

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
Policy and Resources Select Committee
PART II

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an annual update on the work of the following Hampshire County Council Select Committees from April 2019 to March 2020: Children & Young People Select Committee, Culture & Communities Select Committee, Economy Transport & Environment Select Committee and Policy & Resources Select Committee. The work of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee is reported elsewhere on this agenda.

2. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE

- 2.1. **Chairman for this period:** Councillor Kirsty North

- 2.2. **Statutory Duties Undertaken:** None this period.

- 2.3. **Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:**

Transformation to 2021 – Revenue Savings Proposals

The Select Committee considered the savings proposals for Children's Services, developed as part of the Transformation to 2021 programme at its 18 September 2019 meeting. The Committee supported the recommendations to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People.

- 2.4. **Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None in this period

- 2.5. **Outcomes being monitored:**

Reshaping Short Break Activities

The Select Committee monitored progress made in implementing changes to the Short Break Activities Programme at its 10 January 2020 meeting, following on from pre-scrutiny of this decision on 12 July 2018 and a previous update on the 7 January 2019.

- 2.6. **Referrals:** None in this period

- 2.7. **Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:**

Revenue Budget for Children's Services 2020/21

The revenue budget proposals for Children's Services for 2020/21 was pre-scrutinised by the Select Committee at its 10 January 2020 meeting. The Select Committee resolved to support the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People.

Capital Programme for Children's Services 2020/21 – 2022/23

The proposed capital programme for Children's Services for 2020/21 – 2022/23, and the revised capital programme for 2019/20 was pre-scrutinised by the Select Committee at its 10 January 2020 meeting. The Select Committee resolved to support the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People.

2.8. **Policy Review:** None this period

2.9. **Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:**

The Select Committee received items on the following issues:

- Annual Safeguarding Report for Children's Services 2018-19
- Attainment of Children and Young People in Hampshire Schools 2019
- Autism Assessment Services for Children and Young People
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Child Exploitation
- Children in Care and Corporate Parenting
- Elective Home Education
- New Ofsted Education Inspection Framework
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

2.10. **Upcoming topics:**

The following topics feature on the Select Committee's Work Programme:

- Annual Safeguarding Report for Children's Services
- Autism Assessment Services for Children and Young People – Further Update as requested by the Committee
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) – Further Update as requested by the Committee
- Covid-19 Update – Impact on Children's Services and Education
- Early Years Childcare and Childcare Sufficiency
- Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service
- Fostering Overview
- Post 16 Transport Policy Statement
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities – Further Update as requested by the Committee
- Youth Offending Service

3. CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE

3.1. **Chairman for this period:** Councillor Anna McNair Scott

3.2. **Reviews undertaken / outcomes being monitored:**

Library Strategy to 2025 Task and Finish Group

In September 2018, the Select Committee resolved to set up a task and finish group to develop the Library Strategy to 2025. A cross party group of members was established, and the first meeting was held in November 2018. The work of the task and finish group has been ongoing throughout the 2019/20 period with regular meetings being held at library branches throughout the county.

3.3. **Statutory Duties Undertaken:** Not applicable to this committee

3.4. **Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:**

Transformation to 2021 – Revenue Savings Proposals

In September 2019, the Select Committee considered the proposed changes to cultural and community services as part of the Transformation to 2021 programme. The Committee supported the recommendations to the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage and the Executive Member for Countryside and Rural Affairs.

3.5. **Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None in this period

3.6. **Referrals:** None in this period

3.7. **Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:**

2020/21 Revenue Budget proposals

At the January 2020 meeting, the Select Committee pre-scrutinised the 2020/21 budget proposals for Recreation and Heritage services and for Countryside and Rural Affairs services. Following debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage and the Executive Member for Countryside and Rural Affairs.

3.8. **Policy Review:** None in this period

3.9. **Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:** The Committee received items on the following issues:

- CCBS Sponsorship and Partnerships

3.10. **Upcoming topics:** The following topics feature on the Select Committee's Work Programme:

- Energise Me Update
- Revenue budgets 2021/22
- Transforming the Council's Country Parks

4. ECONOMY TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE

4.1. **Chairman for this period:** Councillor Russell Oppenheimer

4.2. **Reviews undertaken / outcomes being monitored:**

Road Safety (April 2019)

The Select Committee received an update on road safety. Strategic mapping was being done to help focus on areas of most concern and those in need of funding for improvements and driving courses were being provided to high risk groups such as the over 60's and young drivers. This topic would continue to be monitored going forwards and a further update would return to the Select Committee in 2020/21.

Cycling Strategy (September 2019)

The Select Committee received a report providing an update on the progress of the Hampshire County Council Cycling Strategy adopted in September 2015. The County Council was working on local strategies that would sit alongside the overall cycling strategy and these would be revisited in 2020/21.

4.3. **Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:**

The Committee received items on the following issues:

- Air Quality (April 2019 and January 2020) - The Select Committee received an update on the department's work to improve air quality. It was anticipated that the Transforming Cities Fund would help towards more sustainable public transport as well as walking and cycling routes.
- Fly tipping (June 2019) - The Select Committee received an update on tackling fly tipping following a strategy being agreed in 2017 and an update in 2018. The Committee noted the solid progress and gave its strong support to this work programme.
- Strategic Transport Update (June 2019) - The Select Committee received an update on transport and were updated on major schemes and how they were planned and implemented. Officers were thanked for their hard work in maintaining Hampshire's high profile in highways work.
- Recycled Products Market (January 2020) - The Select Committee received a presentation on recycled products and the process involved. More work would be done on recycling once central government had confirmed the direction forward and how waste management would be done long-term.

4.4. **Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:**

- Government Waste Strategy Consultation Responses (April 2019) – The Select Committee received a report, which set out proposed responses to the government consultation on waste. Following debate, the Select Committee supported the recommendations being made to the Executive Member.
- Hampshire County Council Response to Government Consultation on the Draft Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England

(June 2019) - The Select Committee received a report and supporting presentation regarding the consultation and learned the amount of investment that the County Council had already made to date across the more susceptible areas of the County. Following debate, the Select Committee supported the recommendations being made to the Executive Member.

4.5. **Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None in this period

4.6. **Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:**

Transformation to 2021 – Revenue Savings Proposals

At the September 2019 meeting the Select Committee pre-scrutinised the proposed savings for Economy, Transport and Environment budget that have been developed as part of the Transformation to 2021 (T21) programme. Following debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

ETE Proposed Capital Programme 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23

At the January 2020 meeting the Select Committee pre-scrutinised the 2020/21 budget proposals for the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Following the debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

2020/21 Revenue Budget Report for Economy, Transport and Environment

At the January 2020 meeting the Select Committee pre-scrutinised 2020/21 budget proposals for the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Following the debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

4.7. **Policy Review:**

Climate Change Action Plan (September 2019)

The Select Committee received an update on progress with the Action Plan. Members learned about collaborative working going on with partner organisations and the various areas under review. The Select Committee would receive a further update in 2020/21.

4.8. **Upcoming topics:** The following topics feature on the Select Committee's Work Programme:

- Verge management
- The Hampshire economy and Covid-19 recovery
- Street Light Safety
- Further updates on Fly-tipping, the Climate Change Action Plan and the Flood Defence and Mitigation strategy

5. POLICY AND RESOURCES SELECT COMMITTEE

5.1. **Chairman for this period:** Councillor Jonathan Glen

5.2. Statutory Duties Undertaken:

Crime and Disorder

This Select Committee has the remit to cover the statutory duty to scrutinise Crime and Disorder issues as per the Police and Justice Act 2006 (However, this does not cover the Police and Crime Commissioner, who is held to account by the Police and Crime Panel). In November 2019, the Select Committee received a presentation on reducing serious violence and the county-wide collaborative arrangements responding to this priority including the creation of the Serious Violence Reduction Unit (VRU).

5.3. Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:

Transformation to 2021 – Revenue Savings Proposals

In September 2019, the Select Committee considered the proposed changes to policy and resources budget as part of the Transformation to 2021 programme. The Committee supported the recommendations to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources.

5.4. **Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None this period

5.5. **Referrals:** None this period

5.6. Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:

End of Year Financial Report

In June 2019, the Select Committee considered the 2018/19 End of Year Financial Report

Serving Hampshire – 2018/19 Performance Report

In June 2019, the Select Committee considered the 'Serving Hampshire' 2018/19 Annual Corporate Performance Report.

Revenue Budget for Policy and Resources for 2019/20 and the Proposed Capital Programme for Policy and Resources for 2019/20 to 2021/22

At the January 2020 meeting the Select Committee pre-scrutinised the proposed revenue budget for policy and resources for 2020/21 and the proposed capital programme for policy and resources for 2020/21 to 2022/23. Following debate, the proposals were supported to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources.

5.7. Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:

- Hampshire 2050 Commission: Next Steps – June 2019
- Broadband update – September 2019

- Update on IT developments - January 2020
- Update on Climate Change – March 2020
- New approach for improving customer contact – March 2020

5.8. **Management of the Scrutiny Function/Oversight of Other Scrutiny Committees:** The Policy & Resources Select Committee has a remit to manage the work taking place across the scrutiny function. This year this was achieved through receiving a summary of activity taking place through the other Select Committees at each meeting.

5.9. **Upcoming topics:** The following topics feature on the Select Committee's Work Programme:

- Annual IT Update
- Annual Crime and Disorder Strategy
- Serving Hampshire Performance report

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 Since the period to which this report relates, membership of the Select Committees has changed. Tribute is paid to all Members who played such an important scrutiny role through the Select Committees over the 2019/20 year.

COUNCILLOR JONATHAN GLEN
Chairman, Policy and Resources Select Committee

