

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

20 June 2019

Report of the Chief Executive

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 SCRUTINY REVIEW PROGRAMME 2019/20

1.1 The Review Programme

1.1.1 The programme of Scrutiny Reviews for 2019/20 was agreed by this Committee at the meeting held on 22 January 2019. For the benefit of newly elected Council Members, this list is set out below. The aim with each Scrutiny Review is to explore opportunities to improve service provision that directly affects our local communities both those delivered by the Borough Council and, when necessary, by our partner organisations. Some of these reviews may be preceded by an initial scoping report to set out the background for the review, whilst others will be reported direct to the Committee.

20 June 2019	Review of Concessions at Tonbridge Castle
	Review of Customer Service Surgeries
29 August 2019	Review of Community Safety including CCTV provision and the role of the Community Safety Unit
10 October 2019	Review of Disabled Facilities Grants
	Review of the Council's Public Health function
21 January 2020	Review of local Domestic Abuse Services and associated budgets
12 March 2020	Review of the Council's Corporate Strategy
	Review of Council Marketing

1.1.2 The above list takes into account the timing/workload issues for relevant services and will provide a meaningful programme of reviews. Members of the Committee will of course have an opportunity to suggest other reviews for consideration if new issues arise or there are specific topics that Members feel would be relevant for consideration by this Committee.

1.2 Statutory Guidance

- 1.2.1 In May 2019 the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government produced “Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities”. For information, this guidance is attached as Annex 1. As stated within the document, local authorities “must have regard” to this guidance, but this does not mean that all sections have to be followed in every detail.
- 1.2.2 The guidance does not aim to prescribe, but does offer ideas and a framework for scrutiny functions. It encourages a commitment to ensure that Scrutiny is effective and challenging with commitment embedded across the organisation. The Borough Council’s approach to the overview and scrutiny function is guided by the procedure rules which are set out in the Council’s Constitution. These arrangements along with the Statutory Guidance, will continue to help shape the work of this Committee.

Background papers:

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Nil

Julie Beilby
Chief Executive