

By: Anna Taylor / Joel Cook – Scrutiny Research Officers
To: Scrutiny Committee – 26 July 2019
Subject: Select Committee Work Programme
Status: Unrestricted

Summary: To receive an update on the Select Committee Topic Review Work Programme, including the consideration of potential new additions to and the order of the work programme.

1. Introduction

- (1) One of the Scrutiny Committee's responsibilities is to co-ordinate the programme of Select Committee Reviews.
- (2) The current Select Committee Work Programme contains a review of Affordable Housing which was agreed by the Scrutiny Committee in September 2017.
- (3) In April 2019 the Scrutiny Committee agreed that the Knife Crime Select Committee would be established ahead of the Affordable Housing Select Committee. The Knife Crime Select Committee is due to present its report to County Council in October 2019 for consideration and approval.
- (4) To ensure a timely continuation of Select Committee reviews Members were asked, in June 2019, to submit any topic review proposals for consideration by the Scrutiny Committee – one was received from Mr Hills on 'Climate Change and the Effect on Kent'.

2. Scrutiny Committee 26 July

- (1) The proposer of the Climate Change Select Committee topic review along with the relevant Cabinet Member and supporting officer have been invited to attend and present the topics.
- (2) At the end of the presentation, the Scrutiny Committee will be invited to consider the work programme, confirm that Affordable Housing Select Committee should commence in Autumn 2019 and decide whether it wishes to include 'Climate Change and the Effect on Kent Select Committee' on the work programme.

3. Timetable for Select Committee Reviews

- (1) Based on the resources available to support Select Committee topic reviews, it is only possible to run one at a time. It is suggested therefore, unless Members deem otherwise, work on the next review should start in

September 2019 as the Knife Crime in Kent Topic Review moves toward conclusion via County Council.

4. Select Committee Terms of Reference and Membership

- (1) It is the responsibility of any Select Committee to agree its Terms of Reference. However, the proposal form in Appendix 1 does contain some suggested issues to be covered by the potential Scope and necessary Terms of Reference to assist the Scrutiny Committee in deciding whether to include the review in the Work Programme. The Terms of Reference for the review as agreed by the Select Committee will be circulated to the Scrutiny Committee for information.
- (2) As agreed by the County Council in July 2013 there will be 9 Members on each Select Committee. Current proportionality, agreed by County Council in May 2017, means each Select committee will comprise 7 Conservatives, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Labour. Where additional expertise or knowledge may be beneficial, additional, non-voting, members may be co-opted by agreement of the Select Committee.

5. Recommendation:

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to agree to establish the Affordable Housing Select Committee as the next review and to determine the overall reporting timetable. The Scrutiny Committee may also agree to include the Climate Change review on the Select Committee Topic Review work programme.

Contact: Anna Taylor / Joel Cook
scrutiny.committee@kent.gov.uk
03000 416478 / 416892

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Climate Change and its Effect on Kent – Topic Review Proposal