

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

WORK PROGRAMME

2022-2023

RECOMMENDATION:

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

ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Date of Meeting	Subject	Additional Information
8 th February 2023	North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership	Officer contact: Bev Houghton
13 th March 2023	Bromsgrove 2040 Vision – pre-scrutiny	Ostap Paparega, Head of Economic Development & Regeneration, NWEDR
	Former Market Hall Site Proposal – pre-scrutiny	Naznin Chowdhury, Programme Delivery Manager, NWEDR
	Mould and damp – BDHT update – overview item	Matthew Bough, Housing Strategy and Enabling Manager
	Working Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader’s Work Programme	
29 th March 2023 (Wed)	Enforcement – Fly tipping – overview item	Guy Revans, Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services
	Electric Chargers in the District – overview item	Guy Revans, Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services
	Replacement Street Signs – overview item	Kevin Hiron, Environmental Services Manager Pete Liddington, Engineering Team Leader
	Working Group Updates	
	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader’s Work Programme	
17 th April 2023	Overview and Scrutiny Board – Annual Report 2022-2023	Democratic Services – Councillor Hotham
	Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker - review	Democratic Services / Councillor Hotham
	Working Group Updates	

	WCC Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – update from Representative	
	Cabinet Leader’s Work Programme	
July 2023	Grass Verge Maintenance – pre-scrutiny	Matthew Austin, Environmental Services Manager

Outstanding items for 2022 – 2023 with no assigned date

2022/2023

- Decarbonisation of the Council Fleet – due for consideration not before April 2023
- Strategic Transport Assessment

To be carried forward to 2023/24

- Bromsgrove Town Centre Regeneration - Land at the Dolphin Centre - pre-scrutiny (June 2023) (Kevin Dicks)

Task Group Proposals

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.

YOU CAN'T BE THE 'IN-CROWD' FROM OUTSIDE

BANNED FROM ONE, BANNED FROM ALL

Bromsgrove will not tolerate anti-social behaviour.

As well as facing arrest, if one member venue of Bromsgrove Pubwatch bans you, you will be banned from all member venues in Bromsgrove town centre for up to 5 years. Have a safe and enjoyable night out.

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