

| Report of:  | Meeting                         | Date        |
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| Marianne Hesketh, Service Director Performance and Innovation | Overview and Scrutiny Committee | 3 June 2019 |

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| <b>Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/20 – update report</b> |
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**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 the committee endorses the draft report of the Public Conveniences Task Group.
- 2.2 That the committee agrees how a task group on transport connectivity across the Fylde Coast will be progressed.
- 2.3 That the committee agrees to commission a task group on the Resident Car Parking Scheme.
- 2.4 That the report be noted.

**3. Current and completed work**

**3.1 Public Conveniences Task Group**

The Public Conveniences Task Group has completed its review and the draft report is the subject of a separate item on this agenda.

**3.2 Task Group – transport connectivity across the Fylde Coast**

A task group was convened at short notice in April to commence a review on Rail Transport in Wyre. The group met on 15 April 2019. In the light of the, then, forthcoming local elections, it was agreed that any decision regarding how the review should be progressed would be considered again following the elections on 2 May 2019.

The proposal for the task group has since been considered by the Corporate Management Team (CMT), who have suggested that the attached draft scoping document would be helpful in defining the purpose and remit of the review (see Appendix 1) and has been aligned with a Business Plan priority.

The meeting on 15 April was convened at short notice. As a consequence the accepted route by which a task group review is commissioned via the O&S Committee, was not followed. There is now the opportunity for the committee to consider a draft scoping document, as amended by the CMT and to endorse the review.

#### **4. Work Programme**

- 4.1** The O&S Work Programme for 2019/20 is attached at Appendix 3.
- 4.2** For a significant period of time councillors have considered carrying out a scrutiny review of the Resident Parking Permit Scheme. The committee has spoken on several occasions to the Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder and the Head of Engineering Services. Following further consultation with the CMT, a draft scoping document has been prepared for the committee's consideration (see Appendix 2).
- 4.3** A number of other potential task group topics have been under consideration in recent months.

##### Environmental crime

To review the outcomes of the District Enforcement pilot project which focuses primarily on dog fouling, littering and other public space protection orders, so helping to free up the council's in-house team to concentrate more on fly tipping and other issues.

##### Budget

To consider councillors' involvement in a forthcoming consultation about budget priorities (covered by the Head of Finance under a previous item on this agenda).

##### Economic development

- (i) The committee has noted when considering the Business Plan quarterly performance reports during 2018/19, that the number of businesses supported has been lower than the previous comparator period (the corresponding quarters in 2017/18). The figure is clearly dependent upon the number of Wyred Up events held, this number having reduced.

Wyred Up was established in 2008 and is a free networking group for businesses and organisations located in Wyre or who contribute to Wyre's economy. Members can attend four free events a year, network and share best practice.

- (ii) Concern has also been expressed about town centre vacancy rates.

Consideration could be given to scrutinising Wyred Up, which is currently under review by the Economic Development team prior to a re-launch, with information and events tailored around four themes:

- Education and skills
- Housing
- Economy
- Community health and wellbeing

#### Health and wellbeing

The committee continues to maintain close links with the Fylde and Wyre Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), and will be receiving an update report from Dr Amanda Doyle OBE, Chief Clinical Officer of the Fylde and Wyre and Blackpool CCGs on 22 July.

The CCG has recently established a neighbourhood working model and consideration might be given by the committee as to how councillors can engage most effectively with this, for the benefit of residents.

#### Climate change

Climate change is mentioned in the Business Plan 2019-23 and is a topic that could prompt a task group review in the future. Flooding was, of course, the subject of a recent review.

## **5. Other issues**

### **5.1 Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities**

The long-awaited statutory guidance on scrutiny in local authorities was published on 7 May 2019. This will be the subject of a separate agenda item at a future meeting.

### **5.2 Modern.gov and paperless meetings**

The roll-out of tablets to councillors has commenced, with all councillors to be appropriately equipped, trained and in a position to attend paperless meetings by early July.

### **5.3 Committee development needs**

Effective scrutiny requires a process of continuous learning and development. It is a specialised area in which councillors work independently and objectively; ongoing training input is a valuable tool in enabling the scrutiny function to operate to its full potential and to be able to make a difference in the delivery of services.

The committee is invited to discuss how the development of the scrutiny function might be facilitated, particularly bearing in mind that new statutory guidance has recently been issued.

| report author  | telephone no. | email                      | date        |
|----------------|---------------|----------------------------|-------------|
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#### **List of appendices**

Appendix 1 Draft scoping document – transport connectivity across the Fylde Coast

Appendix 2 Draft scoping document – Resident Car Parking Scheme

Appendix 3 Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2019/20