



People Overview Committee	<u>Item</u>
28 September 2022	<u>Public</u>

People Overview Committee Work Programme

Responsible officer

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1.0 Summary

1.1 This paper presents the People Overview Committee's draft work programme for the 2022-2023 municipal year.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Committee members to:

- agree 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 The work programme provides the opportunity for the committee to plan its work for the next twelve months. In planning its work, it should aim to produce a programme that features a combination of:

- scrutiny of council priorities, through its corporate plan (The Shropshire Plan)
- forthcoming policy proposals, as listed in the Forward Plan and from discussions with officers and administration members.
- community priorities that the public bring to the attention of elected members.
- priorities for action resulting from the council's financial and capital strategies.
- the work of our partners, for example the Marches Local Enterprise partnership or
- following up on previous recommendations from the committee.

3.2 In addition to the above, the council's financial strategy task and finish group last year considered the council's financial strategy for children's services. The group has forwarded the following topics to the People Overview Committee to consider as priorities for its work programme:

- Investment in early help programmes
- Social worker training and recruitment
- The Stepping Stones project

- Council-owned and managed residential care provision

3.3 Shropshire Council’s overarching corporate plan, The Shropshire Plan, is currently in draft stage and has yet to be approved by Council. The Plan, when approved, will contain:

- Corporate priorities which the People directorate will be responsible for delivering;
- Plans and policies which together will deliver the priorities of the corporate plan; and
- A suite of performance management information that will allow elected members to scrutinise both the delivery of plans and policies, but also to determine whether those plans and policies had resulted in the expected change in performance.

3.4 To assist in identifying potential topics for future work, particularly with regard to pre-decision scrutiny (overview), Shropshire Council’s Forward Plan of Key Decisions is attached as **Appendix 2**.

4.0 Next steps

4.1 Officers will present a refreshed work programme at each committee meeting. In addition, the committee will meet informally between committee meetings to discuss which topics they wish to scrutinise at future meetings.

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

Forward Plan of Key Decisions – September 2022

Appendix 1

Overview and Scrutiny work programme for municipal years 2022-2023

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Topic	Objectives	Participants	Information required	Date
Update on school place planning in Shropshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that school place planning will meet the needs of Shropshire people over the next five years• Examine the impact of future housing supply on place planning, and how this will be funded• Identify opportunities to be involved in the future school place planning review	Assistant Director Education	Committee report	28 Sep 2022
Closing the gap - Pupil attainment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scrutinise performance in Shropshire in closing the attainment gap of children of all ages from deprived backgrounds	Assistant Director Education Portfolio Holder	Pupil attainment, divided by pupil premium, by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key stage 2• Key stage 4• GCSE	28 Sep 2022
Criminal exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To scrutinise the effectiveness of Shropshire Council and its partners to tackle child criminal exploitation	Executive Director, People Independent chair, safeguarding partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information required to be determined.	16 Nov 2022

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Topic	Objectives	Participants	Information required	Date
		West Mercia Police		
Post-16 destinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse the outcomes of school leavers. Identify services to support school leavers not continuing into education, employment or training. 	Assistant Director Education Portfolio Holder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational outcomes for children aged 16 and over Comparison with previous years Benchmarking with other local authorities 	18 January 2023
Preparing for adulthood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise current work to prepare children with a special education need or disability. Scrutinise outcomes for children supported by the service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health, education and employment for children supported by the Preparing for Adulthood team 	18 January 2023
Fostering and adoption, and social worker recruitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on plans to grow and develop our social worker workforce, Further update on recruiting foster carers. 	Executive Director, People Business Partner, finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social worker staffing levels Social worker training programme outcomes Change in number of foster carers compared to demand. Fostering allowance rates 	29 March 2023

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Topic	Objectives	Participants	Information required	Date
Safeguarding and community safety partnership annual report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the objectives of the safeguarding partnership. Identify potential areas of scrutiny for the committee. 	Independent chair, safeguarding partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding and community safety partnership annual report 	29 March 2023
Youth services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further scrutiny of youth services following recent investment. Scrutinise the progress in developing performance management metrics, and any metrics generated. 	Head of early help, partnerships, and commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee report 	29 March 2023
Early help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of current programme of early help in light of increased investment. Scrutinise any performance monitoring to ascertain the effectiveness of the investment. 	Head of early help, partnerships and commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early help investment programme 	June 2023
Findings of the financial strategy task and finish group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise the findings of the financial strategy task and finish group. Identify priorities for the following year's work programme. 	Executive Director, People Chair, financial strategy task and finish group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task and finish group report Regional funding comparisons 2022-2023 Budget – Children's Services 	June 2023