

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL – 22 MAY 2017
REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (PUBLIC PROTECTION,
PLANNING AND GOVERNANCE)

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL
REPORT 2016/2017 AND WORK PROGRAMME 2017/2018 – REPORT IN
ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 6.3(C) OF THE CONSTITUTION

FUNCTIONS AND ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE

The main functions of the Committee relate to the conduct of comprehensive reviews and the scrutiny of the Council's policies, strategies or operations relating to planning (except planning policy development matters), building control, transportation (including Hackney Carriages but excluding transportation policy development matters), economic development, environmental health and environmental services namely waste services, contract services, landscape and ecology services and fleet and workshop management.

Additional items for the work programme may be generated by the Councillor Call for Action. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the Police and Justice Act 2006 both contain new powers for Members to help them tackle local problems on behalf of their constituents.

Councillors have the ability to call for debate and discussion at Committee on a topic of neighbourhood concern and this is known as "Councillor Call for Action" (CCfA).

Under Article 6.3(c) of the Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny Committees must report annually to the Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate. This report is in accordance with that requirement.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

The Membership of the Committee consisted of ten Council Members and two co-opted Members from the Tenants' Panel.

WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee met five times during the municipal year 2016/2017 and has dealt with a range of issues.

Issues that have been considered by the Committee include the following:

TOPIC	MEETING	MINUTE
Hertfordshire County Council Air Quality Alert Scheme	4 July 2016	5
Revised Application Pack And Handbook For Hackney Carriage And Private Hire Drivers	4 July 2016	6
Environmental Enforcement Strategy	4 July 2016	7
Performance Indicator Report Q4 and Annual Report	4 July 2016	8
Performance Monitoring Quarter 1	12 September 2016	23
Performance Monitoring Quarter 2	14 November 2016	32
Performance Monitoring Quarter 3	5 April 2017	58
Environment Services 4th Quarter And Annual Performance 2015/16	4 July 2016	9
1 st Quarter 2016/17	12 September 2016	22
2 nd Quarter 2016/17	30 January 2017	43
Street Warden Annual Performance and Service Review	4 July 2016	10
CP Plus Performance Results October 2015 – March 2016	4 July 2016	11
CP Plus Performance Results April 2016 – September 16	14 November 2016	30
John O'Conner GM Annual Performance Report	4 July 2016 14 November 2016	12 31
Length of Driver Licences	4 July 2016	14
Flood Response Functions	12 September 2016	20
Consideration Of A Fly Grazing Protocol	12 September 2016	21
Health Protection	14 November 2016	33

Garden Waste Collection Report:	30 January 2017	42
Eat Out Eat Well Healthy Eating Award	30 January 2017	44
Pest Control Update	30 January 2017	45
Update On Operation Reprise And Operation Balsam	30 January 2017	46
Consideration Of Additional Street Trading Consent	30 January 2017	47
Hackney Carriage Office Enforcement Action 2015/16	30 January 2017	50
Climate Change Update	5 April 2017	54
Food Safety Service Plan 2017/18	5 April 2017	55
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme – Cost Recovery	5 April 2017	56
Health And Safety Service Plan	5 April 2017	57

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Public questions were received at the meeting of 30 January 2017 on the garden waste service.

CONTRACT MONITORING

(Minutes 11, 30, 12 and 31 refer)

The Committee received the Annual Performance reports, half-yearly and quarterly reports for Serco, CP Plus and John O’Conner.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

(Minutes 8, 23, and 32 refer)

The Committee received regular updates on the Local and National Performance Indicators. These updates enabled Members to identify areas that had improved, sustained or deteriorated in their performance.

ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY

Members are able, by way of Scrutiny sub-committees, to undertake time-limited focussed scrutiny on issues that they feel need particular attention.

At the meeting on 4 July 2016, the Committee agreed to undertake a scrutiny of the Council's Tree and Woodland Strategy, which will be reported to the Cabinet in June 2017.

COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION

No requests were made under the Councillor Call for Action.

WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme for the Committee will be set at the first meeting of the municipal year. A copy of the draft programme with details of regular topics is attached at Appendix B.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report on the working of the Committee, together with recommendations for the Committee's future work programme, in accordance with Article 6.3 (C) of the Constitution, be noted.

Nick Long
Executive Director (Public Protection, Planning and Governance)
8 May 2017