

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>PRINCIPAL SELECT COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>6 JUNE 2024</b>
<b>Heading:</b>	<b>SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2024/25</b>
<b>Executive Lead Member:</b>	<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>
<b>Ward/s:</b>	<b>NOT APPLICABLE</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Subject to Call-In:</b>	<b>NO</b>

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is for Members of the Principal Select Committee to approve a Select Committee Work Programme for 2024/25. This includes reviewing items remaining on the 2023/24 work programme and considering new topics to be added for the forthcoming year.

### **Recommendation(s)**

Members of the Principal Select Committee are recommended to:

- a. Discuss and approve a Select Committee Work Programme 2024/25.

### **Reasons for Recommendation(s)**

As established in the Overview and Scrutiny Rules of Procedure within Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, it is the responsibility of the Principal Select Committee to maintain overview and management of the Select Committee Work Programme.

### **Alternative Options Considered**

No alternative options have been considered. Approving and managing an effective work programme is a key responsibility of the Principal Select Committee as established in the Overview and Scrutiny Rules of Procedure within Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.

## **Detailed Information**

### **PROPOSED COMMITTEE CHANGES**

A report has been submitted for consideration at the Annual Council Meeting detailing proposed changes to the Inward and Outward Focus Select Committees.

#### **Inward and Outward Focus Select Committees**

Council is recommended to approve changes to the Inward and Outward Focus Select Committees. Over the past year, the Select Committees were aligned to the previous Cabinet structure. This structure has since changed, so it is proposed to change the name of the Select Committees and to realign the remit of both to be in line with the Council's Corporate Plan 2023 – 2027.

The Corporate Plan 2023 – 2027 sets out six key priorities that the Council is working towards for the established term of the Plan.

These priorities are as follows:

- Economic Growth & Place
- Safer & Stronger
- Innovate & Improve
- Cleaner & Greener
- Homes & Housing
- Health & Happiness

It is proposed that the above priorities are split into two groups and included within the remit for two newly named Select Committees, see below.

#### **Place and Innovation Select Committee**

It is proposed to rename the Inward Focus Select Committee to the Place and Innovation Select Committee.

This Committee would focus on the following Corporate Plan 2023 – 2027 priorities:

- Economic Growth & Place
- Safer & Stronger
- Innovate & Improve

#### **Environment and Communities Select Committee**

It is proposed to rename the Outward Focus Select Committee to the Environment and Communities Select Committee.

This Committee would focus on the following Corporate Plan 2023 – 2027 priorities:

- Cleaner & Greener
- Homes & Housing
- Health & Happiness

This realignment would mean both Committees can be more focused and enable appointed

Members to build up increased knowledge and expertise in these areas. It would also enable the Select Committees to monitor progress more closely against the Corporate Plan as Cabinet do.

The Principal Select Committee will remain responsible for oversight and management of the two other Select Committees, including setting and monitoring the work programme, ensuring the function meets statutory requirements, carrying out reviews when required, and receiving Executive Lead Member updates where appropriate.

**If the above proposals are approved by Council at the Annual Council Meeting, the changes will be incorporated immediately into the Select Committee structure.**

## **SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2024/25**

The Council appoints three Committees to carry out the Overview and Scrutiny Function:

- Principal Select Committee
- Inward Focus Select Committee (proposed to become Place and Innovation Select Committee)
- Outward Focus Select Committee (proposed to become Environment and Communities Select Committee)

Overview and Scrutiny, through the appointed Select Committees, is a member led function, driven by Member commitment to improve services and the lives of residents. Committee Members are asked to consider the following potential sources (among others) of suitable work programme topics:

- Issues of community concern
- Service delivery concerns
- Council outcomes, objectives, and priorities
- Partnership objectives
- The Forward Plan
- Peer Challenge outcomes
- Performance
- Emerging policy and legislation

Members are asked to use effective processes to select topics that will contribute towards the most effective work programme. This means having clear terms of reference in mind for each topic and considering many different sources of information to help inform topic selection.

This involves approving items to the work programme:

- Of community concern
- With defined objectives and clear outcomes
- That add value to the Council's performance and/or service delivery
- That contribute to the Council's Corporate Priorities

As a rule, Committee should avoid including items on the work programme that are unsuitable for review due to different factors that could include topics that are:

- Unmanageable
- Purely for informational purposes (though sometimes this is still beneficial)
- Have limited anticipated outcomes

- Fail to add value to service delivery
- Fail to improve community wellbeing or quality of life

**During the meeting, Members will be asked to put forward topics for consideration for inclusion on the Select Committee Work Programme 2024/25. Committee will discuss each item proposed and decide if the topic is to be included on the work programme.**

## **SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24**

In approving the work programme for 2024/25, Members are also asked to consider topics that remain on the work programme from the previous year and decide if the topics should be carried forward to the refreshed programme.

These topics include:

- Damp and Mould
  - Reviewed by the Inward Focus Select Committee at the beginning of 23/24. Proposed to be re-reviewed following recent Member Questions to Council.
- General Waste Bins
  - On hold until the full implications of the Environment Bill are known. Proposed that a Select Committee could be involved in developing the Council's Action Plan in response to the Bill.
- Regeneration Funding Update
  - Added to be considered as an Executive Lead Member update. An invitation to be extended to the Executive Lead Member for Regeneration and relevant Officer(s) to attend a meeting of the Principal Select Committee and provide an update on recent regeneration funding and the progress of projects being carried out with the funding.
- Markets
  - Principal Select Committee received an update from the Assistant Director, Regeneration and Town Centres and Markets Manager at the final meeting of 23/24 on the performance of the various markets across Ashfield.
- Customer Experience
  - Added as a topic for review at the end of 23/24, yet to be commenced by any Committee.
- Recruitment and Retention
  - Added as a topic for review at the end of 23/24, yet to be commenced by any Committee.

## **Implications**

### **Corporate Plan:**

Principal Select Committee Members are mindful of the Council's Corporate Plan and the priority objectives set out within when reviewing and selecting topics for the work programme. Pending approval at the Annual Council Meeting, the Inward and Outward Focus Select Committees will be aligned with the Council's Corporate Plan.

## **Legal:**

There are no direct legal implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Any legal implications identified relating to items added to the 2024/25 work programme will be considered appropriately as part of the established review process, in line with best practice and guidance.

## **Finance:**

There are no direct financial implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Any financial implications identified relating to items added to the 2024/25 work programme will be considered appropriately as part of the established review process, in line with best practice and guidance.

<b>Budget Area</b>	<b>Implication</b>
General Fund – Revenue Budget	N/A
General Fund – Capital Programme	
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	

## **Risk:**

There are no risks resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Any risks identified relating to items added to the 2024/25 work programme will be considered appropriately as part of the established review process, in line with best practice and guidance.

## **Human Resources:**

There are no HR implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Any HR implications identified relating to items added to the 2024/25 work programme will be considered appropriately as part of the established review process, in line with best practice and guidance.

## **Environmental/Sustainability:**

There are no environmental/sustainability implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Any environmental/sustainability implications identified relating to items added to the 2024/25 work programme will be considered appropriately as part of the established review process, in line with best practice and guidance.

## **Equalities:**

There are no equalities implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Any equalities implications identified relating to items added to the 2024/25 work programme will be considered appropriately as part of the established review process, in line with best practice and guidance.

## **Other Implications:**

There are no other implications resulting from the recommendations within this report.

Any other implications identified relating to items added to the 2024/25 work programme will be considered appropriately as part of the established review process, in line with best practice and guidance.

## **Reason(s) for Urgency**

None.

## **Reason(s) for Exemption**

None.

## **Background Papers**

None.

## **Report Author and Contact Officer**

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