

Scrutiny Work Programme

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Issue for Main Scrutiny Cttee	Budget	Background/Description	Lead Officer/ Lead Member
30 Jan '18	Discretionary Housing Payment policy monitoring	✓		An update report on the implementation and outcomes of the revised Discretionary Housing Payment Policy that came in to effect on 1 April 2017 following a Task and Finish review.	Ian Potter/Cllr Peter Seib
30 Jan '18	Yeovil Innovation Centre	✓		An update report on the Innovation Centre's performance including progress of phase 2. With a brief overview of the work to achieve the related Economic focussed Council plan targets and related strategies.	David Julian/ Cllr Jo RoundellGreene
TBC 30 Jan 2018	Crematorium Update	✓		A general update report regarding the Crematorium was circulated to members December 2017. Scrutiny Committee requested that a report be made publicly available to ensure transparency, the Portfolio Holder has agreed and welcomed questions and input from Scrutiny Committee.	Cllr Peter Gubbins
Feb / March 2017	Council Tax Penalties and Civil Penalties in Housing Benefit			In April 2017 the council agreed to introduce penalties for those who have failed to notify the Council of change of circumstances that has resulted in them continuing to receive a Council Tax exemption, discount, Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support award that they are not entitled. Scrutiny Committee agreed at their meeting on 4 th April 2017 for an item to be added to the forward plan for October to monitor the effectiveness of the policy. Figures with regard to the cost of issuing and collecting penalties have been specifically requested.	Ian Potter/Cllr Peter Seib
TBC pending national fee increase regulation coming in (Jan/Feb)	Monitoring of the implementation of Charges for Pre-Application Development Control Advice	✓		In April 2017 Scrutiny Committee supported the introduction of charging for Pre- Application Development Advice and requested a monitoring report is brought forward to establish the effectiveness of recouping costs and to consider the re-evaluation of fees.	Simon Fox/ Cllr Angie Singleton

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TBC	Troubled Families Programme	✓		Members requested an update report on the progress of the troubled families following a report covering the work of South Somerset Together, Local Strategic Partnership. A specific report request needs to be compiled.	Helen Rutter
TBC	Review of Economic Development Strategy	✓		This Strategy is due for review and Scrutiny members have previously been involved in the review and development of this Policy. The Lead Officer has agreed that Scrutiny involvement will be factored in to the review process and we will be kept informed regarding the most appropriate point for effective Scrutiny engagement.	David Julian / Cllr Jo Roundell Greene.
TBC	Increased Joint Working Between Police Forces			At the meeting of Scrutiny Committee on 30 August 2016, the SSDC representative on the Police and Crime Panel requested that there be a report looking at the proposals for increased joint working between police forces across the South West.	

The Somerset Waste Board and Somerset Waste Partnership Forward Plan of key decisions can be viewed at:

<http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=196&RD=0>

Current Task & Finish Reviews

Date Commenced	Title and Purpose	Members
February 2017	<p>Accessible Homefinder Common Lettings Policy</p> <p>A review of the policy to ensure it is accessible for customers/the general public. Phase 1 completed with comments re style, layout and terminology fed back, phase 2 to commence June 2017 or later.</p>	Cllrs Sue Steele, Carol Goodall

Date Commenced	Title and Purpose	Members
October 2017	Council Tax Support 2019/20 Consider the merits/risks of moving towards a discount based policy.	Cllrs Carol Goodall, David Norris
Due to start January 2018	Working with the Transformation Team to identify, and deliver, Best Practice to provide accessible on-line information and services for all.	TBC
TBC	<p>Car Parking Charging/Strategy</p> <p>To ensure we have a strategy and policy that encourages an effective and efficient use of car parks for generating an appropriate surplus.</p> <p>To make sure the provision of car parking in terms of location, layout and cost helps to support the Objectives in the Council Plan and related strategies, for example Economic Development, Regeneration and Commercial Property.</p> <p>To ensure consistency across the District.</p>	
TBC	<p>Rural Allocations Policy</p> <p>The Disposal of Third Party properties had highlighted issues with the Rural Allocations Policy and some work now needs to be done to review the policy, no start date has been agreed for this as yet.</p>	
<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee are committed to ensuring they have capacity to contribute to the Council's Transformation programme and therefore fewer Task and Finish reviews may be conducted during the Transformation period.</p>		