangements in Poulton were explained and initiatives undertaken with Licensees were referred to. It was confirmed that there was a good working relationship in place between the Police and the Council's Licensing Team.

- Multi-agency arrangements for dealing with anti-social behaviour were discussed and assurances were given that measures were being taken to ensure that meetings were held regularly and that there were good communication channels in place.
- A new very well respected third sector project called “The Boathouse” was due to open in premises off Broadway in Fleetwood soon, which would be a very positive initiative providing activities and support for young people in the area.

Chief Inspector Hardy said that, although he was moving on, when the new policing arrangements were fully in place and it was known where the promised additional officers were to be deployed, the Council would be informed.

The Chairman thanked Chief Inspector Hardy and Inspector Hurt for attending and for their frank and comprehensive comments.

33 Review of fees and charges 2020/21

The Corporate Director Resources, Clare James, submitted a report on proposed fees and charges for the 2020/21 financial year. She said that although fees and charges could be amended at any time, proposals for the coming year had now been consolidated in this report to fit in with the budget cycle. This was a fairly ‘quiet’ report with few material or significant changes proposed.

The Committee discussed the fees and charges relating to car parking, disposal of bulky items of domestic refuse and development control fees, but no changes were proposed.

Members also discussed pitch hire costs. Whilst no changes were proposed, Ms James said that she would feed back to relevant officers the view that when pitch hire costs were next reviewed the level of use of pitches should be taken in to account, rather than just a benchmarking review of hire costs for other pitches in the Fylde coast area.

The proposed increase in the fees payable by homeowners or developers for the standard suite waste recycling containers including green bins from £66 to £92 (as set out in paragraph 5.5.5 of the report) was considered. Ms James explained that the increase reflected the increased cost of provision resulting from the replacement of the box for a new wheeled bin and that it was still lower than the charges made by Fylde Council, but would still not recover the full costs incurred by the council. A proposal to recommend to the Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces Portfolio Holder that the amount of the proposed increase should be reduced was not supported (by 5 votes to 4, including a casting vote of the Chairman). Ms James said that she would find out if it would be possible for a planning condition to be imposed requiring developers to purchase a suite of bins for new build developments.

(It has subsequently been confirmed that this is not possible)

It was **agreed** that the report be noted and that no changes to the fees and charges set out in the report be recommended to the Cabinet.

34 Cost profiles - benchmarking results

The Corporate Director Resources (Clare James) submitted a report on the key findings of the 2019/20 benchmarking study, which had been considered by the Cabinet on 16 October 2019. She said that these annual reports helped to show value for money by comparing costs incurred by similar authorities, although caution was needed when interpreting the results because there were so many different variables in the way services were provided and accounted for.

There had been very little increase in expenditure per head (shown in paragraph 5.6 of the report) partly because of the increase in the population of the Borough. There had also been a reduction in cost per head of Planning and Development Services because, following the adoption of the Local Plan, lower costs had been incurred on consultants. There had also been an increase in the statutory fees and charges relating to planning in 2018, which had resulted in increased income.

With regard to the issues identified in the 'looking ahead' section of the summary (in paragraph 5.14 of the report):

- The comparatively high cost of Wyre's leisure and culture related services was well known, but reducing costs was challenging. Also, the services now provided by private leisure centres were very competitive and it currently seemed very unlikely that the YMCA subsidy target for 2019/20 would be achieved. Discussions were currently taking place with YMCA about ways of increasing income and reducing costs.
- Residents Parking Permits were currently cheap and open-ended, but this was a scheme covered in the earlier Fees and Charges report.
- When costs of homelessness were shown as an amount per homeless household costs were very high, but there were very few rough sleepers in Wyre and the bulk of the council's efforts were focussed on preventing homelessness. When the denominator was changed to reflect those at risk of becoming homeless, Wyre's costs were more in line with the norm. The council's obligations had also recently increased as a consequence of new legislation. This was therefore an area of activity which it would be timely to review.

Ms James said, in response to a question, that efforts were made to publicise the Local Council Tax Scheme and the proposed introduction of a citizen's access portal would enable such schemes to be targeted more effectively to potential recipients.

It was **agreed** that the report be noted.

35 Business Plan 2019/20 - Quarterly performance statement

The Service Director Performance and Innovation, Marianne Hesketh submitted a report on the 2nd Quarter Performance Statement for the period July to September 2019.

Comments were made by members of the Committee on:

- The lower number of “measures” included in the Quarter 2 report than had been shown in the Quarter 1 report and the changes to some measures which, it was suggested, made an assessment of progress between quarters difficult.
- The apparent inconsistency between the red and amber measures in the report and the green categorisation of progress on the project to which those measures referred.
- Notwithstanding the explanatory comments in the covering report and the assurances given by both Chief Inspector Hardy and the Head of Environmental Health and Community Safety earlier in this meeting about the effectiveness of the Multi-Agency approach to anti-social behaviour, the measure relating to the number of cases going to the multi-agency ASB meetings was one which the Committee should continue to monitor closely.

The Chairman said that a report on the proposed update of the Business Plan for 2020/21 was due to be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

It was **agreed** that the report be noted and the Marianne Hesketh be asked to attend the next meeting of Committee, to explain more fully how the categorisation of the indicative “measures” included in the quarterly reports related to the overall progress on the “projects” listed in the Business Plan.

36 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/20 - update report

The Service Director Performance and Innovation had submitted a report, updating the Committee about the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/20.

Emma Keany said that she planned to send out an email on arrangements for the survey proposed by the District Environmental Enforcement Task Group

Agreed that the current position on the Poulton-Fleetwood Link Task Group, the Residents Car Parking Permit Scheme Task Group and the District Environmental Enforcement Task Group and other planned work, as set out in the report, be noted.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and finished at 7.52 pm.

Date of Publication: 16 December 2019

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Report of:	Meeting	Date
Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	27 January 2020

Refreshed Strategic Narrative and Business Plan 2019-2023 (Update 2020)
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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a refreshed Strategic Narrative and the draft Business Plan for 2019-2023 (updated for 2020) for consideration.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 To ensure that the council maintains a positive culture that is fit for purpose, during a time when local government is subject to rapid change.
- 2.2 To ensure that medium and long term resources and service provision are prioritised and planned in accordance with the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), the aspirations of local residents, local research and data and the national policy framework.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 To consider the refreshed Strategic Narrative and the draft business plan for 2019-2023, which has been updated for 2020, prior to seeking Council approval at the meeting on 5 March 2020.

4. Background

- 4.1 Each year, the Council produces a Business Plan. The Business Plan is a key document in the business planning framework and its purpose is to set out the Council's vision and priorities in line with the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The council has effective performance management arrangements in place which ensures that progress against the Business Plan is reported on a quarterly basis. This includes the involvement and support of Overview and Scrutiny Committee who receive quarterly performance review reports.

- 4.2** Corporate Management Team and Heads of Service work together to develop the Business Plan to ensure that it is focused on the right priority areas. The draft plan is then discussed with Management Board and Overview and Scrutiny Committee before proceeding to full Council for approval in March.
- 4.3** A Strategic Narrative was agreed by full Council on 1 December 2016. The document set out a clear vision and three big goals for developing the right organisational culture and evolving how the Council works to keep itself fit for purpose. The Strategic Narrative complements the Council's business plan.
- 4.4** Following the new Corporate Management Team restructure which was implemented on 1 December 2019, it was felt timely to review the Strategic Narrative and ensure that it is still fit for purpose.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** The Business Plan covers a four year period which has been developed to align with the four year election cycle. A new style plan was developed in 2019 and this format has been retained for the 2020 update. The vision remains the same as do the themes but the priorities and projects have been refreshed and updated. The delivery plan continues to be monitored on a quarterly basis and reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The updated plan is attached at Appendix 1.
- 5.2** The Strategic Narrative has been refreshed (attached at Appendix 2) and the three big goals have been aligned to our core values:-
- Working Collaboratively – An integrated and community-focused service offer
 - One Team One Council – A flexible change-ready workforce
 - Work Smart – Commercial and environmental awareness is embedded in everything we do.
- 5.3** The main changes to the Strategic Narrative have been to reflect our climate change responsibility and ensure that staff are aware that we take this seriously and that we want to ensure that we minimise the negative and maximise the positive impact on the environment in everything we do.
- 5.4** It is intended to present the refreshed strategic narrative and final business plan to full Council on 5 March 2020.

report author	telephone no.	email	date
Marianne Hesketh	01253 887350	Marianne.hesketh@wyre.gov.uk	20/12/19

List of appendices

Appendix 1 - Business Plan 2019-2023 (updated 2020)

Appendix 2 - Together we make a difference – Our Strategic Narrative

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Business Plan 2019-2023

Updated January 2020

Our Vision: Wyre is a healthy and happy place where people want to live, work, invest and visit

People

OUR AMBITION - EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES

We will:

- Collaborate with residents and local stakeholders to support and maximise opportunities for improving health and wellbeing across our communities
- Transform the way customers access our services through making better use of technology
- Explore opportunities for communities and partners to deliver initiatives that build resilience and sustainability
- Work with partners to support and raise the aspirations of young people



Economy

OUR AMBITION - A STRONG LOCAL ECONOMY

We will:

- Work with the Fylde Coast Economic Prosperity Board to support economic growth and attract investment to Wyre
- Collaborate with our partners to facilitate vibrant town centres
- Support businesses to grow and prosper
- Work with transport authorities to improve the infrastructure and connectivity across the Fylde Coast
- Maximise commercial opportunities and deliver efficiencies

Place

OUR AMBITION - A QUALITY LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL TO ENJOY

We will:

- Work with residents, Parish and Town Councils and businesses to plan, protect and enhance the quality of our neighbourhoods
- Utilise Wyre's USP - the Great Outdoors - supporting residents and visitors to maximise the opportunities from coast to countryside
- Collaborate with our partners to respond to a range of climate change issues, including our commitment to carbon footprint reduction and tackling flood risk across Wyre.

Delivering our Vision



Economy

How will we do this?

- Deliver the implementation plan for Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone
- Collaborate with partners to develop strategic economic plans such as the Greater Lancashire Plan
- Work with our partners to increase access for residents and businesses to high speed internet and wi-fi wherever possible
- Develop the Fleetwood Masterplan and facilitate external funding opportunities to support the future options to transform Fleetwood over the next 20 years
- Explore the feasibility of a Fylde Coast tramway/rail loop
- Explore investment and development opportunities for our town centres and key council assets

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How will we measure progress?

- Take up of employment land
- Number of businesses supported
- % growth in business rate base at the Enterprise Zone
- Town centre vacancy rates
- Out of work benefit claimant count
- Visitor numbers to the borough
- % of fledgling businesses surviving - 18 months



People

How will we do this?

- Deliver a programme of work to promote healthy choices and healthier lifestyles to keep people well
- Maximise funding opportunities and deliver initiatives to support older people and people with disabilities to maintain independence
- Work with partners to improve the aspirations and resilience of our young people through programmes such as Positive Footprints
- Develop a programme of work that improves the sustainability and resilience of our communities
- Launch the next phase of the Digital Wyre Strategy ensuring customers have easy access to our services and that we embrace the opportunities new technologies bring

How will we measure progress?

- % of e-contacts as a % of total contacts
- Number of people helped to remain independent at home
- % of physically active adults
- Number of hours of career led learning delivered in Wyre through the Positive Footprints programme
- Number of leisure centre visits
- Number of volunteer hours
- % of resident population who consider themselves to be in good health



Place

How will we do this?

- Review the Wyre Local Plan 2011-2031
- Deliver the Wyre Beach Management Scheme
- Facilitate and support the improvement and use of parks and open spaces
- Implement initiatives and promote activity to help achieve a cleaner, greener Wyre
- Ensure the Wyre Community Lottery is well utilised to support good causes
- Develop and deliver action plans to reduce the effect of climate change on our borough
- Support our residents to reduce waste and increase reuse and recycling

How will we measure progress?

- Number of people attending outdoor activities
- Satisfaction with parks and open spaces
- Satisfaction with keeping public land free from litter
- Reduction in fly tipping reported
- Money raised for good causes by the Wyre Community Lottery
- Reduction in council carbon emissions
- Number of public electric charging points
- Number of trees planted
- % of household waste recycled

Wyre is a healthy and happy place where people want to live, work, invest and visit



Together we make a difference

Our Strategic Narrative

We are an innovative and ambitious council that strives to provide excellent customer focused services to the residents, businesses and visitors of Wyre. The next decade promises to be a complex and potentially challenging one for local authorities so it is imperative that we build on our strong foundations and work together to embrace change and to be open to different ways of working.

This plan sets out a clear path for evolving the way that Wyre Council works, and how we keep ourselves fit for purpose, during a time when local government will continue to change rapidly.

Our vision for the Council

Wyre is a healthy and happy place where people want to live, work, invest and visit

By 2025 we envisage the council will be characterised by;

- ✓ **A culture where everyone embraces working collaboratively.** We recognise that the most appropriate response to the pressures on the public sector is to work with and through others. We will actively develop the skills that will make us more effective in building strong, trusting and outward-focussed working relationships with other councils, partners, organisations and our communities; delivering excellent joined up services for the residents of Wyre.
- ✓ **Highest levels of performance with a clear focus on responsibility and empowerment.** We will make sure that everyone is clear about the part they play in delivering high impact outcomes. We will invest and develop the skills of our employees and promote team working across the council, allowing teams and team members to have greater flexibility, authority and control. Employees will have the opportunity to gain new skills and experiences through cross-directorate working.
- ✓ **Innovative, commercially minded and environmentally aware.** We will upskill our staff to think and act commercially, we will embrace new ways of working and we will be open to exploring innovative service delivery options. We will take our climate change responsibility seriously and work to ensure that we minimise the negative and maximise the positive impact on the environment in everything we do.

Achieving our vision

Our plan has **three big goals** for shifting the way the organisation works so that we deliver on our vision for the council. These goals are clearly aligned with our **core values** which are the key behaviours that all council employees should display.

Working Collaboratively - An integrated and community-focused service offer

Where possible our services will be delivered collaboratively with our partners, designed to enable communities and citizens to do more for themselves and to rely less on direct provision by the council. *Our approach will include:-*

- **Leading and demonstrating a collaborative approach to service delivery.** Where it allows us to deliver better services, we will work with our partners, whether that be other councils, town and parish councils, public sector partners and the community and voluntary sector, to design and deliver services that meet local needs and encourage more community involvement. We will explore new innovative ways to this collaborative approach to service delivery and empower our communities to build resilience and longer term sustainability.

One Team One Council - A flexible and change-ready workforce

Our colleagues will feel that the council embraces change and that their knowledge is at the forefront when making changes. Colleagues will feel highly valued, resilient and equipped to deal with the changing local government landscape. *Our approach will include:-*

- **Engaging our staff to achieve and sustain the highest levels of performance.** We will clearly set out the strategic direction of the council by engaging with our staff to share and embed the vision, goals and values. We will support our staff to embrace innovation in our drive for enhanced service delivery and encourage cross directorate working. We will create a culture of responsibility and empowerment and encourage a high performance culture across the Council. We will actively performance manage the delivery of the Business Plan and service plans.

Work Smart - Commercial and environmental awareness is embedded in everything we do

We will implement new ways to replenish dwindling government funding for local authorities. Our employees will be commercially minded, able to identify and maximise commercial opportunities. We will be mindful of our climate change commitment in everything we do and ensure that the council's activities are net-zero carbon by 2050.

Our approach will include:-

- **Maintaining financial discipline.** We will be financially astute delivering quality services, in conjunction with partners, on time and on budget. Our Medium Term Financial Plan and Efficiency Programme will be aligned with our Business Plan to ensure our objectives and priorities are properly resourced and funded appropriately.
- **Bringing commerciality into everyday thinking.** We will bring commerciality into everyday working across the organisation through improved procurement practices, better contract management and a focus on delivering established financial goals.
- **Working Green** – We will take environmental responsibility seriously and consider ways that we can reduce our carbon footprint in all our activities. We will minimise our negative and maximise our positive impact on the environment.

Key Projects	
G	On schedule/target;
A	Minor issues
R	Major issues/Not Started

Key Measures	
G	Improving or in line with expectations
A	No significant change or comparable data unavailable
R	Worsening



COMMENTS AND ISSUES

Projects	
Implement the Wyre Local Plan 2011 – 2031	G
Deliver the implementation plan for Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone	A
Develop an Economic Development Strategy	A
Support our partners in the roll out of full fibre infrastructure on the Fylde Coast	G
Deliver our commercial strategy projects	G
Deliver the asset management programme of work	G
Explore options for a commercial partner for Marine Hall	G
Deliver our Digital Wyre strategy including the implementation of a Citizen Access Portal	G
Measures	
Take up of employment land	R
Number of businesses supported	G
% growth in business rate base at the Enterprise Zone	G
Out of work benefit claimant count	R
% of e-contacts as a % of total contacts	G

Projects	
Develop and deliver new pilot projects with the three GP health neighbourhoods for Wyre – Fleetwood, Wyre Integrated Neighbourhood and Wyre Rural Extended Neighbourhood	G
Deliver a programme of work to promote healthy choices and healthier lifestyles to keep people well	G
Work with Lancashire County Council to create and deliver new local Housing and Support Schemes	G
Maximise opportunities from the Better Care Fund to support older people and people with disabilities to stay in their own homes	G
Care and Repair (Wyre and Fylde) will identify need and supply a range of community equipment for vulnerable residents	G
Host and support the Wyre and Fylde Integrated Team	G
Review our safeguarding policies and practices across all council services	G
Work with partners to improve the resilience and aspirations of our young people	G
Facilitate community projects that improve the use and sustainability of council community assets	G
Measures	
Number of people helped to remain independent at home	G
Number of leisure centre visits	R
Number of cases supported by Integrated Team	G
Take up of the FYI Directory by Wyre residents and groups	A

Projects	
Develop and deliver the communications campaigns to promote Wyre’s countryside, coast, parks and tourism offer	G
Facilitate and support delivery of Coastal Community Funded projects	G
Deliver the Wyre Beach Management Scheme	G
Develop and deliver a climate change action plan (including support for flood action groups)	G
Deliver the Mount Restoration Project in Fleetwood	G
Facilitate and support the improvement of parks and open spaces	G
Implement initiatives and promote activity to help achieve a cleaner, greener Wyre	G
Tackle problematic empty homes	G
Facilitate delivery and promotion of the Wyre Community Lottery	G
Measures	
Number of volunteer hours	G
Number of people attending outdoor activities	G
Number of fly tipping incidents	G
Number of long term empty properties	G
Number of cases going to the Multi-Agency ASB Meeting	R
Number of homes protected from flooding	A
Number of flood action groups supported	A

Deliver the implementation plan for Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone – this is behind schedule although drone footage has now been completed and will be available for publicity material.

Develop an Economic Development Strategy – this is behind schedule due to staffing issues in the Economic Development team.

Take up of employment land – It is not unusual that there is no take up of employment land in any one year. Economic uncertainty with Brexit may have some impact. It should be noted this is not necessarily a reflection of economic investment as businesses invest in technology and grow without necessarily requiring extra land.

Number of cases going to the Multi-Agency ASB Meeting - The ASB meeting is still in the process of being imbedded into ours and our partner’s procedures and is an evolving system. We do not at present have sufficient evidence to say for certain why there has been a reduction in the number of referrals received during this period.

Number of Leisure Centre Visits - The major factor is the closure of the two five-a-side pitches at Thornton and increasing competition from budget gyms such as the JD Gym. Quotes are being obtained by the YMCA for necessary repairs to the football pitches to get them open again.

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Report of Carl Green, Head of Engineering Services, to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 27 January 2020

Implementation of recommendations of Flooding Task Group

Extract from minutes of meeting of the Cabinet held on Wednesday 28 November 2018, with updated information added for the benefit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Decision

Cabinet thanked the chairman and members of the task group for the very useful work they had put into clarifying the role of councillors and highlighting the support and training required and agreed the following recommendations:

1. That ward councillors actively support the excellent work already being undertaken by Flood Action Groups (FLAGs) and provide a lead in exploring options with local residents for setting up FLAGs in other parts of Wyre.

UPDATE:

Ward councillors are actively setting up FLAGs in Great Eccleston, Hambleton, Garstang and Pilling. Greater involvement from Ward members in Fleetwood wards is sought. A number of ward councillors actively support the FLAGs and attend the Wyre Flood Forum.

At the Flood Forum on 9th January the excellent work undertaken by the FLAGs within Wyre was highlighted. Officers continue to support the FLAGs and attend the group meetings.

2. That ward councillors advise, support and encourage residents to take whatever actions are necessary to make their own properties more resilient against the threat of flooding, perhaps to include the installation of flood gates/doors or the development of a Household Emergency Plan, for example. Actions should also include taking steps to improve resilience when household improvements are being made, such as new kitchens avoiding the use of chipboard or the installation of a flood-resistant front door.

UPDATE:

The role of ward councillors is included in flooding literature and included on the council's website flooding pages.

3. That a campaign is undertaken by the Communications Team to ensure that the community is fully informed about the role of councillors before during and after flooding events. This should include clarity about what is included and what is not included within elected members' roles and responsibilities in relation to flooding.

UPDATE:

- A presentation was provided to members by the Head of Engineering
- A drop in session was undertaken for members to meet the communications team and to discuss their role during emergencies
- The web site has been updated to reflect what the community should expect of their councillors during a flood event.
- A leaflet has been produced outlining what to do in a flood and what councillors can assist with.
- A guidance document has been issued to councillors.

4. That a system be put in place to ensure that ward councillors are provided with all essential information about flooding events, in a timely fashion, including the decisions made by the Strategic Coordinating Group and the implications for local communities.

UPDATE:

- A protocol has been adopted with information sent to councillors of affected wards. This is encapsulated in the emergency flood plan.

5. That the role of the ward councillors as an 'information hub' for residents be reinforced at every opportunity, so that it is fully understood by councillors and members of the public.

UPDATE:

- Including debriefing session and information gathering following a flood
- A dedicated flooding site and dedicated space during a flood. The Facebook page and Twitter feeds would refer back to the page for regular updates.

6. That ward councillors be facilitated to contribute to the de-briefing session following a flooding event.

UPDATE:

- The ongoing procedure will be that ward councillor in affected wards will be invited to the drop in session following

7. That the importance of ward councillors being involved in the medium and long-term support of people whose properties have been flooded be encouraged by

(i) Advising residents that this is part of the agreed role of a ward councillor, and

(ii) Ensuring that ward councillors have the requisite skills and knowledge to carry out such a role effectively

UPDATE:

- Developing a councillor training programme. Support through Flood Forum and community walk-about.

8. That flooding event training be made available to councillors at least annually, perhaps by way of a presentation at a pre-Council briefing or by other agreed methods.

UPDATE:

- This will continue on an annual basis.
9. That a list of Dos and Don'ts for councillors be adopted and distributed to all members, in line with the training to be provided as per recommendation 8 above.
- This was circulated to members.

Cabinet noted recommendation 3.6 of the report.

Recommendation 3.6

- 3.6** That the council stops routinely providing sandbags with immediate effect, in recognition of the facts that their effectiveness is limited, they are labour-intensive to fill and distribute and that members of the public should be increasingly encouraged to take responsibility for making their own properties safe from floods.

Consideration should be given to continuing to provide a limited number of sandbags to protect critical assets and to support FLAGs for distribution to previously identified vulnerable residents.

UPDATE:

- This has been widely publicised and accepted by the FLAG groups.

Carl Green

Head of Engineering Services

17 January 2020

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Report of:	Meeting	Date
Clare James, Corporate Director Resources	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	27 January 2020

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/20 – update report

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To update the Overview and Scrutiny Committee about the Overview and Scrutiny Work programme 2019/20.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That one meeting of the committee each year, usually in March, be dedicated to police, crime and community safety matters.
- 2.2 That the report be noted.

3. Current and completed work

3.1 Poulton – Fleetwood Link Task Group

Having last met on 20 November 2019, the task group had agreed that it would not meet again until after December’s General Election. A strategic meeting about a proposed tram link is to be held on 18 February 2020, involving all the key stakeholders, so the task group has agreed to delay its next meeting until after that date. A task group meeting has been arranged for 25 February 2020.

3.2 Resident Car Parking Permit Scheme Task Group

The task group has been consulting residents about the current Resident Car Parking Permit Scheme. The responses will be considered at a meeting on 23 January 2020, with a further (probably final) meeting scheduled for 10 February 2020.

3.3 District Environmental Enforcement Task Group

The pilot enforcement scheme has been extended, giving the task group more time to complete its detailed work. A consultation with residents will commence before the end of January.

4. Other planned work

4.1 Task Group - Supporting Wyre's town centres

Following a suggestion made at the O&S Committee meeting held on 22 July 2019, a report and draft scoping document was to be submitted to the O&S Committee. However, staffing pressures within the Economic Development Team means that the report will not now be received by the committee until 16 March 2020.

4.2 Treasury Management

The Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement 2019/20 defines a number of treasury management activities. It nominates the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies.

Link Asset Services, the council's treasury management consultants, delivered a presentation at the pre-Council briefing on Thursday 9 January 2020.

4.3 Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committees

As reported at the meeting of the O&S Committee held in October 2019, options for the setting up of two sub-committees of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, on (i) health and wellbeing and (ii) police and community safety, respectively, have been under consideration.

Management Board considered this matter again on 15 January 2020 and have made the helpful suggestion that the committee might wish to deal with its annual scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership, which usually takes place in March each year, as part of a dedicated agenda, focusing on police, crime and community safety matters. It is not proposed that any additional meetings be scheduled or sub-committees established.

If agreed by the committee, the increased focus on police, crime and community safety matters for one meeting each year (usually in March) would be implemented from the start of the 2020-2021 Municipal Year.

5. Work Programme

5.1 The O&S Work Programme for 2019/20 is attached at Appendix 1.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
2019/20

Committee Meetings

(All meetings are held on Mondays starting at 6pm)

Date	Planned O&S Committee agenda items
2019	
3 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Election of Chairman. ii. Election of Vice Chairman. iii. Marine Hall update and task group scoping (see O&SC 22 October 2018, minute 30). iv. Business Plan – Quarterly Performance Statement v. Public Conveniences Task Group – draft report vi. O&S Work Programme 2019/20 – update and planning. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Overview and Scrutiny training and development for the committee and newly elected councillors. (b) Scoping document – Resident Permits (c) Scoping Document – transport connectivity across Fylde Coast
22 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Update on health and care developments on the Fylde Coast – Dr Amanda Doyle ii. Lancashire County Council Health Scrutiny Committee. iii. Annual Schedule of planned investment in assets (Service Director Performance and Innovation) iv. Budget consultation (Clare James) v. Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny vi. O&S Work Programme 2019/20 – update.
9 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. District Enforcement environmental crime pilot feedback (see O&SC 3 June 2019) and draft scoping document ii. Business Plan – Quarterly Performance Statement iii. O&S Work Programme 2019/20 – update.
23 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny – North West Employers - Single-item agenda
21 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. MyHomeChoice - review of first 12 months of implementation of new arrangements (see O&SC 30 July 2018 and Cabinet 5 September 2018). ii. Consultation – Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy.

Date	Planned O&S Committee agenda items
	iii. O&S Work Programme 2019/20 – update.
2 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Neighbourhood policing arrangements – review of first 12 months of implementation of new arrangements (see O&SC 30 July 2018, minute 18). ii. Fees and charges. iii. Cost profiles – benchmarking results. iv. Business Plan – Quarterly Performance Statement v. O&S Work Programme 2019/20 – update.
2020	
27 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Business Plan 2020/21 – Leader and Chief Executive. ii. Flooding Task Group – review of implementation of recommendations (Cabinet, 28 November 2018). iii. Scrutiny of performance - Business Plan 2019/20 (see minutes of meeting of 2 December 2019) iv. O&S Work Programme 2019/20 – update.
16 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Wyre Community Safety Partnership – annual scrutiny review. ii. Small businesses and Wyre’s High Streets – report David Thow (email dated 24 Sept 2019) and draft scoping document iii. Business Plan – Quarterly Performance Statement iv. Resident Car Parking Permit Scheme Task Group – draft report v. O&S Work Programme 2019/20 – update.
27 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. O&S Work Programme 2019/20 – update. ii. Annual Schedule of planned investment in assets (see also, minutes of meeting of 22 July 2019) – provisional date

Scrutiny task group reviews

Date	Format	Topic
Continued on 2 July 2019	Task Group	Poulton to Fleetwood Link
Started 16 September 2019	Task group	Resident Car Parking Permit Scheme
Started 14 October 2019	Task group	District Environmental Enforcement Pilot
February 2020	Possible task group	Wyre’s Town Centres (see (O&SC 22 July 2019)
	Possible task group	Climate change (see O&SC 3 June 2019)
	Possible task group - originally proposed for 2018/19	Support a sustainable future for the fish processing industry

Updated 15 January 2020

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