

**RESOURCES AND SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 SEPTEMBER 2022**

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND ELECTIONS

A.3 Taking Forward the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2022/23
(Report prepared by Keith Durran and Keith Simmons)

BACKGROUND

Council on 12 July 2022 (Minute 29 refers), determined the Overview and Scrutiny work programme for 2022/23 for this Committee. The scope of the various enquiries within the approved work programme is set out as Appendix A to this report.

Following this, an informal meeting was held of the Members of this Committee on Thursday 11 August 2022, to consider the steps to put in place to deliver that work programme. The purpose of this report is to invite the Committee to consider, and if satisfied endorse, the proposals arising from the meeting on 11 August and otherwise agree arrangements for the work programme over the coming months.

The Council's decision of 22 July envisaged four Task and Finish Groups to be established. The working approach adopted has been to see to establish these with five Members each. This number would, hopefully, make them large enough to involve Members with different viewpoints to explore the relevant issues without being too large that arrangements became too cumbersome.

In respect of the four Task and Finish Groups, the proposals from the informal meeting of Members of this Committee were as follows:

Cyber Security

Councillor Griffiths to Chair this Group, Councillors Amos and Clifton also volunteered to sit on this Task and Finish Group

Beach Huts

Councillor Scott to Chair this Group, Councillors Codling and Morrison volunteered to sit on the Task and Finish group. Councillor Scott also requested to hear representations from the Beach Associations as well as Ward Members who have beach huts in their wards.

Needs to be completed by 7 October Cabinet.

There was also some discussion about whether there should be a request that determination of a revised Beach Huts Strategy be rescheduled from the October meeting of Cabinet to its November meeting. This would facilitate more time for the Task and Finish Group to undertake its work and inform any final decision.

Planning Enforcement

Councillor Baker to Chair this Group, Councillors Amos and Codling volunteered to sit on the Task and Finish Group.

Customer Service

Councillor M Stephenson to Chair this Group, Councillors Allen, Griffiths and Morrison also volunteered to sit on the Task and Finish Group.

In addition to the above Task and Finish Groups, the work programme envisaged the following overview and scrutiny activity co-ordinated by the Committee:

Council procurement and Contract Management.

Consideration of the scope of this enquiry would initially be through an informal meeting of the whole Committee. A date for this meeting was to be sought for October. Further details will be provided as the arrangements are made.

Carbon Neutral by 2023

This would be an off agenda briefing item in early Autumn. It would address the following questions:

How are we measuring carbon reduction?

What measures have :

- a) actually been implemented and what impact have they had*
- b) are planned in next 2-3 yrs. and what are anticipated savings*
- c) what is planned 2025 – 2030 to continue commitment to achieve neutrality and what are obstacles and problems?*

Basic data I think is what we want to be able to ask questions?

Councillor Barry would be the Committee's Champion for this piece of work.

Waste and Recycling

A workshop style event would be held in spring 20223 to capture the various issues raised by the Committee in its previous related enquiries and updated for the circumstances as they then are.

Frinton Theatre

This enquiry would be considered at the formal October meeting of Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Committee considers the contents of the report and, if satisfied, endorses the proposals set out;**
- (b) That, further to (a) above, the Head of Democratic Services and Elections be requested to take forward the endorsed proposals, including extending**

invitations to other Councillors who may wish to join specific Task and Finish Groups (but are not members of this Committee) to facilitate the overview and scrutiny enquiries set out.

Appendices

Appendix A