

Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date: Wednesday, 7 November
2018

Committee:
Place Overview Committee

Date: Thursday, 15 November 2018
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Shrewsbury Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury,
Shropshire, SY2 6ND

You are requested to attend the above meeting.
The Agenda is attached

Claire Porter
Corporate Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)

Members of Place Overview Committee

Gwilym Butler (Chairman)	Paul Milner (Vice Chairman)
Andy Boddington	Dan Morris
Julian Dean	William Parr
Rob Gittins	Harry Taylor
Simon Harris	Paul Wynn

Your Committee Officer is:

Julie Fildes Committee Officer
Tel: 01743 257723
Email: julie.fildes@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussions or voting on any matter in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

3 Minutes from the Meeting held on 6th September 2018 (Pages 1 - 6)

To consider the minutes of the Place Overview Committee meetings held on 6th September 2018.

4 Public Question Time

To receive any questions or petitions from the public of which notice has been given. The deadline for notification for this meeting is 2pm, Wednesday 14th November 2018.

5 Member Question Time

To receive any questions of which members of the Council have given notice. The deadline for notification for this meeting is 2.00pm on Monday 12th November 2018.

6 Skills Training (Pages 7 - 10)

To consider how skills training providers are responding to Shropshire's priorities for skills.

Contact: Corinne Brown, Business Development Manager, Shrewsbury Colleges Group

7 Securing Investment in Shropshire

To receive an update on how the Council secures investment in Shropshire.

Contact: Gemma Davies, Head of Economic Growth, tel 01743 258985

8 Place Shaping, Households and Accessible Green Space (Pages 11 - 18)

To consider the value of accessible natural green space for health and wellbeing, how access could be maximised and current patterns of availability.

Contact: Mark Blount, Country Parks & Heritage Sites Manager, Tel: 01743 255096

9 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2018-2019 (Pages 19 - 40)

To consider the future work programme of the Committee.

Contact: Danial Webb, Scrutiny Officer, tel 01743 258509

10 Date/Time of the Next Meeting of the Committee

The Committee is scheduled to next meet at 10.00am on Friday 14th December 2018.

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Place Overview Committee
6 September 2018
10.00 am

Item
Public

**MINUTES OF THE PLACE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
6 SEPTEMBER 2018
10.00 AM – 11.37 AM**

Responsible Officer: Julie Fildes
Email: julie.fildes@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257723

Present

Councillor Gwilym Butler (Chair)
Councillors Andy Boddington, Julian Dean, Rob Gittins, Simon Harris, Dan Morris,
William Parr and Harry Taylor

15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Paul Milner and Paul Wynn.
Councillors Clare Aspinall and Gerald Dakin attended as Substitutes for Councillors Milner
and Wynn respectively.

16 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any
matter in which they had a disclosable pecuniary interest and should leave the room prior
to the commencement of the debate.

17 Minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2018 were confirmed as a correct record.

18 Public Question Time

Mr Steven Mulloy asked the following question:

All of the development in the West of Shrewsbury that is ultimately related to the NWRR is
treated in isolation when it comes to environmental impact considerations.

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was not required for the proposed 750 homes
and the hectares of employment land on the SWSUE, and the current EIA for the Oxon
Link Road disregards the SWSUE and the NWRR. Effectively the developments are
'sliced n diced' to avoid having to pay and deal with the true environmental impacts.

It has been well documented that there is never any follow up to EIA's to assess the actual environmental impact; mitigation is always based on theoretical assessments, and effectively become lip service to environmental regulations without truly dealing with the environmental consequences of economic development.

The Council's own data shows that 50% of the population use their cars to get to work, but only around 3% use public transport. Strangely, the data is little different for the urban areas than the more rural areas which you would expect to have more reliance on the car.

We are told by the Council's environmental officers that a sustainable place should not be reliant upon the use of the motor vehicle to access essential services, so why are we trying to deal with economic growth by trying to build more highway infrastructure like the NWRR that neither we or the environment can afford when we should be looking at more sustainable options like encouraging more use of public transport?

The Head of Economic Growth responded that due to the complexity of the question more time was required to fully prepare a response and a written answer would be provided in due course.

19 Member Question Time

There were no questions from Members.

20 Update on Apprenticeship Levy

The HR and Development Manager outlined a report on the Apprenticeship Levy 'Upskill Shropshire' (copy attached to signed minutes).

During discussion members asked a number of questions, these included why numbers appeared to be low, what were the deadlines for spending, why there was unevenness of take up across directorates and whether routes into social work were available.

In response to questions from members, the HR and Development Manager explained that although there had been a relatively high level of interest from staff in applications for apprenticeships, the numbers that had converted resulting in funds being drawn down were low. This was due to a number of factors including apprenticeships that had not yet started or not yet approved for delivery, the apprenticeship framework originally applied for no longer being available, being unable to secure a provider on the provider framework and providers not approving cohorts on the digital system. Up to 20% of apprenticeships involved off the job training which was challenging when there were pressures in an organisation. There was also still work to do in dispelling myths around apprenticeships. £800,000 had been committed to date and it was confirmed that from April 2019 the Council would start to lose money on a monthly basis if it was not spent.

In response to further questions, she explained that the take up in Children's Services was lower than other directorates for a variety of reasons, including issues in securing the right provider and persuading providers to deliver on site in Shropshire. The social work degree was expected to be released imminently.

It was also confirmed that when a post became vacant, the HR Business Partner would always look to see if the post could be converted into an apprenticeship.

The HR and Development Manager was thanked for the update.

21 **Balancing Housing and Economic Growth**

Adrian Cooper, Planning Policy and Strategy Manager, and Maria Howell and Tim Shrosbee, Planning Policy, were welcomed to the meeting.

The Planning Policy and Strategy Manager reported on the role of the Council in Place Shaping and the need to balance housing and economic growth. He referred to the report before members (copy attached to the signed minutes) and the pressure the Council was under to deliver the numbers to meet the needs of the Housing Delivery Test, but also to ensure the type of housing was delivered which met the needs of the county. If focusing simply on numbers, marketability would be the primary consideration, but the Council was charged with place shaping in a balanced way. It was however, necessary to accept a degree of marketability to deliver numbers, but it was possible to shape outcomes if appropriate evidence was available to demonstrate what was needed.

A Cross Party Housing Delivery Group had been set up by the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing Development to help provide advice on achieving the right balance of employment and housing in the county. A key issue was the need to foster a working population capable of living locally, evidence was available showing that many employers struggling to recruit as people were not able to afford to live here.

Officers provided a presentation (copy attached to signed minutes) on The Right Home, Right Place initiative which had been designed to gather evidence to inform changes in the Local Plan Review. This had been designed to help engage more productively with Parishes and demonstrate that Shropshire Council was listening and responding to local need. More people were beginning to understand what affordable housing meant (different types and tenures) and that Community Led Schemes were a good way for communities to obtain the homes they wanted and where they wanted them. The additional data gathered was also providing useful to registered providers and housing associations who were finding the additional data useful both in terms of need and new sites to look at. People were starting to use the website as a hub for information.

Following the presentation, Members queried the relationship of this work with Neighbourhood Plans and asked how the Right Home Right Place surveys worked alongside these. One Member said that some parishes had felt this work had cut across what they were doing already.

Officers acknowledged this issue and explained that time pressure in relation to making the most of grants available from Homes England had meant the survey had been conducted earlier than planned in some parishes. The survey would help contribute positively to parish plans. Good information always made it easier to apply a local focus on application of planning policies. The planning system worked on evidence and providing as much evidence as possible was absolutely crucial.

During discussion, Members identified the need to focus on a drive towards smaller entry level housing but heard there was considerable pressure to deliver numbers in the county otherwise they would be imposed on the county. The Council was looking to introduce further tools to achieve the outcomes it wanted, so these could be taken into account in as many planning decisions as possible. A Member referred to a challenge to numbers by CPRE and how these were tied to economic development.

The Head of Economic Growth reported that work underway at the moment included looking into the Council becoming involved in housing delivery itself and intervening in the market where the market was not delivering.

In response to a question it was confirmed that Homepoint data was used in assessing housing need but it was recognised that not everyone would register their need in that way.

A Member referred to the large number of empty houses in Shropshire, some for very long periods of time, and what could be done to address this. There were government initiatives in place to address this and officers reported that the team with responsibility for this could provide more information or attend a meeting if the Committee wished to add this to the work programme.

In summing up the discussion, the Chair referred to lack of opportunity in small market towns for people to downsize in their local area as retirement housing and bungalows were in such short supply. He also commented that it made sense to conduct surveys across Place Plan areas as a parish in isolation did not include a bigger picture. He asked the Portfolio Holder to take away the question that if a housing needs survey showed critical need whether it would become a CIL priority. He also referred to the stigma around social housing and the many different sorts of housing available including modular housing. He also asked how Homepoint gave priority to key workers and the committee heard how at the recent Rural Service Network Conference, three examples were provided by the Chair of the English Housing Association, two of which were from Shropshire.

In conclusion, officers were thanked for the work they were undertaking and for gaining English Housing Association recognition.

The Chair asked if the Committee would be minded to look into this areas discussed in greater depth in order to help advise and ensure activity fell in line with corporate aspirations. It was agreed to insert this into the work programme moving forward.

22 Update on 'Twenty's Plenty'

The Highways, Transport and Environment Manager reminded the Committee of the discussion held at the February meeting on 20s Plenty Schemes. He reported that there had been many requests for information from Town Councils, although not necessarily for implementation. The Council's position remained as it had been in February – in that wherever possible new developments would include as low a speed limit as possible built in. There remained issues in terms of enforcement.

The Chair asked if there was any progress made in providing Planning Committees with the ability to condition 20mph limits on new developments and officers said they would report back on this.

A Member referred to a number of Town Councils which had requested a scheme and asked about progress with these. The Highways and Transport Manager reported that some towns had put forward schemes balanced off against other road safety schemes. Engineering interventions would be expensive, and the police also had a role. He understood the police statement made at the February meeting in relation to enforcement

still stood. The police required major structural inputs to reduce average speeds to a community accepted/enforceable otherwise they would not enforce a 20mph limit.

The Chairman felt that the Road Safety Partnership structure was designed for city areas and not fit for purpose for a county like Shropshire. He explained that the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee was setting up a Task and Finish Group on road safety across the county. It was suggested that the Road Safety Partnership and 20mph be added to this work. The Highways and Transport Manager reported that there was a new methodology of collecting data related to Killed and Seriously on the roads data and it was too early to see trends.

The Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport reported on visits to Town and Parish Councils across the county on this issue.

It was agreed that a Task and Finish Group was the best place to progress these issues.

23 Brexit Task and Finish Group

The Committee agreed to re-open the work of the Brexit Task and Finish Group in the light of the technical notices issued in the event of a hard Brexit.

24 Update on North West Relief Road

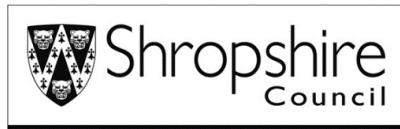
Shropshire Council had not been successful in its application for Shrewsbury North West Relief Road funding from the Department of Transport. Despite not being one of the three schemes included, subsequent announcements were expected later in the year and further conversations continued at political and officer level. It continued to be a priority scheme for the Council and the full Outline Business Case was available on the Council's website.

25 Work Programme 2018 - 2019

Members were reminded that the work programme was a live document and could be amended to address circumstances as necessary.

Chair: _____ Date: _____

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<u>Committee and Date</u>
Place Overview Committee 15th Nov 2018

<u>Item</u>
6
<u>Public</u>

Responding to Shropshire's Priorities for Skills

Responsible officer: Corinne Brown – Shrewsbury Colleges Group

corinneb@shrewsbury.ac.uk

01743 260405

Introduction

Shrewsbury Colleges Group - where every student makes outstanding progress

Shrewsbury Colleges Group's Mission is to:

Provide outstanding academic and vocational education and training for all 16-19 students and adults; Be a local centre of excellence for higher education; Be the college of choice.

To meet the needs of local employers, a dedicated department has been set up and is branded Business Solutions. Their role includes:

- Information and Guidance - operating a dedicated phone line offering information relating to all training and apprenticeships the college offer. Employment advice is also offered for those employers considering taking on an apprentice.
- Employer visits - to discuss in detail what their business needs are through the completion of an Organisational Needs Analysis. This process identifies any training needs that would address their business requirements
- Apprentice reviews – visiting the employer and their apprentice in the workplace every 12 weeks to assess progress
- Attendance at networking and promotional events
- Recruitment Services – advertising apprenticeship vacancies and assisting with recruitment
- Managing contracts and funding streams
- Account Management

The Business Solutions team consist of Corinne Brown, Business Development Manager, Laura Scotland and Jules Rhodes, Business Development Associates.

The College Offer

The College's strategy is shaped by the key priority sectors as identified by the Marches LEP and the Shropshire Council:

Advanced manufacturing (engineering) – a key growth area for the college with significant investment over the past 3 years. Shrewsbury College is working in alliance with Caterpillar, Staffordshire University and Festo to increase the higher education offer to include full degrees, bespoke training direct to engineering companies and training for apprentices and learners. The project will create an entirely new product design and prototype suite with the latest specialist engineering equipment and software. The outputs from the project by March 2021 will be 191 businesses supported, 387 apprentices, 134 NVQ Level 2 and 3, 504 Level 2 and 3 full time, 82 bite size training courses and 227 HE degrees of which the College has the following targets:

Year	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total Target	Achieved To Date
Additional Business Supported	46	61	68	72	70	317	107
Level 2 apprentices	20	17	30	37	41	154	37
Level 3 apprentices	19	26	32	41	44	161	45
Level 4 apprentices	0	4	14	28	32	100	4
NVQ level 2	24	17	15	16	16	119	41
NVQ Level 3	11	11	3	3	3	15	22
Bite sized training courses	40	146	63	70	92	319	186
Level 1/2 Full Time	103	102	34	36	34	164	205
Level 3 Full Time	60	59	70	74	78	340	119
Higher Education	38	52	47	50	50	227	90
Pre 16 (school links/tasters)	121	89	5	5	5	23	210

The College works with a range of large and smaller engineering companies including Doncasters, Caterpillar, Ricoh, Makita, Epwin Group, Tarmac, Syspal, Shropshire Stainless Fabrications and Bilcar Engineering.

Environmental Technologies and Services – there is limited provision in this area offered by the college. Due, in part, to a lack of requests, but there is a service provided for the plumbing industry where we offer rainwater harvesting and solar thermal hot water systems as an alternative to gas.

Food and Drink, Tourism – hospitality is an area of training the college is very proud of. With the Origins restaurant, awarded the 'Highly Commended' rosette award for the quality of its food and standards of service they have cultivated a reputation for fine dining and have a popular full time offer for young people. Tourism is also a full time offer. Apprenticeships are offered in hospitality and catering ranging from 'front of house' to 'commis chef' but are a smaller proportion of the overall employer offer at just 6%.

Construction – our main provision and the leading provider in the area. In response to the Shropshire Council Economic Growth Strategy and the vast number of new builds required in this area, we are now struggling to keep up with demand. Accounting for 53% of our provision, we currently have 333 apprentices and we are constantly recruiting where space allows.

The areas of training that we offer for full time, part time students and apprentices are as follows:

- Brickwork
- Carpentry (site and joinery)
- Painting and Decorating
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Construction Technical (surveying, estimating etc.)
- Construction and the Built Environment (site supervision) – HNC level

We also offer Plastering to experienced workers on site but have no space to train apprentices at the college.

Employers include David Wilson Homes, Taylor Wimpey, PaveAways as well as a significant number of sole traders in each trade.

The College is a member of the Shropshire Construction Excellence group and the Shropshire Construction Training Group where we regularly network, keeping abreast of their requirements and developments within this sector. We also work closely with the Construction Industry Training Board and the University Centre Shrewsbury where we collaborate on new projects.

Health and Social Care - This is very small provision for the College. With 12 providers competing in this market in a 20 degree radius, it is felt that our focus should be on high investment programmes which traditionally colleges do well at. Local employers include Battlefield Healthcare, Agape Domiciliary Care and Marches Care

Creative and digital industries (including digital health) – offered as part of the college curriculum offer for full time students and higher education with HNC and HND in Computing Science.

Working with Employers to Deliver What They Want

Do they understand what they want?

There are various mechanisms to ascertain what an employer may want. The most effective is the employer visit by one of the Business Solutions team who conduct the aforementioned Organisational Needs Analysis, offering a greater understanding of the company before any suggestions for improvement are made. This discussion aims to address improvements through suggested training. On completion, training is evaluated against any improvements to identify the Bottom Line Benefits achieved.

Often employers will contact the college asking for help, or simply asking for what they think they need. Mandatory training aside, by contacting the dedicated team, this can be explored before going further. The aim, wherever possible is to have a face to face meeting either with one of the sales team or a specialist advisor i.e. college assessor.

Anticipating demand

The College cannot always anticipate demand and relies heavily on secondary research, whether that be news of a large employer moving into the area or plans to build hundreds of new houses. It is also imperative that the College keep abreast of new technologies in all sector areas that they serve, through attendance at seminars, conferences and subscribing to trade journals.

Meeting needs collaboratively

The Marches Skills Provider Network, comprising of colleges, training providers and Higher Education Institutions has been established to 'Help the Marches Work' by encouraging and supporting providers to operate in a culture of collaborative working that facilitates achievement of learners whilst supporting employers in achieving their economic goals. The College is represented on the board and is the Chair for the operational group serving Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

Challenges

20% off the job – a huge challenge to employers who must allow their apprentices 20% of their contracted hours away from their job role to engage in active learning.

Apprenticeship Levy – there is a myth that the Levy has been the main reason for the national take up of apprenticeships being down. This is not the case. 20% off the job training is the main reason with Health and Social Care being the main consumer and therefore having the greatest impact. For non-levy payers nothing has changed other than this rule. Challenges may well come into force when SME's go on to the Apprenticeship Service platform due to go 'live' next April.

Low paid industries – will typically take advantage of apprentice's low minimum wage. High turnover of staff in the hospitality, retail and care sectors for example, makes the stability of apprenticeships very difficult to maintain.

Lack of understanding – employers often find recruiting for an apprentice very daunting. Despite marketing by the National Apprenticeship Service, the content of training programmes and the legalities around employing an apprentice are often misunderstood. Other areas IT skills where employers have no idea what software applications could impact on their overall efficiency.

Growth and sustainability - there is a great deal of difficulty in recruiting graduates who typically complete 'A' levels and leave for University. With workforces typically aged 50+ in construction and engineering this is a great concern and one that we all need to address, both employer and training provider.

borough and district councils and Shropshire County Council. With regards to open space provision each borough and district council had its own local plan policies and standards set out below, to meet the then planning policy guidance note PPG17.

Previous open space standards

	Oswestry	North Shropshire	Shrewsbury & Atcham	Bridgnorth	South Shropshire
Supplementary Planning Documents	None	None	Oct 2000	June 2007	April 2005
Thresholds	10+	Implied no threshold	Implied 5+	5+	no threshold
Amenity / Informal open space	30-40m ² per dwelling (3 person) (=10-13m ² per person)	0.8 ha / 1,000 pop (=8m ² per person)		5m ² per person	0.2 ha/ 1,000 pop (=2m ² per person)
Equipped play	5m ² per dwelling minimum (=1.7m ² per person)	15m ² per family dwelling (= 5m ² per person)		3m ² per person	
Outdoor sport / playing fields	40m ² per dwelling (=13.3m ² per person)	1.6 ha / 1,000 pop (= 16m ² per person)		16m ² per person	
Open space (general)			2.43 ha/1,000 pop		2.4 ha/ 1,000 incl 0.2 above (=24m ² per person)
Standardised m ² per person	25-28m²	29m²	24.3m²	24m²	24m²

Prior to unitary status a comprehensive local assessment of all types of open space provision was conducted by consultants in 2008 and 2009, on behalf of all the Shropshire councils. These “PPG17 studies” provided an up-to-date and robust evidence base for determining local needs and setting locally derived standards. These replace the previous standards, variously set in the five local plans, detailed above.

The 2009 report was subsequently used by Shropshire Council to inform their Open Space Interim Planning Guidance (2012). However, in the period between 2009 and 2012 Shropshire Council needed to have a standard policy for public open space. As Bridgnorth District Council had the most recent open space interim planning guidance, this was adopted into Shropshire Council’s public open space interim planning guidance (IPG) 2010. The purpose of the interim planning guidance is to allow developers to predict as accurately as possible the likely contributions they will be asked to make through planning obligations, and therefore to anticipate the financial implications for development projects. Developer contributions would therefore be sought for new provision of recreational public open space, but where appropriate may be used ‘off site’ to help remedy local deficiencies in the quantity or quality of existing provision. The developer funding contribution for open space, sport and recreation provision (PPG17 typologies), if not provided direct by the developer, are derived from Bridgnorth District Council interim planning guidance calculations from 2007 and have been updated each year based on the annual Retail Price Index increase.

In 2012 Shropshire Council adopted a new core strategy for future developments and moved to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) tariff contribution rather than a negotiated S106. CIL is a charge on new development to help fund supporting infrastructure across Shropshire. The rates within the schedule were informed by an economic viability assessment and consultation with both the general public and the development industry. Within Shropshire, CIL applies to all development that involves:

- The formation of one or more new dwellings, (including holiday lets), either through conversion or new build, regardless of size (unless it is ‘affordable housing’); or
- The establishment of new residential floorspace (including extensions and replacements) of 100m² or above.

The CIL fund provides developers with more certainty as to the amount of contribution required based on a cost per meter. To reflect these changes the public open space interim planning guidance was updated in 2012 and provided a quantity standard of 30m² per bed space, which combined and rounded PPG17 typologies in order to provide a single quantity standard, which was considered to be more practical to apply for all residential developments and more reflective of the multi-functional nature of many open spaces.

2015 SAMdev DPD plan set out proposals for the use of land and policies to guide future development to help deliver the vision and objectives of the Core Strategy. For the first time POS requirements were set out in policy and not just as guidance. Under Shropshire Council's SAMDev Plan and MD2 policy requirement, all residential developments will provide adequate open space, set at a minimum standard of 30m² per person (equivalent to 3ha per 1,000 population). For residential developments, the number of future occupiers will be based on a standard of one person per bedroom. The types of open space provided needs to be relevant to the development and its locality and should take guidance from the Place Plans. The ongoing needs for access to manage open space must be provided for and arrangements must be in place to ensure that the open space will be maintained in perpetuity whether by the occupiers, a private company, a community organisation, the local town or parish council, or by Shropshire Council.

If the developer doesn't meet the policy of 30m² per bed space, then in certain circumstances (i.e. existing public open space is within the accessible time standard) an offsite contribution can be negotiated and secured by entering into a S106 agreement. The funding calculator is based the average space of a dwelling (69m²) and the average occupancy (2.3) and how many times this goes into the public open space that is not provided.

In 2016-17 Shropshire Council commissioned Red Kite Network Ltd Consultants to undertake a review of the [counties open space and recreational needs](#). The primary purpose of the report was to provide an updated set of data by Place Plan area that would follow and provide continuity to the findings of previous open space study conducted in 2009. In doing so it has also provided an opportunity to assess how well the scope of 2009 methodology, and the standards informed by it were relevant in 2017.

The review concluded that there is a need to place a much greater emphasis on how open spaces form part of a larger functional network of green infrastructure. Existing standards only consider the proportion of open space within a development and are not designed to assess how well the type and placement of open space fits into a wider green infrastructure network. At present the standards are only linked to residential developments, but in future a wider approach that includes equivalent standards for commercial/industrial developments is likely to be required. A well planned green infrastructure network addresses multiple issues, including physical and mental health, transport and air quality, climate change and biodiversity.

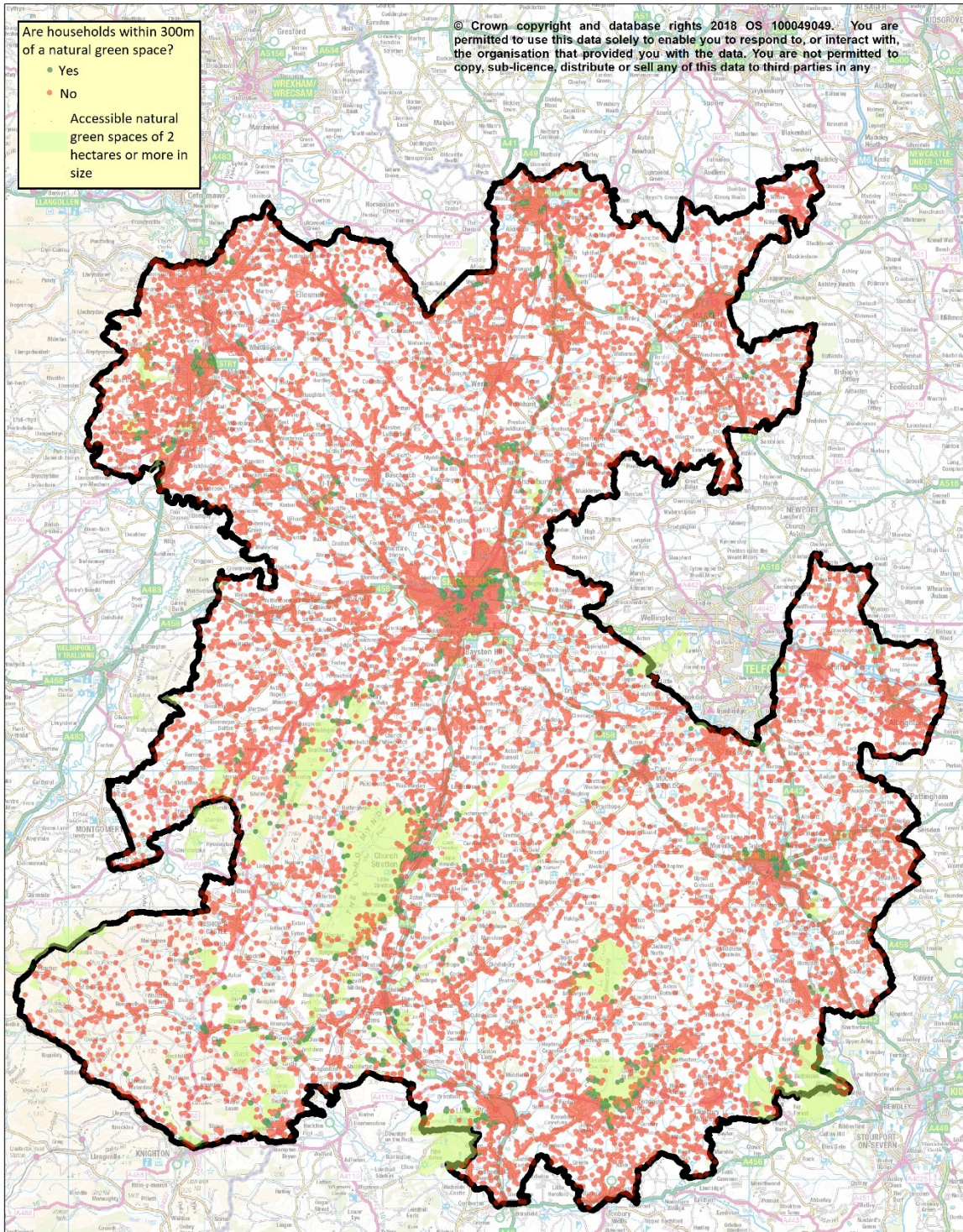
Assessing and planning the overall quality, accessibility, and connectivity of a wider network of open spaces requires a new analytical approach using a different set of criteria to that which informed the Shropshire Open Space Needs Assessment. To this end, the Council are currently conducting a spatial analysis of Accessible Green

Spaces (AGS) in the county and developing a green infrastructure mapping database. The object of this work is to map every formalised accessible green space (including natural spaces, recreation and amenity sites, and parks) over 1.5 hectares in size, including all of the access points for each open space, and then to produce a detailed map showing which households are within the catchment area served by each greenspace, based on 300m walking distance. The output of this work is a map covering every household in the county, revealing in detail where there are gaps in open space provision.

This approach is based on Natural England's Access to Natural Green Space (ANG) Standard, which provides guidance to local authorities to consider the provision of natural areas as part of a balanced policy to ensure that local communities have access to an appropriate mix of greenspaces providing for a range of recreational needs. It recommends that provision should be made of at least 2ha of accessible natural greenspace per 1000 population according to a system of tiers into which sites of different sizes fit:

- no person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace;
- there should be at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km of home;
- there should be one accessible 100ha site within 5km;
- there should be one accessible 500ha site within 10km.

The Council's green infrastructure mapping database has mapped every household and measured it against the natural green space accessibility standards above. The results of mapping both the Natural England access standards, and the broader categories of the access to natural green space survey, show that although Shropshire is a rural county, there are still many places that do not meet the required standards.

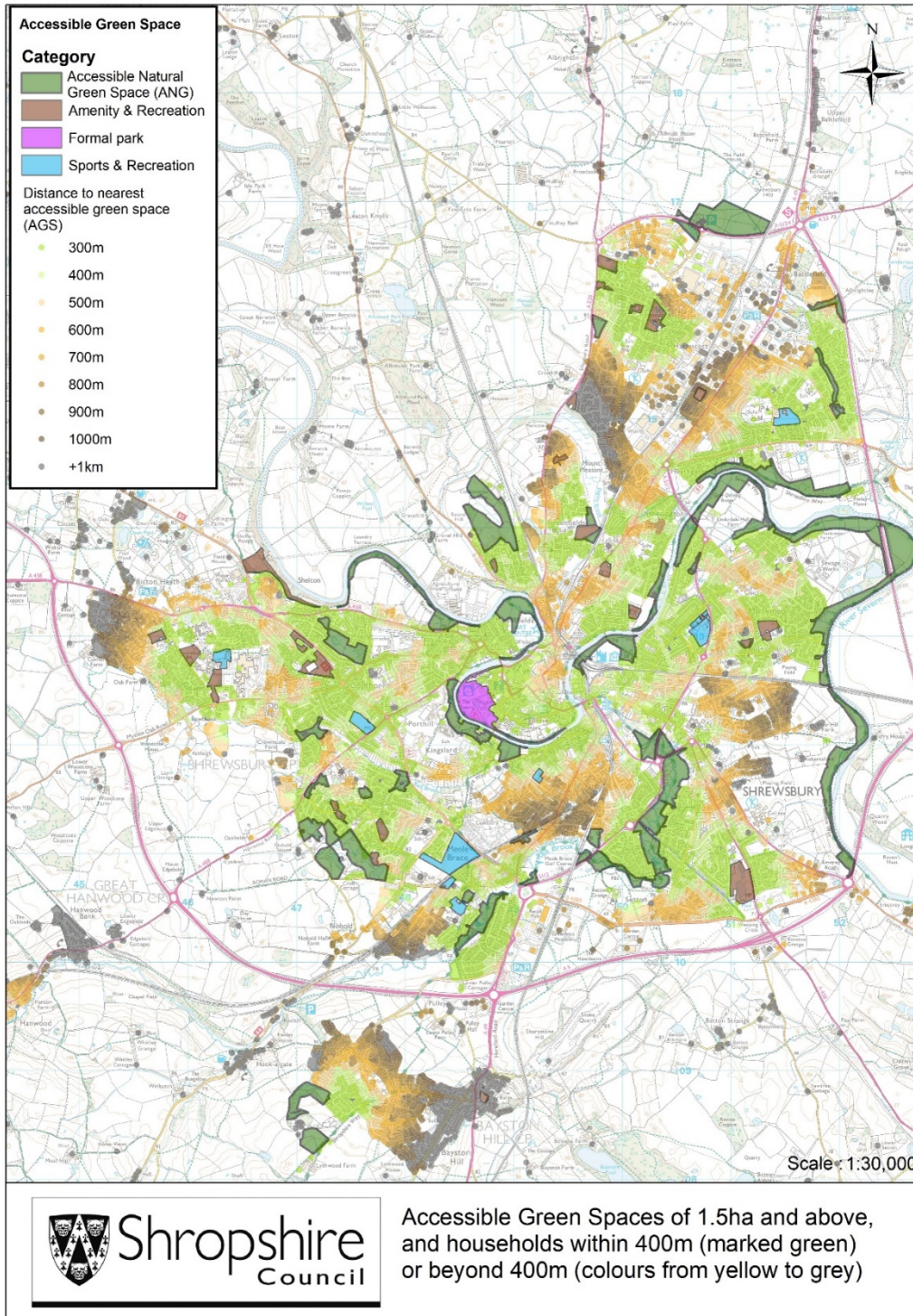


Households within 300m of an area of accessible natural greenspace

Scale : 1:250,000

The green infrastructure mapping database will enable the Council to master plan future developments, so that it can identify the amount of greenspace required and the best location that provides the best access for all new residents.

The green infrastructure mapping system will be presented at the November 2018 Place Overview Committee meeting.



It is anticipated that Central Government will be bring forward a set of national standards for open space, as described in their 25 Year Environment Plan, with the purpose of making sure that there are high quality, accessible, natural spaces close to where people live and work, particularly in urban areas, and encouraging more people to spend time in them to benefit their health and wellbeing.

These aspirations are included as priorities in the new Shropshire's Great Outdoors Strategy 2018-28, namely to

- create new supplementary planning guidance to enhance the quality, quantity and connectivity of greenspace in new developments and
- increase the amount of accessible natural greenspace from 1.66ha/ 1,000 population to 2.0ha.

Targets are also included within the Corporate Plan to:

- reduce the number of households with **very high** demand for accessible natural greenspace to 4% [from 5%] and
- reduce the number of households with demand for accessible natural greenspace to 40% [from 42%].

Conclusion

The findings of the Red Kite report and the green infrastructure mapping system as a spatial analysis tool of open space provision, will inform and shape future green infrastructure master plans improving future standards, quality and accessibility of public accessible open space. This evidence base will feed into the Local Plan Review being conducted by the Council so that developers have clearer guidance as to what type, amount, quality and connectivity of open space is required within or around their proposed sites, to meet open space policy requirements.

These aspirations have been reflected in the Shropshire's Great Outdoors Strategy 2018-28, with priorities that include:

- Adopting a master planning approach through the revised Local Plan.
- Conducting master planning of six market towns to plan countryside access and greenspace provision in response to new housing and employment land development.
- Developing Supplementary Planning Guidance that encourages access, worthwhile greenspace and outdoor activities in new developments.



Committee and Date

Place Overview Committee
15th November 2018

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2018 – 2019

Responsible officer

Tom Dodds, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

tom.dodds@shropshire.gov.uk

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1.0 Summary

1.1 This paper presents Overview and Scrutiny's proposed work programme for the year ahead. The committees have based their programmes on topics from Shropshire Council's Strategic Action Plan. Committees will also

- scrutinise thematic priorities
- respond to emerging issues and
- follow up on previous work.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Committee members to:

- confirm the proposed work programme attached as **appendices 1 and 2**
- suggest changes to the committee work programme and
- recommend other topics to consider

3.0 Background

3.1 Overview and Scrutiny's committees base this work programme on topics from Shropshire Council's Strategic Action Plan. They also

- scrutinise thematic priorities
- respond to emerging issues
- follow up on previous work
- carry out cross-committee work through task and finish groups.

3.2 The current work programme is attached as **appendix 1**.

3.3 To carry out cross-committee work, or look at topics in more depth, overview and scrutiny committees set up task and finish groups. These groups consist of members drawn from overview and scrutiny committees, which meet outside of the usual scheduled committee meetings. These groups then report their findings and recommendations to overview and scrutiny committees for approval. The current list

of ongoing task and finish group meetings is included in this report as **appendix 2**.

4.0 Next steps

4.1 Overview and scrutiny updates this report on an ongoing basis and presents it to each overview and scrutiny committee. This will allow members the opportunity to contribute to its development at each committee meeting.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
None
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
All
Local Member
All
Appendices
Overview and scrutiny work programme
Overview and scrutiny task and finish groups

Appendix 1
Overview and Scrutiny work programme 2018 to 2019

Performance Management Scrutiny Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Digital Transformation Programme Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive a verbal update from the Head of Workforce and Development on the progress of the Digital Transformation Programme 	Verbal update	Head of Workforce and Development	Ensure that the programme is proceeding as planned and that any risks are suitable mitigated.	24 Oct 2018
Corporate Peer Challenge Report and Action Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the priorities for action emerging from the recent corporate peer challenge. Scrutinise the council's progress in implementing the report action plan. 	corporate peer challenge report and action plan and progress report	Chief Executive	Shropshire Council is making good progress in implementing the peer challenge action plan.	24 Oct 2018
Financial Strategy Task and Finish Group interim report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the budget proposals and identify the priority areas for further consideration Identify any likely impacts of the budget proposals and explore how these will be managed with the relevant officers and Portfolio Holders. Scrutinise investment and income proposals 	task and finish group report	Group Chair Head of Finance, Governance & Assurance	Proposals for investment and income generation are sound.	24 Oct 2018

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Performance Management Scrutiny Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Q1 2018/19 Corporate Performance Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the key underlying and emerging performance issues. Identify any performance areas that they would like to consider in greater detail or refer to the appropriate overview and scrutiny committee. 	Cabinet performance report	Information, Intelligence and Insight Manager	Committee develops its insight into council performance, and focuses its work on relevant performance issues.	24 Oct 2018
Q1 2018/19 Financial Monitoring Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the key underlying and emerging performance issues. Identify any performance areas that they would like to consider in greater detail or refer to the appropriate overview and scrutiny committee. 	Cabinet performance report	Information, Intelligence and Insight Manager	Committee develops its insight into council performance, and focuses its work on relevant performance issues.	24 Oct 2018
Annual Customer Feedback Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the nature of complaints, compliments and comments that the council receives. Scrutinise how the council uses these Improve its services. 	Analysis of complaints, compliments and comments received	Information, Intelligence and Insight Manager	Ensure that the council responds appropriately to complaints, compliments and comments, and uses them effectively Improve services.	24 Oct 2018

Performance Management Scrutiny Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Corporate Peer Challenge Report and Action Plan – exception report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise progress against the action plan. Identify areas for development and make recommendations for improvement. 	action plan update report	Chief Executive	Assurance that the council is making progress in developing its action plan.	24 Oct 2018
Road Safety Task and Finish Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the terms of reference for a proposed Road Safety Task and Finish Group. 	Terms of reference	Chair, Performance Management Scrutiny Committee	Identify opportunities to reduce road casualties in Shropshire.	24 Oct 2018
SCIL, S106 and NHB Task and Finish Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the draft Community Infrastructure Levy regulation 123 list 	task and finish group report	Head of Economic Development	Ensure the council spends income from the levy effectively.	24 Oct 2018
Report of Welfare Reform Task and Finish Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the report and recommendations of the Welfare Reform Task and Finish Group. 	task and finish group report	task and finish group chair	Ensure effective arrangements Support people in receipt of welfare support and preventative services.	14 Nov 2018

Performance Management Scrutiny Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Q2 2018/19 Performance Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the key underlying and emerging performance issues. Identify any performance areas that they would like to consider in greater detail or refer to the appropriate overview and scrutiny committee. 	Cabinet performance report	Information, Intelligence and Insight Manager	Committee develops its insight into council performance, and focuses its work on relevant performance issues.	14 Nov 2018
Corporate Peer Challenge Report and Action Plan – exception report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise progress against the action plan. Identify areas for development and make recommendations for improvement. 	action plan update report	Chief Executive	Assurance that the council is making progress in developing its action plan.	6 Mar 2019
Q3 2018/19 Performance Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the key underlying and emerging performance issues. Identify any performance areas that they would like to consider in greater detail or refer to the appropriate overview and scrutiny committee. 	Cabinet performance report	Information, Intelligence and Insight Manager	Committee develops its insight into council performance, and focuses its work on relevant performance issues.	6 Mar 2019

Performance Management Scrutiny Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Update of roadworks and street works task and finish group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To scrutinise progress against the recommendations of the roadworks and street works task and finish group	Committee report	Highways, Transport and Environment Commissioning Manager	Greater public satisfaction with the process of carrying out roadworks and street works.	May 2019

Communities Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Emergency Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise Shropshire Council's arrangements for emergency planning. 	<p>committee overview report</p> <p>presentation to committee</p>	Emergency Planning Manager	<p>Ensure that Shropshire Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifies the right priorities for its emergency planning has in place suitable mitigation and carries out appropriate training and awareness raising. 	26 Nov 2018
Public rights of way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the value of public rights of way Scrutinise how rights of way are determined, maintained, protected and adjusted 	presentation to committee			28 Jan 2019
Community Safety Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the updated community safety strategy Scrutinise the research underpinning any changes to the strategy. 	<p>committee overview report</p> <p>presentation to committee</p>	Community Safety Manager	Assurance that the Community Safety Strategy identifies the right priorities for its work.	28 Jan 2019

Communities Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Community Hubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the development of plans for the creation of five community hubs. Ensure that the proposals will meet any needs resulting from social prescribing. 	<p>topic briefing note</p> <p>committee overview report</p> <p>presentation to committee</p>	TBA	Ensure that community hubs effectively meet the needs of Shropshire people.	18 March 2019
Burial capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive an update on work to secure adequate burial space in Shropshire 	committee overview report	TBA	Ensure adequate burial space in Shropshire	Sep 2019

Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Public health budget and service provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise future funding proposals. 	<p>committee overview report</p> <p>presentation to committee</p>	Director of Public Health		12 Nov 2018
111 commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the performance of the new service arrangements. Seek assurance that the new arrangements are meeting required service levels. 				12 Nov 2018
Delayed transfers of care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisit progress with reducing delayed transfers of care. Understand the impact of projects. Understand the impact of winter pressures on delays. Scrutinise readmission rates. Scrutinise how care packages for people who have had a stroke are put into place. 	<p>committee overview report</p> <p>presentation to committee</p>	<p>Chief Operating Officer, Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust</p> <p>Service Director, Shropshire Council</p>	To agree a course of action to build on local authority success in reducing delays.	12 Nov 2018

Smoking cessation services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand existing smoking cessation services • Scrutinise proposals for service change. 	committee overview report presentation to committee	Director of Public Health		21 Jan 2019
Care Closer to Home		committee overview report presentation to committee	Director, Adult Services CCG lead		21 Jan 2019
Future Fit consultation findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the findings of consultations on Future Fit reconfiguration of NHS services in Shropshire, including Telford and Wrekin. • Scrutinise the response to consultation findings. 	Consultation findings committee overview report presentation to committee	Chief Executive, Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust	Assurance that the consultation has been carried out thoroughly, and its findings acted upon appropriately.	21 Jan 2019
Ambulance services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how the service handles the most serious calls and the service's heaviest users. • Scrutinise how the service uses response times to deliver an effective service. • Provide feedback on a planned visit to the West Midlands Ambulance Service 	Map of public defibrillators in Shropshire	Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group		25 Mar 2019

Better Care and Improved Better Care funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the Improved Better Care Fund and its implications for Shropshire people. Understand the outcomes of the fund and whether these have been achieved. 	committee overview report presentation to committee	Director, Adult Services		May 2019
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People Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Education attainment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise education attainment in Shropshire over recent years Identify any specific patterns or changes which need to be looked at in detail. 	overview report presentation	Director, Children's Services	Ensure that Shropshire Council is targeting support where needed to improve education attainment.	21 Nov 2018
Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an overview of the Safeguarding Children Board's work during the previous year. Scrutinise changes to governance arrangements for the Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Board. 	Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report	Independent Chair, Safeguarding Children Board	Contribute to developing governance arrangements for safeguarding in Shropshire.	21 Nov 2018

People Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Empty Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the extent and impact of empty homes in Shropshire. Scrutinise work to minimise the number of empty homes in Shropshire. 	Presentation and overview report			30 Jan 2019
SEND peer review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise any actions from the proposed peer review of services for children and young people with special educational needs. 	Peer review findings and action plan Presentation	Director, Children's Services	Ensure the service's actions plans address the recommendations of the peer review.	30 Jan 2019
Progress and impact of the delivery of the Ofsted Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise progress with the implementation of the Ofsted Action Plan and the benefits realised for children, young people and families in Shropshire. 	overview report	Director, Children's Services	Provide assurance that the council is making good progress in implementing its action plan, delivering the required improvements.	30 Jan 2019

People Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Employment and progression opportunities	<p>Scrutinise current arrangements for people to enter into work and progression including apprenticeships and skills training. To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • apprenticeships and skills training • young people's aspiration and progression, and how to retain young people in the county • older people in the workforce, including re-skilling and retired workers (post 50 workforce) mentoring, coaching • Access to apprenticeships for school staff. 	<p>overview report</p> <p>presentations</p>	TBA		30 Jan 2019
Homepoint	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	27 Mar 2019

People Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Opportunities for Looked After Children and care leavers to achieve their potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny of the implementation of the Looked After Children Plan and the delivery of improved outcomes. Examine the availability and uptake of apprenticeships and employment, and housing support, and consider the benefits and impact. 	Updated Looked After Children Plan overview report presentation	Director, Children's Services	Assurance that Shropshire Council is delivering better outcomes for looked after children and care leavers.	27 Mar 2019
School improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise the impact of changes Shropshire Council's education improvement service. 	overview report presentation	Director, Children's Services	Monitor the impacts of changes to the service and make any recommendations for change.	27 Mar 2019
Drug and alcohol services for young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise the provision of drug and alcohol support services for young people 				May 2019
Children's services performance dashboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise safeguarding and early help performance. Identify any specific patterns or changes which need to be looked at in detail. 	overview report presentation	Director, Children's Services	Ensure that Shropshire Council is targeting support where needed to improve safeguarding.	May 2019

Place Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Skills training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To understand how skills training providers are responding to Shropshire's priorities for skills. 	<p>Overview report</p> <p>Presentation</p>	Chair of business board		15 Nov 2018
Securing Investment in Shropshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive an update on how the council secures investment In Shropshire 	<p>Overview report</p> <p>Presentation</p>	Head of Economic Growth		15 Nov 2018
Place shaping – households and accessible green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the value of accessible natural green space for health and wellbeing, how access could be maximised, and look at current patterns of availability. 	<p>overview report</p> <p>presentation</p> <p>map of current and proposed accessible green space in towns and villages</p>		<p>Development of open spaces that improve the liveability of towns and villages</p> <p>Ensure that open spaces maximise the opportunity for people Improve their health and wellbeing.</p>	15 Nov 2018

Place Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Street works enforcement policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to the development of the draft streetworks enforcement policy 	overview report presentation	Highways, Transport and Environment Commissioning Manager	Streetworks are carried out effectively and safely	14 Dec 2018
Review of policy on A boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to the review of policy on A boards 	Presentation	Highways, Transport and Environment Commissioning Manager Business groups Charities and accessibility groups	The policy balances the needs for businesses to advertise their businesses with maximising footpath accessibility.	14 Dec 2018
Place shaping – maintaining a clean and attractive space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the development of the new Local Transport Plan and how it relates to the delivery of the Council's priorities. 	overview report presentation	Head of Commissioning	Contribute to development of Local Transport Plan. Provide assurance that the plan contributes to housing and economic growth plans	31 Jan 2019

Place Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Local economic strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise draft local economic growth strategies 	<p>overview report</p> <p>presentation</p> <p>site visit</p>	Head of Economic Growth		31 Jan 2019
Place shaping – diversification of the local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise progress with the delivery of the Council’s Economic Growth Strategy, with particular focus on keys sectors, higher added value businesses, numbers of new jobs created, and new companies Shropshire in the key target sectors. Consider progress in securing investment in the digital and health care sector. 	<p>overview report</p> <p>presentation</p>	Head of Economic Growth	<p>Ensure that housing, transport and built environment strategies effectively support economic growth.</p> <p>Provide assurance that the Economic Growth Strategy is delivering economic benefits.</p>	28 March 2019
Highways winter service plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the lesson learned from the previous winter maintenance plan. Scrutinise planning for the winter period 2019-2020. 	<p>overview report</p> <p>presentation</p>	Highways, Transport and Environment Commissioning Manager	Contribute to development of a winter service plan that ensure safe highways and protects vulnerable people.	Jul 2019

Place Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Local Plan and place plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the revised Local Plan. • Scrutinise local place plans. 	report Include overview of Local Plan and key changes to existing plan, including Green belt review	Head of Economic Growth	Assurance that the Local Plan support housing, transport and economic growth priorities.	Jul 2019

Appendix 2

Current and proposed task and finish groups

Title	Objectives	Next reporting
Financial Strategy and Innovation and Income Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand the process and activity stages for developing the Financial Strategy 2018/19 to 2022/23 and how these translate into the Council's annual budgets • To consider and scrutinise the proposals and emerging plans for the whole Financial Strategy and 2019/20 Budget, including how they align to the four pillars. This will be through their development and their implementation, in particular for innovation and raising income. • To consider the alignment of the Financial Strategy and the new Corporate Plan being developed autumn 2018. • To consider the recommendations and areas for action identified in the Corporate Peer Challenge report relating to the Financial Strategy, and how they are being addressed. • To consider the direct and indirect impacts, including risks, of 2019/20 Budget proposals on current services and customers. • To complete specific pieces of work to identify and work up alternatives to emerging plans, including the feasibility of any alternative proposals • Make evidence based recommendations in relation to plans and approaches for innovation and income generation, and alternative proposals for future budget setting. 	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee 24 October 2018
Road casualty reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further analyse statistics on people killed or seriously injured on roads in Shropshire. • Understand the causes of casualties. • Identify existing and potential local authority and partnership policies that can contribute to road casualty reduction. 	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee 24 October 2018

Title	Objectives	Next reporting
Welfare reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that the council's own systems and processes are optimised so it provides the best advice and temporary support to people who need it. • To understand how the council works with its partners to agree a common strategy Support people in greatest need. • To ensure that council resources are deployed wherever possible Support people into education, employment and training. 	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee 14 November 2018
Reducing admissions through warmer homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how warmer homes reduce hospital admissions and demand for social care support • Scrutinise the effectiveness of Keep Shropshire Warm • Scrutinise the role of registered social landlords in keeping homes warm • Understand how warmer homes are reducing delayed transfers of care • Explore the links between work to reduce falls and warmer homes 	Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee 19 November 2018
Community Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand how community transport operates in Shropshire, and the demand for community transport services. • Identify how the community transport groups, the council, and other partners can work together to provide community transport to people in Shropshire who do not have access to public or private transport. 	Communities Overview Committee January 2019

Title	Objectives	Next reporting
Local Joint Committees (LJCs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review the current design and delivery of the LJCs and use the evidence gathered Make a recommendation on whether they should continue or not. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the recommendation is to continue, make further recommendations on the future design and delivery of the LJCs ○ If the recommendation is to cease, to design the withdrawal of the LJCs without undue impact on Shropshire Council members, town and parish councils, co-opted members or local residents. • To recommend how Shropshire Council should be working with partners, specifically town and parish councils to enable shared engagement, communications, accountability and governance within communities. 	Communities Overview Committee Early 2019