



Full Council
25 November 2019

Report from the Assistant Chief Executive

Chair's Report: Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Non-Key Decision
Open or Part/Fully Exempt:	Open
No. of Appendices:	Appendix A - Committee Work Programme
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officers:	<p>Pascoe Sawyers, Head of Strategy and Partnerships, pascoe.sawyers@brent.gov.uk, 020 8937 1045</p> <p>Michael Carr, Senior Policy and Scrutiny Officer, Strategy and Partnerships michael.carr@brent.gov.uk 020 8937 2855</p>

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To update Council on the business of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the business of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee and the Committee's amended work programme for 2019-2020 be noted.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee's work programme sets out the issues that the Committee will consider during the municipal year. It also states the Scrutiny Task Groups which it will set up to consider in-depth reviews. The Committee's work plan is set out in Appendix 1. A scrutiny committee work plan may change during the municipal year

as new issues arise and items are added. Council will be informed of any changes through a report of the scrutiny committee chair.

- 3.2 The work plan includes issues for consideration that may require the involvement or decisions by external partner organisations. As part of its remit set out in the constitution, the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee can scrutinise and make reports and recommendations to the authority on community safety partnership (the Safer Brent Partnership) crime and disorder issues.
- 3.3 There have been two meetings of the Committee so far this municipal year, one on 3 July 2019 and the other on 12 September 2019. At its last meeting on 12 September 2019, the committee considered the Brent's Statement of Licensing Policy; Brent's Council Tax Support and Local Welfare Assistance policy; the final report and recommendations of the Knife Crime Scrutiny Task Group along with an update on the Carlton and Granville Centre site (further to the consideration of a call-in earlier in 2019), with questions to the Cabinet Members and departmental officers for each topic. The committee also established a Scrutiny Task Group to consider the Council budget performance and budget proposals for 2020-2021 and 2021-2023.
- 3.4 The Knife Crime Scrutiny report agreed by the committee included 13 recommendations to the Cabinet, including a multi-agency, contextual safeguarding approach, joining up strategies across health and other children and young people's services, community projects that aim to prevent 'at risk' young people from being drawn into knife crime, and are set up with measureable evaluation outcomes, a hard-hitting media project and a Schools Safety Charter, more collaborative working between the voluntary and community sector (VCS) and religious organisations, to raise funds for projects and training to prevent knife crime. The report and recommendations were considered by Cabinet on Monday 14 October 2019 and Cabinet agreed all thirteen recommendations.
- 3.5 The Budget Scrutiny Task Group held its first meeting on 31 October 2019, when it considered the outturn expenditure for 2018/19, including consideration of key areas of overspend and underspend, as well as budget monitoring reports for quarters one and two for 2019-2020, with oral evidence from the Director of Finance and the Head of Finance. The next meeting of the Task Group is now scheduled for 18 December 2019, when it will consider the draft budget proposals and hear oral evidence from Cabinet Members and departmental officers on the proposals. The Task Group will produce a report for approval by the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee on 29 January 2020.
- 3.6 The Air Quality Scrutiny Task Group has been meeting regularly to receive evidence from a wide range of local and national stakeholders and expert witnesses, including Kings College London, The Director of Public Health, Transport for London, local campaign groups, including Clean Air for Brent and the Brent Cycling Campaign, local schools, local residents' associations, other local authorities, including Birmingham City Council, Waltham Forest and Camden and other local stakeholders and businesses, including Wembley Stadium and Wembley Arena.

3.7 The next meeting of the committee is scheduled to take place on 4 December 2019, when the committee is expected to consider Data Led Service Delivery, Tourism in Brent, the Annual Complaints Report and the final report from the Air Quality Scrutiny Task Group.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 Equality Implications

6.1 There are no equality implications.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

7.1 Non-executive members are involved in the scrutiny committee and task groups which are set up by the committee.

Report sign off:

Peter Gadsdon
Assistant Chief Executive