

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme

7th December 2022

Report of the Head of Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the Work Programme report.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That Members note the updated Work Programme, as detailed in Appendix A.
- (2) That the Committee consider the information below regarding the Planning Informal Task Group and a request for an item to be added to the Committee's Work Programme.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Committee is responsible for setting its own annual Work Programme within the terms of reference, as set out in the Council's Constitution.
- 1.2 Members are requested to consider and note the updated Work Programme attached at Appendix A that has been produced.

2. Updates

- 2.1 Members are reminded that, the Planning Informal Task Group was to begin its work in December.

The Local Government Association (Planning Advisory Service) has recently conducted a full Peer Review of the City Council's Planning and Place Service. This was a review requested by the City Council and it involved internal officers, Elected Members, Parish Councils, statutory consultees, strategic district partners, local architects and local agents. It has been an independent and comprehensive process. The Planning Peer Review helps local planning authorities assess what they are trying to achieve; how they are going about it; what they are achieving; and what they need to improve. It involves an assessment against a framework for a local authority planning function which explores:

- Vision and leadership - how the authority demonstrates high quality leadership to integrate planning within corporate working to support delivery of corporate objectives
- Management - the effective use of skills and resources to achieve value for money, accounting for workload demands, ensuring capacity and managing the associated risks to deliver the authority's spatial vision
- Community engagement – how the authority understands its community leadership role and community aspirations. Then how the authority uses spatial planning to deliver community aspirations.
- Partnership engagement – how the authority has planned its work with partners to balance priorities and resources to deliver agreed priorities
- Achieving outcomes - how the authority and other partners are delivering sustainable development outcomes for their area

The LGA Peer Review report will be sent to the City Council before the end of the year. The City Council will then respond, and this response will be co-ordinated via the Chief Executive's Office.

It is advised that any meetings prior to receipt of the LGA Peer Review report would be premature. The report will guide any actions that are recommended for implementation and it is envisaged that the Peer Review report will be reported to Scrutiny early in the New Year.

- 2.2 Councillor Mills has requested that the Committee consider adding an item to this year's Work Programme regarding flooding in Lancaster, the County Council's response to this and the action it has taken to date on this issue.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
The S151 officer has been consulted and has no comments to make.	
MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Contact Officer: Jenny Kay Telephone: 01524 582065 E-mail: jkay@lancaster.gov.uk
None.	