

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

### **WORK PROGRAMME**

**2021/2022**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board considers and agrees the work programme and updates it accordingly.

#### **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Mileage Benchmarking Update	
	Sustainable Warmth Funding	Due to be considered at Cabinet on 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
	Draft Medium Term Financial Plan	
	Working Group Updates	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader's Work Programme	
28 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Bromsgrove Town Centre Regeneration - Land at the Dolphin Centre - pre-scrutiny	Due to be considered at Cabinet not before 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
	Land Drainage Watercourse Maintenance Operation – pre-scrutiny	
	Fireworks – Motion – Follow up on progress	
	Community Safety Partnership	Annual Update
	CCTV Update	Requested at the meeting held in October 2021
	Working Group Updates	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader's Work Programme	
25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Housing enforcement powers and how they are used	Requested at the meeting in November 2021
	Overview and Scrutiny Board Annual Report 2021-22	
	Overview and Scrutiny Board – Recommendation Tracker	
	Working Group Updates	
	Any Task Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader's Work Programme	

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### **Items for consideration in 2021-22**

- Declaration of Land Surplus to Requirement – Marsh Way, Catshill South, Penshurst Road, Sideslow and Foxglove Way – pre-scrutiny
- Decarbonisation of the Council Fleet – due for consideration not before 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022
- Strategic Transport Assessment
- Homelessness – Post Covid (including Homelessness - The Overview and Scrutiny Board could revisit recommendations made by a previous Task Group on this subject)

### **Areas Identified at the Work Programme Planning Event held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and to be scheduled into meetings on an as and when basis**

#### **Potential Areas for further investigation**

- Public Transport / Bus Routes / Community Transport - Members agreed that this subject should be reviewed by a Task Group. The review could focus on public transport provision in rural areas and would require Members to consult with both the bus companies, Worcestershire County Council and BURT.
- Affordable and Social Housing Task Group - This review could focus on the accommodation provided by social housing organisations, planning enforcement and housing development controls and the impact of planning on the green belt.

When considering topics for investigations Members may wish to take into account the Council's Strategic Purposes as detailed below:

## Run & grow a successful business



### What does this mean to me?

Businesses choose to come to Bromsgrove & grow here, providing services & jobs.

Further development enhances the town & district centres as places that people want to visit.

Improved connectivity makes life easier, whether that's on the roads or online.

### Why?

As an entrepreneurial area, supporting business is incredibly important for the District. Through North Worcestershire Economic Development & Regeneration we will continue to support new businesses. We will also work with established companies within the District to help them grow & flourish.

We are committed to making the Town & district centres places that residents & visitors can enjoy & that attract a variety of businesses.



## Priority: Economic development & regeneration

### We will:

Consult businesses to understand current needs & growth plans, working with partners to support business growth.

### How we will measure it:

- Number of businesses engaged through the consultation

- Number of existing businesses supported to grow & develop

## Work & financial independence



### ***What does this mean to me?***

There are more opportunities for young people, with the right skills for local businesses.

Money management support will help to reduce debt & increase financial confidence.

People get the benefits they are entitled to, when they need them.

### ***Why?***

The economic picture for Bromsgrove District is positive, with consistently low unemployment. However, the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2015 (specifically income, employment & education indicators) show there were issues, particularly in parts of Charford & Sidemoor.

We will support our residents to access work opportunities in new industries, focusing on the skills agenda. We will also work with residents to help them manage their money & access the right benefits.



### **Priority: Skills for the future**

#### **We will:**

Undertake a skills audit with partners & work together with them to address any gaps.

#### **How we will measure it:**

- Number engaged through the skills audit.





## Live independent, active & healthy lives

### *What does this mean to me?*

People are supported to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Communities & individuals feel less isolated.

There are more positive things to do through improved access to sport & cultural activities.

### *Why?*

Whilst the health of people in Bromsgrove District is generally good, health priorities include improving mental well-being, increasing physical activity & ageing well. Increasing numbers of people living with reduced mobility, dementia & diabetes are an issue for the District. Through the Bromsgrove Partnership, Bromsgrove District Council will continue to play its part in addressing these issues.

We also want to enhance sport & cultural opportunities in the District, which will have health & social benefits.



## Priority: Improving health & well-being

### **We will:**

Support targeted activities for healthy lifestyles.

### **How we will measure it:**

- Number of people accessing targeted activities
- Number of people with diabetes
- Number of people who have had a stroke

## Affordable & sustainable homes



### ***What does this mean to me?***

More affordable & appropriate homes become available.

Private tenants have homes which are safe & tenancies which are secure & affordable.

Homes can adapt to changes in circumstances & are increasingly energy efficient.

### ***Why?***

Bromsgrove has the highest level of home ownership in Worcestershire, & the smallest private rented sector in the county; demand for housing within the district has had a significant impact on property prices.

Access to affordable housing is recognised as an issue, as is ensuring homes are sustainable into the future.



### **Priority: A balanced housing market**

#### **We will:**

Develop & implement a District Housing Strategy.

#### **How we will measure it:**

- Number of affordable homes (commitments & completions)



## Communities which are safe, well-maintained & green



### What does this mean to me?

Crime & anti-social behaviour reduces even further & the fear of crime also starts to decrease.

The district is well-maintained & people feel involved in keeping it clean.

It's easier to recycle more & reduce waste going to landfill.

### Why?

Bromsgrove District Council has committed to playing its part in addressing the impact of climate change; from work to increase recycling to support to reduce fuel poverty, a **green thread** runs throughout this Council Plan.

It is important to ensure that Bromsgrove remains attractive for everyone, & our Place Teams, in partnership with local communities, provide a strong service across the District.

The District is a low crime area; through the North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership we continue to work hard to address the causes of crime & anti-social behaviour & to support victims.



### Priority: Reducing crime & disorder

#### We will:

Target the causes of crime affecting the night-time economy.

#### How we will measure it:

- Anti-social behaviour reports in the Town & district centres
- Crimes in the Town & district centres