

REPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5 APRIL 2016

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE – LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the items due to be considered at the Committee's next meeting to be held following the Annual General Meeting of Council.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The key improvement objectives identified in the Corporate Plan 2013-2017 have been embodied in the Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes. The amended Corporate Improvement Objectives adopted by Council on 25 February 2015 formally set out the improvement objectives that the Council will seek to implement between 2013 and 2017. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees engage in review and development of plans, policy or strategies that support the Corporate Themes.

3. Background

- 3.1 At its meeting on 24 June 2015 the Corporate Resources and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee determined its Annual Forward Work Programme for 2015/16.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

- 4.1 In relation to the Committee's next meeting the table below lists the potential items to be considered and the invitees due to attend.

Topic	Invitees	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
Armed Forces Covenant	tbc	Report requested at the P&G OVSC meeting on 14 January 2016.	
County Borough Supplies	tbc	Report requested at the P&G OVSC meeting on 14 January 2016.	

Extra Items for Consideration

- 4.2 The list below contains potential items as yet to be decided for the 2016-17 forward work programme. The prioritisation and timings of these will be agreed at the Committee meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

Topic	Purpose of Report	Invitees
Regulatory Services Collaborative Project	From the CEL OVSC meeting on 8 October 2015 - Members would like this item to be added to the list of future potential items for the Committee Forward Work Programme.	

Corporate Parenting

- 4.3 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a local authority towards looked after children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'corporate parent' therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for the children and young people looked after by Bridgend.¹
- 4.4 In this role, it is suggested that Members consider how the services within the remit of their Committee affects children in care and care leavers, and in what way can the Committee can therefore assist in these areas.
- 4.5 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee in this by advising them of the ongoing work of the Cabinet-Committee and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 The work of the Partnerships and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental well being in the County Borough of Bridgend.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 None

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 None.

8. Recommendations

¹ Welsh Assembly Government and Welsh Local Government Association 'If this were my child... A councillor's guide to being a good corporate parent to children in care and care leavers', June 2009

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Note the topics due be considered at the next meeting of the Committee to be scheduled at the Annual General Meeting of Council;
- (ii) Determine the invitees to be invited to attend, any specific information it would like the invitees to provide and any research that it would like the Overview & Scrutiny Unit to undertake in relation to this meeting.

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Background Documents: None