



## RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

*at the Council Offices, Farnborough on  
Thursday, 20th October, 2022 at 7.00 pm*

**To:**

Cllr M.D. Smith (Chairman)  
Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr K. Dibble (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr A. Adeola  
Cllr Gaynor Austin  
Cllr L. Jeffers  
Cllr Prabesh KC  
Cllr Mara Makunura  
Cllr Marina Munro  
Cllr Sophie Porter  
Cllr S. Trussler

**Standing Deputy**

Cllr Jib Belbase  
Cllr Nadia Martin

Enquiries regarding this agenda should be referred to the Administrator, Adele Taylor, Democracy and Community, Tel. (01252) 398831, Email. [adele.taylor@rushmoor.gov.uk](mailto:adele.taylor@rushmoor.gov.uk).

# **A G E N D A**

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – (Pages 1 - 6)**

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th September, 2022 (copy attached).

2. **PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS –**

To receive a presentation from Head of Operational Services, James Duggin on Parks and Playgrounds, in particular;

- Strategy and Action Plan - overview
- Progress and plans
- How the work is moving forward

The Portfolio Holder for Operations has been invited to the meeting for this item.

3. **PROPERTY SERVICES –**

Head of Economy, Planning and Strategic Housing, Tim Mills, to provide an overview on the service.

The Portfolio Holder for Major Projects and Property has been invited to the meeting for this item.

4. **WORK PLAN – (Pages 7 - 14)**

To consider the Work Plan for the 2022/23 Municipal Year (copy attached).

## **MEETING REPRESENTATION**

Members of the public may ask to speak at the meeting on any of the items on the agenda by writing to the Committee Administrator at the Council Offices, Farnborough by 5.00 pm two working days prior to the meeting.

Applications for items to be considered for the next meeting must be received in writing to the Committee Administrator fifteen working days prior to the meeting.

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# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting held on Thursday, 15th September, 2022 at the Council Offices, Farnborough at 7.00 pm.

## **Voting Members**

Cllr M.D. Smith (Chairman)  
Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr K. Dibble (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr A. Adeola  
Cllr Gaynor Austin  
Cllr L. Jeffers  
Cllr Prabesh KC  
Cllr Marina Munro  
Cllr Sophie Porter  
Cllr S. Trussler

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllr Mara Makunura.

## **11. HER LATE MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II**

As a mark of respect for Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the meeting started with a minute's silence.

## **12. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st July, 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

## **13. COMMUNITY SAFETY AND POLICING**

The Committee welcomed Chief Inspector (CI) Emma Hart (Hampshire Police) and James Knight (Service Manager – Place Protection), who were in attendance to provide an update on policing and community safety matters in the Borough.

### **(1) Policing –**

Chief Inspector Hart, who joined the meeting online, gave an introduction to her career and her initial thoughts after moving to Rushmoor. Despite a motivated and proactive team being in place, CI Hart had identified a lack of experience within the team, due to staff retention issues. It was noted that the team currently consisted of one Inspector, two Sergeants, 24 Police Constables (PC) and 12 Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's). It was advised that a recruitment campaign, being held in November across the Borough, would aim to encourage local people to join the force or become Special Constables/volunteers. It was noted that Hampshire was one of the

highest performing forces but one of the lowest funded. National, match and external funding were being sought to address funding issues.

The Committee noted the key policing matters in the area, which included burglary, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and high harm, drug related harm and youth on youth violence. It was noted that a High Harm Team would be launched on 3rd October, 2022 in Rushmoor and Hart, to focus on ASB and high harm issues across the area.

CI Hart reported on crime data and it was noted that crime rates in Rushmoor were in line with the rest of the country. District priorities were identified, these included drug related harm, Asian Gold breaks and violence against women and girls. It was advised that patrol plans were key to addressing these issues.

On the issue of priority deployment, it was noted that the police had to focus resource where it was considered most needed, would achieve positive outcomes and where swift justice could be achieved. Measures taken to offset the demand on deployment included:

- Operation Mothra – this operation involved having a police presence in an area for 15 minutes or more for a period of time - outcomes had shown a reduction in crime in the following weeks in those areas
- Early intervention and partnership working – key to providing support and help to those that needed it, including the issue of Community Protection Notices (CPN's)

CI Hart reported on 999 versus 101 calls. It was noted that there had been unprecedented demand on 101 and it was often a long wait to report a non-emergency crime. Alternative contact streams were available for non-emergency reporting, these included contact through the internet and via a QR code, but it was recognised that not everyone had access to these contact streams. It was also noted that the police monitored call data relating to the 101 number and continued to work towards improving the service. Consideration was being given to alternative digital access routes to allow people to pick and choose how they contacted the police. Data on the 101 non-emergency number would be provided at a future meeting.

In response to a query regarding youth on youth violence and drug taking, it was noted that gang exploitation of vulnerable young people was more prevalent now than ever before. It was noted that Hart had had some success with a criminal exploitation package, which had allowed information to be shared and interventions to take place with vulnerable young people and their families – it was hoped that this scheme could be utilised in Rushmoor in the future. In addition, cross border intelligence sharing was also key to tackling youth and drug related crime. Other contributing factors included the removal of youth services by the County Council.

The Chairman thanked Chief Inspector Hart for her presentation.

## (2) Community Safety –

Mr Knight provided an overview of the service, which covered Community Safety, Licensing and Community Patrol Officers (CPO's). The three areas came together to create and maintain a safe, clean and inviting Borough that residents could be proud of, by providing a visible Council presence to residents, businesses and visitors, engaging at every opportunity, educating and encouraging compliance where appropriate and enforcing if necessary. The Team had been given two overarching priorities, these were to:

- maintain the aesthetic value of the Borough and improve feelings of safety in public, private and virtual space, and;
- improve visibility and evidence outcomes of the Team's work

The Committee were advised of the work of the Safer North Hampshire Community Safety Partnership. The Partnership had recently signed off on its most recent Strategic Assessment (a copy of which would be shared with the Committee) which aimed to improve feelings of safety and health outcomes and tackle issues such as serious violence, domestic abuse and ASB. The Partnership ensured strong links between the various agencies involved.

An update was then provided on the work of the Community Safety team, this included:

- **Current Focus** – It was noted that during the pandemic there had been a significant increase in neighbour issues and disputes, and this had continued into 2022. Complaints often focussed on noise issues and/or cannabis, and in particular took place in housing association properties. The Team linked closely with local Housing Associations to tackle these issues and ensured appropriate support.

An ongoing issue in Hawley Woods with vehicle related antisocial behaviour had led to a positive partnership approach with the MOD, Fire, Hart Council and the Police. This had led to positive press and sharing of useful intelligence.

- **PSPO** – A Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) had been launched in Aldershot Town Centre on 20th July. Authorised officers had the power to request an individual to stop drinking and to confiscate alcohol, if suspected of ASB, and to issue a fine for public urination/defecation. Since July the CPO's had engaged 20 individuals, all who had complied with any requests. It was noted that there had been a number of repeat offenders. As a result, moving forward, the CPO's would be looking to confiscate any alcohol from these individuals.

Following a walkabout in the town centre in late August, feedback from some businesses had been generally positive. Comments had been made on the increase in officer presence and nuisance individuals being moved on.

- **Closure Order** – In late 2021, the Team had its first successful Closure Order on a property responsible for antisocial behaviour and drugs issues in Aldershot. The impact on neighbours had been significant and feedback had been that the situation had improved significantly. The Team had successfully applied for an extension to the Closure Order following the initial period.
- **Cannabis** – Use of cannabis in residential properties continued to be an issue, with a large number of complaints being made. The Team followed a Cannabis Warning Process in partnership with Hampshire Police, which included a number of warning letters, visits and ultimately use of Community Protection Notices. It was noted that, first warning letters were generally effective and prevented reoccurrence, although a small number of complaints had progressed to the next stage. During 2021-22, 35 warning letters had been sent, 11 of which had been second letters. However, no warnings had progressed to the issue of a Community Protection Notice.

The Committee discussed the report and raised a number of issues, including:

- **Resources** – It was noted that currently there was a vacancy within the Community Safety Team, but the recruitment process had commenced and it was hoped the role would be filled shortly. It was felt that the Team were currently effective in their role and, should more resource be available, the expectation would need to be managed.
- **CCTV** – in response to a query regarding the relocation of the CCTV unit, it was felt that the move would not be disadvantageous, but it would be key to maintain good communication lines.
- **Youth Services** – a discussion was held over the withdrawal of Youth Services by Hampshire County Council and the impacts this had had on youth crime rates. The Committee requested that the Head of Young People’s Services and the County Portfolio Holder responsible for this area be invited to a future meeting of the Committee. This request would be discussed further at the Progress Group.
- **Attendance at Ward Surgeries/Ward Audits** – it was advised that Ward Audits were planned and Ward Members would be welcome to join the officers as the audits were undertaken. Dates would be shared with Members as appropriate. It was also noted that the Team would endeavour to attend ward surgeries and Members were asked to share dates of these with Mr Knight.

The Chairman thanked Mr Knight for his presentation.

#### 14. WORK PLAN

The current Work Plan was noted.

It was noted that potential items for the meeting on 20th October, 2022 were Property Services and Park and Playgrounds.

A discussion would be held at the next meeting of the Progress Group in relation to inviting the Head of Children's/Young People's Services at Hampshire County Council to a future meeting.

It was noted that discussions were underway to determine a way forward and suitable date for Farnborough Airport to attend a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

CLLR M.D. SMITH (CHAIRMAN)

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# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The purpose of the work plan is to plan, manage and co-ordinate the ongoing activity and progress of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It will be updated regularly and presented to each meeting of the Committee. It will include issues that are currently being actioned as well as those that will be subject to future work.

The Committees Terms of Reference are as follows:

- to perform all overview and scrutiny functions on behalf of the Council;
- to appoint such formal sub-committees and informal task and finish groups as it considers necessary to assist it in discharging its functions;
- to prepare and approve the overview and scrutiny work programme so as to ensure that the Committee's time is effectively and efficiently utilised;
- to undertake investigations into such matters relating to the Council's functions and powers as:
  - (1) may be referred by the Council, Committees, the Cabinet, or the Leader; or
  - (2) the Committee may consider appropriate; or
  - (3) have been referred to the Committee pursuant to the "call-in" procedure set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of this Constitution. (These can be decisions taken by the Cabinet, a Cabinet Member, key decisions taken by an officer or under joint arrangements).
- to monitor and review the performance of the Council and services against relevant performance indicators and adopted plans;

- to review and/or scrutinise decisions proposed to be made (pre-decision scrutiny) or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
- to review existing policy and strategy with a view to securing continuous improvement in the way in which the Council's functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness;
- to make reports and/or recommendations to the full Council and/or the Cabinet in connection with the discharge of any functions;
- to review and/or scrutinise any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants;
- to discuss initiatives put forward for consideration by individual members of the Committee and any relevant 'call-for-action' in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution; and
- to consider petitions referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with provisions set out in the Petition Scheme set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

**(A) ISSUES CURRENTLY BEING PROGRESSED BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TASK AND FINISH GROUPS**

<b>ISSUE (PURPOSE OF REVIEW)</b>	<b>TASK AND FINISH GROUP (MEMBERSHIP 2022/23)</b>	<b>TIMETABLE</b>	<b>CURRENT WORK</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
To monitor the performance and activities of Registered Providers working in the Borough.	Task and Finish Group established consisting of: Cllrs Diane Bedford, Peter Crerar, Mike Smith, Nem Thapa, Keith Dibble and Sophie Porter.	2022/23	<p>At its meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> August, the Group agreed to undertake a review on the following Registered Providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southern Housing Group – 19<sup>th</sup> October</li> <li>• Grainger Trust</li> <li>• VIVID</li> </ul>	
To review the Council Tax Support Scheme	Council Tax Support Task and Finish Group established, consisting of: Cllrs Diane Bedford, Lee Jeffers, Mike Smith, Stuart Trussler, Christine Guinness and Mike Roberts.	2022/23	<p>For the year the Group will also be looking at cost of living issues following the motion presented to the council in April, 2022.</p> <p>At its meeting in August 2022, the Group agreed to meet on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022, to receive an update from the service and third sector partners on the impacts of the cost of living increases on residents. In light of this evidence, the Group would discuss and consider what options would be available for providing additional support from the Council directly. Members agreed to look at the</p>	

ISSUE (PURPOSE OF REVIEW)	TASK AND FINISH GROUP (MEMBERSHIP 2022/23)	TIMETABLE	CURRENT WORK	STATUS
			Council Tax Support scheme and any possible changes in light of this discussion and evidence.	
Educational Improvement	A Task and Finish Group has been set up consisting of: Cllrs Diane Bedford, Peter Cullum, Mike Smith, Gaynor Austin and Jules Crossley.	2022/23		

**(B) OTHER ISSUES CURRENTLY BEING PROGRESSED BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>TIMETABLE</b>	<b>CURRENT WORK</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Safer North Hampshire and Policing Matters	2022/23	At the meeting in September the Committee welcomed Chief Inspector Hart and James Knight, Service Manager – Place Protection who provided an update on policing and community safety matters in the Borough. A request was made for specific data on 101 calls and this would be made available. A request was also made regarding a meeting with Hampshire Youth Services and this would be followed up at the Progress Group	
Food Waste Service – Communications and Education Plan	2022/23	An update briefing note will be circulated.	
Supporting Communities	2022/23	An update on the Strategy and Action Plan would be provided in December 2022	
Primary Care Networks	2022/23	The PCNs would be invited back to a future meeting.	
Cabinet Champions	2022/23	A review of the Role and Priorities of the Cabinet Champions was undertaken at the meetings in June and July, 2022. The champions would be invited back to the committee in March 2023 to report back on their progress during the year.	
Corporate Customer Contact Data	2022/23	At the meeting in July a presentation was provided on customer contact data. It was requested that a follow up presentation be provided towards the end of the municipal year. An open invitation was given to Members to observe the CSU, contact should be made with Marybeth Quaintmere or Mary Timmins to arrange.	

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### WORKFLOW – June 2022- March 2023

DATE	ITEMS
16th June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Champions (Climate Action &amp; Armed Forces)</li> <li>• Performance Monitoring</li> </ul>
21 <sup>st</sup> July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Champion (Equalities)</li> <li>• Corporate Customer Contact Indicators</li> </ul>
15 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Safety/Police (Emma Hard DC/James Knight)</li> </ul>
20 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property Services</li> <li>• Parks and Playgrounds</li> </ul>
1 <sup>st</sup> December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Supporting Communities Strategy and Action Plan – update</i></li> </ul>
9 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
30 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate Customer Contact Indicators – Follow up</li> <li>• Cabinet Champions (Climate Action, Armed Forces and Equality and Diversity)</li> </ul>
Potential Future Items for Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Farnborough Airport</i></li> <li>• <i>Regeneration</i></li> <li>• <i>Business Plan</i></li> <li>• <i>Car Boots</i></li> <li>• <i>Asset Review/Property Investment</i></li> <li>• <i>Waste and Recycling</i></li> <li>• <i>Charitable Support</i></li> </ul>

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### Progress Meetings 2022/23

(Circulate the Cabinet Forward Plan, the Committee Work Plan and notes of the previous Committee meeting to each meeting of the Progress Group)

DATE	ITEM	NOTES
11 July 2022	Priorities	<p>A discussion was held on priorities for the year, these included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customer response data</li> <li>• Farnborough Airport – how it effects the environment/economy</li> <li>• Property Investment/Asset Review</li> <li>• Regeneration</li> <li>• Food Waste Service</li> <li>• Crime and Disorder</li> <li>• RVS/CA Draft Service Level Agreements</li> </ul>
30 August 2022	Property Services  Community Safety/Policing  Farnborough Airport  Parks and Playgrounds	<p>Item from Tim Mills at October meeting to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview of investments/returns/portfolio</li> <li>- Community buildings – is the current approach right?</li> <li>- Are current practices performing well?</li> <li>- How the change in the financial climate will inform practices moving forward</li> <li>- Internal/external resources</li> </ul> <p>Item from James Knight (Community Safety) and Emma Hart (Police) at September meeting, to cover:</p> <p>Community Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key issues in Rushmoor</li> <li>- Update on PSPO's</li> <li>- Place Protection projections (3yrs)</li> <li>- Community Safety Partnership - timelines/planning</li> </ul> <p>Police</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Plan/vision for the future</li> <li>- Crime levels</li> <li>- Priorities/resourcing – including 101, feedback to residents, managing expectations</li> </ul> <p>Work around them and host a one off meeting if necessary.</p> <p>James Duggin to provide an outline at the meeting in October on the investment and operational plan for parks and playgrounds.</p>

<p>29 September 2022</p>	<p>Policing and Community Safety</p> <p>Parks and Playground</p> <p>Property Services</p> <p>Farnborough Airport</p> <p>HCC On-Street Parking</p>	<p>IH had arranged a meeting with DI Hart and James Knight to pick up on the issues raised.</p> <p>At the October meeting a report would be provided on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Strategy and Action Plan</li> <li>- Progress and Plans</li> <li>- How the work is moving forward</li> </ul> <p>A presentation would be given at the October meeting providing an overview of the service.</p> <p>It was noted that some work was being undertaken on the economic impact assessment for the airport. This piece of work would provide a good evidence base to help shape a meeting with airport representatives.</p> <p>Following the decision by HCC to take back management of on-street parking as of April 2023. A request was made to keep a watching brief on the situation, in particular around comms, tariff changes etc. to ensure any issues that may arise are dealt with accordingly.</p>
<p>1 November 2022</p>		
<p>2 March 2023</p>		
<p>Items for Future Progress Meetings</p>		