

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

Wednesday, 30 October 2019

Committee:
Place Overview Committee

Date: Thursday, 7 November 2019
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

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

Claire Porter
Director of Legal and Democratic Services

Members of Place Overview Committee

Joyce Barrow (Chairman)	Paul Milner (Vice Chairman)
Andy Boddington	Dan Morris
Julian Dean	Pamela Moseley
Rob Gittins	William Parr
Simon Harris	Paul Wynn

Your Committee Officer is:

Sarah Townsend Committee Officer
Tel: 01743 257721
Email: sarah.townsend@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussion 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 of the Meeting held on 5th September 2019 (Pages 1 - 6)

To consider the minutes of the Place Overview Committee meeting held on 5th September 2019.

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 10.00am on Tuesday 5th November 2019.

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 5.00pm on Monday 4th November 2019.

6 WSP and Kier Annual Reports

To receive and scrutinise the annual reports of WSP and Kier and to consider the performance of the highway's delivery partnerships. [Reports to follow]

Contact: Steve Brown Tel 01743 254438

7 Shrewsbury Shopping Centres

To consider the management of the Shrewsbury Shopping Centres and any proposals for redevelopment. [Report to follow]

Contact: Mark Barrow Tel 01743 258671

8 Work Programme 2019/20 (Pages 7 - 16)

To consider the future work programme of the Committee [Report attached]

Contact: Danial Webb Tel 01743 258509

9 Date/Time of Next Meeting of the Committee

The Committee is scheduled to next meet at 10.00am on Wednesday 29th January 2019.

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Place Overview
Committee

5 September 2019

9.30 am

Item

3

Public

**MINUTES OF THE PLACE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5
SEPTEMBER 2019
9.30 AM**

Responsible Officer: Sarah Townsend
Email: sarah.townsend@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257721

Present

Councillor Joyce Barrow (Chairman)
Councillors Julian Dean, Rob Gittins, Simon Harris, Paul Milner (Vice Chairman),
Dan Morris, William Parr and Paul Wynn

23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andy Boddington and Pam Moseley. Councillor Tony Parsons was in attendance as a substitute for Councillor Pam Moseley.

24 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.

25 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th July 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

26 Public Question Time

The Chairman explained that both herself and the Vice Chairman lived in Trefonen and that they would therefore leave the room for this item. It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Rob Gittins chaired this item, and upon being put to the vote, the vote was carried.

Two questions were received from members of the public.

Question 1:

From: Mr Charles Green from the Shropshire Campaign to Protect Rural England. Mr Green was in attendance to ask his question in relation to the Local Plan.

Question 2:

From: Mr Malcolm Andrew on behalf of Trefonen Rural Protection Group Management Committee. Mr Andrew was in attendance to ask his question which also related to the Local Plan.

A full copy of both questions and responses provided is attached to the web page for the meeting and also attached to the signed minutes.

At this point in the meeting, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee returned to the room.

27 Member Question Time

There were no questions from Members.

28 Local Plan

The Planning Policy Officer was in attendance to provide a verbal update to the Committee. He explained that maintaining an up to date Local Plan was a statutory requirement and that the SAMDev Plan Inspector had recommended that an early review of the Local Plan be undertaken.

The Committee were informed that the fourth stage of consultation on the Local Plan Review was currently being undertaken and ran until 9th September 2019. This 'Strategic Sites' Consultation identifies a series of preferred strategic sites, specifically:

- Clive Barracks, Tern Hill;
- Former Ironbridge Power Station; and
- RAF Cosford.

It also identifies a further potential strategic site at Land north of Junction 3 of the M54, which is currently subject to consideration but is not currently a preferred strategic site.

The three previous stages of consultation undertaken to inform the Local Plan Review were also outlined and the Committee was informed that following completion of the ongoing 'Strategic Sites' Consultation, the next stage of consultation would be the pre-submission Draft Local Plan consultation, programmed for March 2020. The Draft Local Plan would then be submitted to an independent Government Appointed Planning Inspector for examination with examination programmed to occur between July 2020 and August 2021. The work that would be undertaken between now and the pre-submission stage of consultation was outlined, along with some of the key documents currently being worked on with regard to the evidence base and some of the key areas of policy consideration.

A question was asked regarding how Members were able to scrutinise the Local Plan. In response, it was noted that a Member Working Group had been established and met regularly, and Members were welcome to respond to the consultations, all of which, had been approved by Cabinet.

In responding to a question on tackling climate change and how this featured in the Local Plan, the Planning Policy Officer explained that the best practice that was available nationally would be looked at.

Concerns were raised in relation to public transport as it was felt that, although this had been considered, the quality of the services provided had not been addressed. In reply, it was confirmed that whether public transport was available and if it was available during peak travel times had been taken into account. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer commented that the Local Transport Plan would be considered at the Committee's next meeting as it had been suggested that this would be a topic of interest.

Upon being invited to join the Local Plan Member Working Group, Councillor Dean confirmed that he would like to do so, but in the interests of fairness and as this was a politically balanced group, he would firstly consult with the Independent Group.

29 Highways Winter Service Plan

The Interim Head of Strategic Highways and Transport and the Operations Manager, Strategic Highways, were in attendance to present the report to the Committee. The report summarised a review of Shropshire Highways Winter Service Operational Plan in preparedness for the winter service season of 2019/20.

Members received a powerpoint presentation (copy attached to the signed minutes). Responding to questions from the Committee, Officers explained:

- Unlike several years ago, there was no shortage of rock salt this year.
- Rock salt was bought in at a fixed price and stock supplies were sufficient.
- Salt spreaders are modern, efficient and spread evenly.
- Weather forecasts are received three times a day.
- As of June 2019, there were 3,500 outstanding potholes across Shropshire. This figure dropped in July 2019 to 2,800 and as of yesterday (4th September 2019), there were 750 potholes outstanding, which equated to roughly ten days productivity.
- Continued support would again be provided this year by using informal contractual arrangements with numerous local 'farmer contractors', who provide essential snow clearance in more rural and remote areas as an adjunct to the core service provision. It was noted that they do an excellent job.
- Further consideration would be given to snow volunteers and it was noted that their work could be quite varied, from monitoring the weather forecast to helping remove snow with a shovel.
- Not all Town and Parish Councils have used their Environmental Maintenance Grant.
- Concerns regarding school routes receiving treatment had previously been highlighted to Officers, as not all schools came under The Defined Network Route - this was currently under review. It was suggested that the concerns be raised with Officers outside of the meeting and following this, if there were still concerns, the issue could be brought back to a future Committee meeting.

- A copy of the powerpoint presentation would be distributed to all Town and Parish Councils.
- The Interim Head of Strategic Highways and Transport would send out a reminder to all Town and Parish Councils regarding the procedure for reporting empty salt bins.
- There was now an option for Town and Parish Councils to buy grit bins, either empty or full.

In concluding, the Portfolio Holder for Highways and Car Parking paid tribute to the Department and commented that vast improvements had been made when compared to two years ago.

30 Signs, Banners, A Boards and Street Furniture

The Chairman reported that it was proposed that a Signs, Boards and Banners Policy Task and Finish Group be set up to look at the various different policies in place, to see whether they would benefit from more coherence. In addition, it was also proposed that the best way to agree and administer policy be explored, and in particular, whether it would be better for towns and parishes, where they wished to, to agree and administer their own policies for A Boards, Banners and advertising on the highway.

The Committee approved the Draft Terms of Reference and Work Programme but commented that legal responsibilities and legal assessments should also be considered, and various disability groups should also be involved.

31 Pavement Permit Charges

The Trading Standards and Licensing Operations Manager was in attendance to present the report. The advantages of a Pavement Permit scheme and the recommendations contained within the report were outlined to the Committee.

A Member questioned whether it would be more appropriate for the report to be considered by the Signs, Boards and Banners Policy Task and Finish Group, commenting that they were not happy to upset businesses, many of whom are already struggling.

In response to a question, the Trading Standards and Licensing Operations Manager advised that whilst the main pavement permit season had passed, a decision on the content of the report needed to be made.

Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Place Planning and Regulatory Services, was in attendance and proposed that the report should be considered by the Signs, Boards and Banners Policy Task and Finish Group and by November 2019, at the latest. Members of the Committee were in agreement.

32 Work Programme 2019/20

The Chairman reported that an Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Workshop had been held yesterday. Items for consideration at future meetings of the Place Overview Committee would shortly be added to the Work Programme.

It was noted that the Members' Portal was currently being trialled and a request was made that this be added to the Work Programme, with it possibly being considered at the Committee's November 2019 meeting.

33 Date / Time of the Next Meeting of the Committee

Members noted that the next meeting of the Place Overview Committee was scheduled for 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 7th November 2019.

Signed (Chairman)

Date:

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<u>Committee</u>	<u>Item</u>
Place Overview Committee	
7 November 2019	<u>Public</u>

Place Overview Committee Work Programme 2019 – 2020

Responsible officer

Tom Dodds, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

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1.0 Summary

1.1 This paper presents the Place Overview Committee'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 committee work programme attached as **appendix 1**.
- 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 On 4 September 2019, elected members met to discuss the council's corporate plan, and identify themes from the plan for each committee to scrutinise. In doing this, overview and scrutiny ensures that the basis of its work aligns with council objectives. The groups identified a number of themes for each committee, which

was then shaped by the scrutiny chairs and leaders of political groups into a set of work priorities for each committee.

3.2 A refreshed overview and scrutiny work programme is attached as **appendix 1**.

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 2019 to 2020

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
WSP and Kier annual reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise performance of our highways delivery partnerships 	Annual report	Highways, Transport and Environment Commissioning Manager	Assurance that highways delivery partners provide a good service to people in Shropshire.	7 Nov 2019
Shrewsbury's shopping centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise management of the centres. Consider any proposals to redevelop the centres 	Verbal update	Director of Place	Shrewsbury's shopping centres contribute to the vibrancy of the town centre.	7 Nov 2019
Local Transport Plan	<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	29 Jan 2020
Signs and Banners task and finish group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the findings of the recent signs and banners task and finish group 	Verbal report	Chair of Committee		29 Jan 2020

Place Overview Committee

Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the council's role in promoting biodiversity in Shropshire. Scrutinise work taking place and evaluate proposals for 	overview report presentation	Biodiversity Officer	The council maximises its opportunities to increase biodiversity in Shropshire.	26 March 2020
North West Relief Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise ongoing development of the proposed relief road 	Overview report	Highways, Transport and Environment Commissioning Manager	Shropshire Council's full business case for the relief road is fit for purpose.	26 March 2020
Local Housing Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise the creation of a local housing company in Shropshire 	Overview report Presentation	Director of Place	Shropshire's Housing Development Corporation builds homes that support the council's strategic objectives.	June 2020
Communicating highways works and repairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how the council communicates disruptions to the highway. Make recommendations on future development of communications 	Overview report Presentation	Technology and Communications Manager	People in Shropshire receive timely and relevant information about disruptions to the highway.	June 2020

Place Overview Committee

Night-time economy and licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the value of the night time economy in Shropshire • Scrutinise policies pertaining to the night time economy 	Overview report Presentation	Director of Place	<p>Shropshire’s towns have vibrant, well-supported night-time economies.</p> <p>Night-time economies contribute to the vibrancy of town centres.</p>	July 2020
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Appendix 2

Current and proposed task and finish groups

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
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
Road casualty reduction		

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
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
Engaging Diverse Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review and propose the scope of Place Plans including their geography and subject areas • To propose options to ensure Place Plans are developed from the bottom-up • To understand how rural enterprise features in our procurement / commissioning processes. • To proposed opportunities to engage with Strategic Levels within the Council and partners in Place Planning • To engage with Town and Parish Councils on options to reset their relationship with Shropshire Council • To identify appropriate and effective mechanisms to communicate with and engage with diverse communities that can be used to inform co-design and collaboration on a range of matters • Make evidence based recommendations 	Communities Overview Committee

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Brexit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the information brought together to develop a view for Shropshire of the possible implications of Brexit for the Shropshire economy and the achievement of the Economic Growth Strategy. • To identify, with the relevant officers, the key evidence and related requirements of what Shropshire would require from a future UK funding approach. • To make evidence based recommendations to Cabinet. 	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee
Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand how Shropshire Council currently uses Section 106, CIL and NHB and the impact that this has had • To understand how Section 106, CIL and NHB could be used in Shropshire to enable or encourage projects or initiatives for economic growth and prosperity • To learn from other places how they have used Section 106, CIL and NHB to enable or encourage projects or initiatives for economic growth and prosperity • To make evidence based recommendations on how Section 106, CIL and NHB could be used in Shropshire to enable or encourage projects or initiatives for economic growth and prosperity 	Performance Management Scrutiny
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review Shropshire Council's existing work to reduce its CO²e output. • To scrutinise existing council policy and practice and recommend policy changes that would support further carbon reduction. • To identify and evaluate opportunities to reduce spending and generate income by adopting low-carbon technology and practices. 	Place Overview Committee

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Youth work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand different models of providing Youth Services in a place like Shropshire. • To review information and evidence of need and demand for youth work in Shropshire. • To engage with Town and Parish Councils and explore their thoughts on their role in youth work. • To identify opportunities to lever in additional resources to deliver youth work • To identify how the impact of youth work should be measured and reported • To make evidence based recommendations on the options for youth work in Shropshire. 	Communities Overview Committee
Dog fouling and dangerous dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To scrutinise how the local authority tackles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ dog fouling ○ dog attacks ○ stray dogs • licenced dog breeding 	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee
Signs, banners and street furniture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand existing policies, charges and administrative arrangements • Scrutinise existing policy and suggest draft policy. • Identify opportunities to set and administer policy and licencing arrangements with town and parish councils. • Look at how other local authorities set and administer policy, to identify potential ways to improve arrangements in Shropshire. 	Place Overview Committee

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