Meeting: Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee

Date: 25 June 2019

Title: Work Programme 2019/20

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Service: Law and Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable the sub-committee to consider the formulation of its work programme 2019/20.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The sub-committee is recommended to formulate and agree a work programme for 2019/20 and identify any further topics relevant to the remit of the sub-committee that could be included in the work programme.

3. Details

3.1 The sub-committee are invited to give consideration to determining its work programme for the year ahead. In doing so members may wish to take into account the following factors.

3.2 The sub-committee is one of a number of overview and scrutiny sub-committees. The role of overview and scrutiny is described in the Council's Constitution as follows:
"Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development involves councillors of all political parties, as leaders of their communities, examining the delivery of services and influencing decision makers to ensure that they meet the needs, and improve the lives, of people in North Tyneside.
It does this by:
a) reviewing and challenging the impact of decisions and actions taken by the Elected Mayor, Cabinet and partner organisations;
b) carrying out investigations into services and policy areas of interest and concern to communities in North Tyneside;
c) involving communities in its work and reflecting their views and concerns; and
d) supporting and assisting the Elected Mayor, Cabinet and partner organisations in the formulation of their future plans, strategies and their decision making by making evidence based recommendations to them on how services can be improved."

3.3 The Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee has responsibility to perform these roles in relation to the following areas:
- Economic Development
- Planning
- Business and Enterprise
- Transport Network
- Highways and Road Safety
- Town Centres
- Inward Investment
- Tourism

3.4 To ensure that the work programme is effective it is suggested that when evaluating topics for inclusion in the work programme the following criteria should be considered:
- Is it timely?
- Will it duplicate any other work ongoing within the Council or the North of Tyne Combined Authority scrutiny work programme?
- Will it add value/contribute to policy development?

3.5 The sub-committee has the option of establishing sub-groups (of around 4/5 members) to carry out in-depth investigations. The sub-groups operate in a more informal way and can consult with a wide range of witnesses in various settings, often over a shorter period of time. When dealing with a specific topic, this focused way of working is often more productive than trying to achieve the same in a formal committee setting. Whilst more than one topic can be prioritised across the municipal year, only one sub-group can be established at any one time due to resourcing restraints. As yet a topic has yet to be identified for in-depth investigation by a sub-group.

3.6 The 2018/19 work programme is attached. This sets out the areas of work examined during the past 12 months and may assist members in identifying topics for the year ahead. The Head of Regeneration and Economic Development has also agreed to attend this evening's meeting to put forward suggestions and provide advice to the sub-committee on the formulation of its work programme.

3.7 The sub-committee are invited to raise any others topics relevant to the remit of the sub-committee that they think should be included in the work programme. Additional topics raised will be scheduled accordingly in consultation with the Chair and the Deputy Chair.

4. Appendices

Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee work programme 2018/19

5. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report and may be inspected at the offices of the author:
- Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee minutes and work programme 2018/19