

# **Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**Date of meeting: 4 June 2018**



**Subject:** Select Committees - Terms of Reference & Work Programmes 2018/19

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## **Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

- (1) **That the re-establishment of the following select committees for the 2018/19 municipal year, be agreed:**

**Communities Select Committee;  
Governance Select Committee;  
Neighbourhoods Select Committee; and  
Resources Select Committee;**

- (2) **That the proposed terms of reference and work programme for each of the select committees for 2018/19, be agreed;**

- (3) **That, notwithstanding the likely implementation of the Council's new senior management structure during 2018/19, no change be made to the current select committee framework before the commencement of the 2019/20 municipal year; and**

- (4) **That arrangements for the review of the current select committee framework to reflect the new senior management structure, be considered at the joint meeting of overview and scrutiny chairmen and vice-chairmen to be held on 3 September 2018.**

1. As the Committee are aware, an Overview and Scrutiny framework based on a structure of four 'select committees', was established from 2015/16. Select committee status is generally restricted to activities of a recurring or cyclical character which require a longer term involvement by members. The select committees must also adhere to an annual work programme agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. In accordance with Article 6 of the Council's Constitution, select committees may be established on an annual basis by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. At its first meeting in each municipal year, the Committee is therefore required to consider whether existing select committees should continue for a further year and to determine the number and terms of reference of each committee.
3. When the composition of the select committee framework was last reviewed by the Committee in April 2016, the structure was revised so as to be directly aligned with the Council's current management structure. At that time, the Committee requested that the framework be reviewed after a year of operation.

4. Members will be aware that the implementation of the People Strategy and the concurrent ongoing review of the Council's senior management structure may have a bearing on the structure of the Cabinet over the coming year and might also necessitate a re-alignment of the Overview and Scrutiny framework going forward. In considering initial proposals for the possible combination of the Governance and Resources Select Committees for 2018/19 at its last meeting (17 April 2018), the Committee agreed that it would be prudent to defer any decision about the possible revision of the select committee framework until a later date.
5. In the meantime, it is suggested that no change be made to the current select committee framework, or the service functions currently the scrutiny responsibility of each select committee, before the commencement of the 2019/20 municipal year. Arrangements for the review of the current select committee framework to reflect the new senior management structure will be considered initially at the next joint meeting of the overview and scrutiny chairmen and vice-chairmen (3 September 2018).
6. It is therefore proposed that each of existing select committees be re-established for the 2018/19 municipal year. The Committee is also requested to agree the proposed terms of reference and draft work programmes for each of the select committees for 2018/19, as set out in the attached appendices to this report. The draft work programme for each select committee has been developed by the relevant lead officer, in consultation with the chairman of the committee for 2017/18.
7. The appointment of members to the select committees for 2018/19 will be handled as part of a separate item elsewhere on this agenda.

**Resource Implications:**

The recommendations of this report seek to enable scrutiny activity to more effectively meet work programme requirements.

**Legal and Governance Implications:**

The Council's constitution sets out rules for the management of its overview and scrutiny responsibilities.

**Safer, Cleaner, Greener Implications:**

There are no implications arising from the recommendations of this report in respect of the Council's commitment to the Climate Local Agreement, the corporate Safer, Cleaner, Greener initiative, or any crime and disorder issues within the district.

**Consultation Undertaken:**

The matters subject of this report are included in the current work programme for the Committee.

**Background Papers:**

None

**Impact Assessments:**

***Risk Management***

The Council's constitution sets out rules for the management of its overview and scrutiny responsibilities.

***Equality:***

There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations of this report.