



This document sets out the work programme for the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee for 2014/15.

The Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee is responsible for scrutiny of highways infrastructure and connectivity, education, learning and skills. As such the statutory education co-optees will sit on this committee. The Council has three priority outcomes. This Committee is aligned to the outcome: The people of Staffordshire will be able to access more good jobs and feel the benefits of economic growth.

We review our work programme at every meeting. 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 Brian Edwards

Chairman of the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee

If you would like to know more about our work programme, please get in touch with Tina Randall, Scrutiny and Support Manager, 01785 276148 or by emailing tina.randall@staffordshire.gov.uk

Item	Date of meeting when the item is due to be considered	Link to the Council's Business Plan	Details	Action/Outcome
Rail Strategy Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officer: Clive Thomson/Clare Horton	tbc	Great Place to Live Support the improvement and development of shared resources such as utilities, highways and technology.	Monitoring progress with delivery	
Strategic Economic Plan Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Darryl Eyers	5 September 2014	Great Place to Live Create the right conditions to attract and grow business in Staffordshire.	Members to scrutinise progress on the European Growth Deal submission	Members welcomed the investment and will give consideration to the best approach to scrutinising progress of the 8 projects, including whether joint scrutiny with Stoke-on-Trent City Council would be appropriate.
Staffordshire Local Nature Partnership and Eco System Services Lead Officer: Ian Wykes	It is proposed that a briefing note be circulated to update Members on this issue.	Great Place to Live Use and maintain our built and natural environment to improve health and wellbeing and strengthen community assets.	Informing Members of the work of the Staffordshire Local Nature Partnership	
Education Support Services – Commissioning and Contract Performance Cabinet Member: Ben Adams Lead officer: Ian H Benson	5 September 2014	Ready for Life Focus on school improvement and providing access to a good education.	Monitoring progress of contract with Entrust to ensure that it is delivering intended outcomes.	Members noted the progress made and will continue to monitor progress, in particular around communication.
The Ofsted Focused Inspection Cabinet Member: Ben Adams Lead Officer: Anna Halliday	5 September 2014	Ready for Life Focus on school improvement and providing access to a good education.	Members to be updated on progress with school improvement arrangements following the report of the Working Group to the Committee on 24 January 2014, and	Members welcomed the work already underway and will scrutinise progress of the action plan (at their March meeting).

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			specifically on the outcome of the Ofsted Focused Inspection	
<p>Roll out of Broadband Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officer: Steve Burrows</p>	<p>16 October 2014 (following the update request on 24 April 2014)</p>	<p>Great Place to Live Support the improvement and development of shared resources such as utilities, highways and technology. and Create the right conditions to attract and grow business in Staffordshire.</p>	<p>Monitoring progress with delivery</p>	<p>Members noted the progress made and agreed that: The Vice Chairman share details of contacts at Severn Trent Water with the Cabinet Member and Superfast Broadband Manager, and that they explore working with Severn Trent Water to extend the superfast broadband coverage in Staffordshire; the Superfast Broadband Manager consider how best to share progress on the implementation of Superfast broadband with the Borough and District Councils in Staffordshire; and the Committee receive a further update in 6 month's time.</p>
<p>W2R Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Ian Benson</p>	<p>16 October 2014</p>	<p>Great Place to Live Support the improvement and development of shared</p>	<p>Members requested an updating on progress</p>	<p>Members noted the progress made and requested that a copy of</p>

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		resources such as utilities, highways and technology.		the report given to the Committee be forwarded to Mike Grundy, Planning and Development Control Manager, in preparation for the Planning Committee's visit.
E Safety Contracts with Schools Cabinet Member: Ben Adams Lead Officer: Sander Kristel	18 December 2014	Ready for Life Focus on school improvement and providing access to a good education.	Following proposed changes to the E-Safety contracts with schools Paul Woodhead, PGR, requested this item to explain the proposals.	The Select Committee requested: details of this issue be taken to the Schools Forum; the Safe and Strong select Committee be informed that not all schools were monitoring the reports detailing young people's online school activity; and that the Cabinet Member should request a letter from Entrust to schools confirming the revised agreement.
Improving Connectivity in Staffordshire Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Clive Thomson	18 December 2014	Great Place to Live Support the improvement and development of shared resources such as utilities, highways and technology.	Members to be updated on the transport review (to include concessionary travel arrangements)	The Committee considered this issue in detail and asked the cabinet Member to take account of their views on Independent Travel Training and home to school transport for children with SEN.
Flood Risk Management –	18 December	Great Place to Live	Update on progress of	Members accepted the

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progress update Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officer: Ian Benson	2014	Support the improvement and development of shared resources such as utilities, highways and technology.	Staffordshire's flood risk management.	update on Flood Risk management.
Country Parks Review Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officer: Ian Wykes	18 December 2014 (a briefing note will be available in July/August 2014 on this issue in preparation for the main discussion later in the year)	Great Place to Live Use and maintain our built and natural environment to improve health and wellbeing and strengthen community assets. Enjoying Life Strengthen public confidence in the county as a great place to live with lots of opportunities to enjoy life.	To update Members on the production of a management plan for the county council owned countryside estate. This could be considered in a briefing note initially.	Members accepted the adoption of the proposed critical success factors and requested a further report in March 2015 on this issue.
Achieving Excellence – Libraries in a Connected Staffordshire Cabinet Member: Mike Lawrence Lead Officer: Janene Cox/Catherine Mann	23 January 2015	Great Place to Live Support the improvement and development of shared resources such as utilities, highways and technology.	To consider the results of the consultation on Staffordshire libraries.	
School Improvement Programme Cabinet Member: Ben Adams Lead Officer: Anna Halliday	23 January 2015	Ready for Life Focus on school improvement and providing access to a good education.	To keep Members updated on the work of the Programme Board and the action taken.	
Tourism – Destination Staffordshire Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Graeme Whitehead	Strategy circulated to Members on 26 September 2014	Enjoying Life Encourage people to participate in social and leisure activities that they enjoy by promoting the attractiveness of the County to tourists, businesses and residents.	This was subject to a delegated decision to extend the strategy and therefore Members may wish to receive a copy of the strategy rather than a report.	

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Impact of SEND reforms Cabinet Member – Ben Adams Lead Officer – Nichola Glover-Edge	6 March 2015	Ready for Life Focus on school improvement and providing access to a good education.	To consider the impact of the SEND reforms for Staffordshire children.	
Infrastructure + Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officer: Ian Turner	6 March 2015	Great Place to Live Support the improvement and development of shared resources such as utilities, highways and technology.	The Select will continue to monitor the quality of the work delivered through the contract (including Shugborough and Cannock Chase)	
Countryside Estate Management Review Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead officer: Ian Wykes	6 March 2015	Great Place to Live Use and maintain our built and natural environment to improve health and wellbeing and strengthen community assets. Enjoying Life Strengthen public confidence in the county as a great place to live with lots of opportunities to enjoy life.	Members requested a further update on this issue after considering it at their 18 December 2014 meeting.	
Bradwell Lane Cabinet Member: Mark Winnington Lead Officer: Richard Harris	tbc	Included on the work programme as part of the Petition Scheme process	A petition with over 2,500 signatures requesting traffic calming measures at Bradwell Lane, Newcastle had been presented by Mrs Emma Meadon at the 25 July Select Committee. This issue will be considered again once the Coroners report on the fatal	

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			accident that prompted the petition has been received.	
Pupil Premium Plus Policy Cabinet Member: Ben Adams Lead Officer: Sarah Rivers	tbc (not before October 2015)	Ready for Life Focus on school improvement and providing access to a good education	One of the recommendations of the Working Group on Children Missing Out On Education was for the Select Committee to receive an account from the Virtual Headteacher of how effective the mechanisms had been in operating the Pupil Premium Plus Policy	
Working Groups				
Children Missing out on Education (CME) Working Group	March 2014 – November 2014	Ready for Life Focus on school improvement and providing access to a good education	This working group was actioned as a result of a recommendation from the Select Committee Working Group on the Ofsted inspection of school improvement arrangements which suggested further investigation into CME following the issues highlighted in the Ofsted report "Pupils missing out on Education".	The Working Group made a number of recommendations, supported by the Select Committee. These included: sharing concerns over the lack of information sharing protocols with HMRC; requesting the Secretary of State to reconsider the issue of registering school aged pupils; a copy of the report being forwarded to the Children's

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				Commissioner seeking her support in lobbying for the introduction of registering school aged pupils; and sending a copy of the report to the local Safeguarding Board to highlight the continued concerns.
Briefing notes/updates and referrals				
Higher level education Lead Officer: Tony Baines		<p>Ready for Life Support the improved supply of skills to employers and the employability of residents.</p> <p>and</p> <p>Enhance access to high quality family, community and life-long learning.</p>	Looking at higher level education provision in Staffordshire in light of the changes to Staffordshire University.	
Outdoor Education Centres Lead Officer:		<p>Great Place to Live Use and maintain our built and natural environment to improve health and wellbeing and strengthen community assets.</p> <p>and</p> <p>Ready for Life Focus on school improvement and providing access to a good education.</p>	Following the £2m investment by Entrust into the Staffordshire Outdoor Education Centres Members wished to see how this investment had been used and the intended outcome from this.	

Membership

Brian Edwards (Chairman)
Martyn Tittley (Vice-Chairman)
George Adamson
Ann Beech
Len Bloomer
Maureen Compton
Tim Corbett
Geoff Martin
Geoff Morrison
Sheree Peaple
Rev. Preb. Michael Metcalf (Co-optee)
Paul Woodhead (Co-optee)
Candice Yeomans (Co-optee)

Calendar of Committee Meetings

(at 10.00 am and at County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford ST16
2LH unless otherwise stated)

25 July 2014, 10.00 am

5 September 2014, 10.00 am

16 October 2014, 10.00 am

18 December 2014, 10.00 am

23 January 2015, 10.00 am

6 March 2015, 2.00 pm