

## Harborough District Council

### Report to the Services and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel Meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025



<b>Title:</b>	Corporate and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Panel Draft Workplan
<b>Status:</b>	Public
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Report Author:</b>	Ella Newman, Interim Senior Democratic Services Officer
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Beadle, Corporate & Regulatory Services
<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix A – Draft Scrutiny Workplan Appendix B – Council's Forward Plan

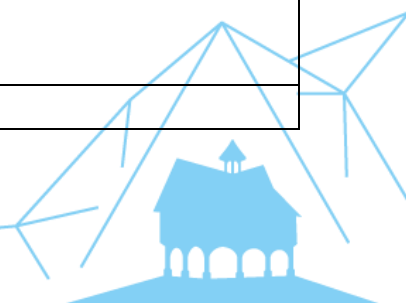
#### Executive Summary

The current draft Workplan for the Corporate and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Panel has been populated using a combination of items previously referred to Scrutiny from various sources, officer or member-led items, and statutory items.

The Workplan will be reviewed at each meeting by the Panel and any further possible items assessed against the agreed criteria listed below:

- Public interest – not an individual's issue
- Performance issues
- Relevant to HDC and its objectives
- Timely – able to act in time, not covered in the last year
- Ability to make a difference/impact/influence
- Not covered by another committee or function of the council
- Resources to deliver – is there enough capacity in the council to deliver the outcomes/review

#### Recommendations



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| 1. To review the Corporate and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Panel workplan for 2024/25 and current Forward Plan and consider topics for the 2025/26 workplan for consideration at the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2025. |
| <b>Reasons for Recommendations</b>   |
| 1. It is appropriate that the Panel's Workplan for the coming months will facilitate Council business and the achievement of the agreed Corporate priorities, and enable Panel members and officers to plan work efficiently.                            |

### **Reasons for Recommendations**

1. It is appropriate that the Panel's Workplan for the coming months will facilitate Council business and the achievement of the agreed Corporate priorities, and enable Panel members and officers to plan work efficiently.

## **1. Purpose of Report**

For the Panel to review the workplan adopted in accordance with its terms of reference.

## **2. Background**

2.1 The Workplan has been populated using a combination of items previously referred to Panel from various sources, officer or member-led items, and statutory items. The workplan will be on the agenda at each Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting.

## **3. Details**

- 3.1 The Council's Forward Plan is attached at Appendix B. Its inclusion allows the Corporate and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Panel to identify known decisions which will be made by the Cabinet in the next few months and to identify if Scrutiny involvement can add value to the debate.
- 3.2 As the municipal year is coming to an end, a Joint Overview & Scrutiny Panel will be convened on 16<sup>th</sup> April to consider matters for the Scrutiny Panels for 2025/26. Items put forward by members will be considered at this meeting. It is asked that members of the Panel review the current workplan and consider what additional items could be added to the workplan for 2025/26 so that these can be put to the Joint meeting for consideration.

## **4. Implications of Decisions**

### **4.1. Corporate Priorities**

The Corporate and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Panel will review its Workplan to ensure that it supports the corporate vision of building a future for the people of Harborough district that gives them the best life chances and opportunities through:

- Place and Community - Community leadership to create a sense of pride in our place; and
- Healthy Lives – Promoting health and wellbeing and encouraging healthy life choices.

### **4.2. Financial**

No direct financial implications arise directly from this report.

### **4.3. Legal**

The requirement to establish a mechanism by which the Cabinet can be held to account stems from the Local Government Act 2000 and the Localism Act 2011 which require the Council to maintain a transparent and robust scrutiny function.

Harborough District Council's Constitution requires that the Corporate and Performance Overview & Scrutiny Panel exercises the functions set out in the terms of reference of the Panel, as set out at Part 2, Article 6.

The Constitution also requires the Panel to prepare a work programme after the start of the municipal year, however the Panel need not keep to the published work programme. (Part 4,4.5.13).

### **4.4. Policy**

The Council needs to ensure that it has an appropriate Scrutiny work-plan in place in order that Scrutiny can hold the Cabinet to account, undertake policy development, contribute to improved decision-making, and channel the voice of the public.

### **4.5. Environmental Implications including contributions to achieving a net zero carbon Council by 2030**

None as far as this report is concerned.

### **4.6. Risk Management**

None as far as this report is concerned.

### **4.7. Equalities Impact**

None as far as this report is concerned.

### **4.8. Data Protection**

As the report contains no personal information, the principles set out in the Data Protection Act 2018 are not engaged.

## **Summary of Consultation and Outcome**

The Workplan has been prepared in conjunction with Corporate Management Team, report authors and the Chairman of the Corporate and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

## **5. Alternative Options Considered**

Not applicable.

**6. Background papers**

None.