



Corporate Review Committee Work Programme 2013/14

The Corporate Review Committee is the Council's principal scrutiny committee. It is responsible for co-ordinating and approving the scrutiny work programmes, overseeing the work of the Select Committees and ensuring coherence of approach to cross cutting policy themes.

The Committee also scrutinises those areas of the County Council's activity focused on corporate improvement. Its remit covers:

- *Holding the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council to account for achievement of the overall vision of a connected Staffordshire.*
- *The Council's overall performance and approach to managing performance and Strategic Corporate Planning*
- *The Council's Medium term Financial Strategy*
- *The Council's on-going programme of improvement and transformation.*
- *The committee is responsible for scrutiny of achievement against the Council's strategic priorities*
- *The Council as a commissioning organisation including how it uses customer insight to drive improvements in services*

We review our work programme regularly. Sometimes we change it - if something important comes up during the year that we think we should investigate as a priority. Our work results in recommendations for the County Council and other organisations about how what they do can be improved, for the benefit of the people and communities of Staffordshire.

County Councillor Philip Jones
Chairman of the Corporate Review Committee

If you would like to know more about our work programme, please get in touch with Duncan Whitehouse, Democracy Manager – Scrutiny and Governance, 01785 276154 or duncan.whitehouse@staffordshire.gov.uk.

| Item | Date of meeting when the item is due to be considered | Details | Action/Outcome |
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| Childcare to Market Call In | 27 June 2013 | A special meeting of Corporate Review was held to consider a decision by the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing that had been Called In. During the meeting various issues were explored including the extent to which pre decision scrutiny had been undertaken, the impact upon staff and the pension scheme and the quality of service provision post transfer. | Following consideration of the issue, and a vote of by the committee, it was agreed that the decision could proceed and be implemented in accordance with the recommendations set out in the original decision. |
| Development of the Corporate Review Committee's Work Programme | 22 July 2013 | The committee to agree priorities for the work programme for the year. | The committee has developed a work programme agreeing that MTFS scrutiny would be undertaken by the whole committee, City Deal and Infrastructure+ would need to be considered as an integral part of the MTFS scrutiny but that scrutiny of the LEP was better placed with the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee. |
| Update on the Transformation Support Unit Programme | 22 July 2013 21 October 2013 13 January 2014 | To consider the overall impact of the Transformation Programme in terms of improving the quality of services and delivering value for money. | It was agreed that the Deputy Leader will attend quarterly to report and answer questions on the progress of transformation, the level of confidence and achievements to date. The respective Select Committees will undertake scrutiny of specific projects that sit within their remit as appropriate. |

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| MTFS Scrutiny – incorporating consideration of the financial implications of Infrastructure+, Powerhouse Central etc. | Working Group Mid-October onwards Final report 28 January 2014 | To consider whether the MTFS will deliver value for money for the taxpayer of Staffordshire, is sustainable over the medium to long term and is aligned to the Achieving Excellence ambitions of the Council. | The working group (Frank Chapman, John Francis, Brian Jenkins, Philip Jones, John Taylor, Susan Woodward and Mike Worthington) are meeting with Cabinet Members and Senior Officers and will present their final recommendations to the committee in due course. |
| Achieving Excellence | 17 September 2013 | Committee to be updated on the Council's strategic direction and corresponding performance framework. | Key principles of effective scrutiny of commissioning were agreed. Corporate Review will scrutinise the implementation of the Achieving Excellence model. |
| | 2 December 13 January 2014 | The committee to consider updates to the Strategic Plan prior to consideration by Cabinet and Council. | The Committee was updated on work on the development of the plan so far. Members commented on a number of issues, including Member involvement in the planning process, the use of customer insight and how the vision, themes and principles fitted together. |
| Scrutiny Work Programme Planning | 17 September 2013 | The Committee will consider the work programmes for the other Select Committees to ensure the overall work programme for the Select Committees are co-ordinated and don't duplicate | The work programmes were endorsed with recognition that they were full programmes for the year. Individual Select Committees were asked to regularly monitor their work programmes to ensure time for effective scrutiny of issues which would have impact. |

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| Corporate Complaints Annual Report and Local Government Ombudsman Annual Review Letter | 21 October 2013 | The Committee will receive details of the annual report from the Ombudsman on the number and a report on all complaints received by the authority. | The committee questioned the Deputy Leader on the future plans for complaints handling, particularly in terms of moves to a commissioning and joint venture company. |
| Development of Sportshire Strategy (including Olympic legacy). | 2 December 2013 | The committee will investigate the extent to which the Olympic Legacy is being used to drive local priorities. | Members were given details of direct benefits from the Olympics, including business generated for Staffordshire through Olympic contracts and hosting international teams in the County. Other issues including linking into wider work to improve health, the importance of engaging with children in sport through schools and the need for a clear strategy on the use of sports facilities were highlighted. |
| Customer Service and Insight | 13 January 2014 | The committee will investigate the impact of actions to improve access to County Council services and monitor the impact of customer insight information shaping commissioning and decision making. | |
| SEN, All Age Disabilities & Vulnerable Children, incorporating Children and Families Bill | 28 January 2014 | To consider a proposal for examining SEN, Vulnerable Children and Support for People with Disabilities. | |

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| Support Services | TBC | Update on Support Services | |

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| <p>Membership County Councillors Philip Jones (Chairman) Frank Chapman (Vice Chairman) Tim Corbett Brian Edwards John Francis Kath Perry Mike Worthington Carol Dean Kevin Jackson Brian Jenkins John Taylor Susan Woodward Derrick Huckfield</p> <p>Support Duncan Whitehouse (01785 276154 – duncan.whitehouse@staffordshire.gov.uk) Peter McKenzie (01785 276151 – peter.mckenzie@staffordshire.gov.uk)</p> | <p>Calendar of Committee Meetings (at 10am unless otherwise stated)</p> <p>21 October 2013 (2pm) 02 December 2013 (2pm) 13 January 2014 (2pm) 11 March 2014</p> <p>Meetings usually take place in County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford.</p> |
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