

2019/20 Environment Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme Items

Briefing paper

The Environment O&S Committee considers a range of items within its remit which are diarised on the rolling work programme. The items/pieces of work which are currently logged on the work programme for the Committee to discuss are listed below, together with a short explanatory note and proposed timescale. The new Committee is asked to confirm the inclusion of items on the 2019/20 work programme.

Each item/issue should be thoroughly tested through the work programme criteria and have a clear purpose for scrutiny. Items of interest without clear potential to add value ('update' or 'to note' items) should be circulated to the Committee members.

Service Areas covered by Environment are:

- Planning (in Planning and Economic Development)
- Greenspaces and Parks & Countryside (in Commercial Services)
- Environmental Services (in Environmental Services)

Committee dates:

- 9th September 2019
- 25th November 2019
- 13th January 2020
- 30th March 2020

Current Work Programme Items

Action: The Committee is asked to decide if it wishes to include the following items on the Environment work programme and in particular consider the standing items.

1. Corporate Performance Reports

The performance of the Council across all services is reported through the quarterly (September, November, February and June) Corporate Performance Reports. They contain information on all corporate key performance indicators (KPIs), Service Plans and areas of concern. Performance reports enable the Committee to monitor the performance of the Council and potentially identify further areas for scrutiny.

The Committee is asked to decide if it would like to continue to receive the quarterly Corporate Performance Reports.

2. Corporate Priorities

In 2018 the Committee decided to consolidate a wide range of ongoing items in a Corporate Priorities report which became a standing item. The report provided a brief overview of:

Local Plan Part 1	Now adopted – but the Court of Appeal has allowed the application to appeal elements of the November 2018 decision.
Local Plan Part 2	Item is on the work programme to be discussed by the Committee following Executive confirmation of the timetable.
Neighbourhood Plans	Ongoing completion of plans by the parishes within the borough.
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	The charging schedule adopted and implemented 1.3.19.
Dunsfold Park	Planning permission granted and will be monitored in the Corporate Performance report.
Brightwells	Work begun on the construction access bridge over the River Wey which is expected to be completed in 2019. The Gostrey Centre has now completed its relocation and the old building is scheduled for demolition.
Ground Maintenance	Procurement process underway with the contract award anticipated in late May 2019 and the contract start date expected 1 st November 2019.

Many of the items are now business as usual or complete, therefore the ongoing progress of these “live” items will be covered in the quarterly Corporate Performance Reports.

3. Air Quality

In 2017 an issue was identified with the air quality monitoring and an investigation was undertaken to establish the status and availability of the air quality monitoring information. During this time the Committee agreed to receive a standing item in order to be updated on the matter. The Council has reviewed its arrangements for air quality monitoring and reporting and made appropriate changes to strengthen the management of the activity and now has 12 months air quality data which will culminate in the submission of the annual statutory Air Quality report to DEFRA in June 2019.

Air quality updates will be covered in the quarterly Corporate Performance Reports.

4. Annual Air Quality Status Report (September 2019)

For the Committee to receive the statutory annual Air Quality Status report which will be submitted to DEFRA in June 2019. It is intended a more detailed discussion will take place later in the year when the Council has received DEFRA’s response to the Council’s report.

5. Public Space Protection Order (2) Dog Control Consultation (September 2019)

In September 2018 the Council launched a public consultation on two issues; dog fouling and dog control. There were a large number of responses and the two matters were separated to ensure an effective discussion. The item on dog fouling was considered by the Committee in 26th November 2019 and resulted in the application of a Public Space Protection Order being approved by Executive.

The Committee is asked to consider the responses to the dog control consultation and make recommendations regarding a Public Space Protection Order to Executive.

6. Car Parking Review (November 2019 tbc)

To consider and contribute to the car parking review and make recommendations.

7. Local Plan Part 2 (November 2019 tbc)

Following the Executive Committee's confirmation of the timetable, this item will be scheduled on the work programme to be discussed by the Committee. The Committee is expected to be asked to scrutinise the Local Plan Part 2, following its earlier consideration in the autumn of 2018, for its content and soundness and make its recommendations to Executive on the content and soundness of the Local Plan Part 2.

8. Service Plans (January 2020)

Heads of Service annually present their proposed service plans for consideration and scrutiny.

Potential Items for the Work Programme

In addition to the currently scheduled items noted above, below are some potential items for 2019-20 Environment Work Programme, which the Committee may wish to add to its work programme.

The purpose and nature of each item would need to be agreed before adding the item to the work programme.

A. Place Shaping

To understand the concept of "place shaping" in Farnham and the opportunities it presents for service delivery and Waverley.

B. Article 4 Direction

To review the use of Article 4 Direction for planning applications