

ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

Date of meeting	Item	Scrutiny Indicator *	Requested by	Purpose of Review (Responsible Officer / Member)	Expected Outcome	Relevant Cabinet Member
22/09/2014	Call-In: Community Centre – Future Business Model		Committee	(Caroline Wheller)		Cabinet Member for Leisure
22/09/2014	Review of Statement of Licensing Policy (draft consultation document)	3	Committee	(Peter Seal)		Cabinet Member for Environment and Health
22/9/2014	Bucks Joint Waste Strategy	3	Committee	Jon McGinty / Henry Allmand		Cabinet Member for Environment and Health
22/9/2014	Food Service Plan	3	Committee	(Richard Hiscock)		Cabinet Member for Environment and Health
22/9/2014	Landlords and tenants – provision of debt advice	3, 4	Councillors Vick and Cashman	(Will Rysdale)		Cabinet Member for Community Matters

* Scrutiny Indicator Key

1: Holding to account	2: Performance management	3: Policy review	4: Policy development	5: External scrutiny
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Date of meeting	Item	Scrutiny Indicator *	Requested by	Purpose of Review (Responsible Officer / Member)	Expected Outcome	Relevant Cabinet Member
5/11/2014	Future of affordable housing provision in the Vale / Council as a housing developer!	4	Committee	(Will Rysdale)		
5/11/2014	Changing need of the aging population / provision of facilities for young people	2, 3	Committee	(TBC)		
05/11/2014	Public Health update / District contribution to public health agenda	2, 5	Committee	(Stephanie Moffat)		Cabinet Member for Community Matters
05/11/2014	Flooding update	1, 2, 3	Committee	TBC		
05/11/2014	TEEP & Revised Waste Framework Directive	3	Committee	(Isabel Edgar Briancon)		Cabinet Member for Environment and Health

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Date of meeting	Item	Scrutiny Indicator *	Requested by	Purpose of Review (Responsible Officer / Member)	Expected Outcome	Relevant Cabinet Member
9/12/2014	Thames Valley Police update	1, 2	Committee	(Kay Aitken)		Cabinet Member for Community Matters
9/12/2014	Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel (update)	2	Committee	(Kay Aitken)		Cabinet Member for Community Matters
9/12/2014	VAHT annual performance review	1, 2	Committee	(Will Rysdale)		
9/12/2014	Green Deal – update	3	Committee	(Alan Asbury)		Cabinet Member for Environment and Health
11/2/2015 and 25/3/2015 meetings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bernwood Project update 2. Biodiversity Service Update 3. Parks and Open Spaces – management, recent work & accreditations 4. New Waste streams (services, income) 			(Lyndsay Elliot) (Andy Wilkins) (Gareth Bird) (Jon McGinty)		

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Extract from Council meeting held on 14 May 2014 (Minute 12)

(a) Landlords and Tenants

The following had been submitted by Councillor Vick. The Motion was seconded by Councillor Cashman:-

“Housing landlords have an interest in keeping good financial relations with their tenants, but they do not normally provide debt or homelessness advice. Debt and homelessness advice is available from AVDC, but the time period between a tenant first experiencing a financial problem, and when they make contact with us, often allows a debt to grow.

Falling just a few months behind with rent payments, through illness, unemployment, or failing to manage budgets successfully, can quickly result in a large debt and a loss of good faith between landlord and tenant. It is AVDC in many cases, who then has to attempt to unravel the problem, advising on budget failings, and sometimes having to offer emergency housing.

The consequences for the tenants and often their young families, is that unnecessary turmoil, worry, upheaval, and sometimes sudden relocation often occur.

This evidently will have significant adverse consequences for the individual families involved, in terms of finances, mental health, relationships, education and transportation.

What strategies has the District Council in place to intervene with support at an early stage in such situations?

How aware are landlords and tenants of this support, the direct payment options, and what is being done to publicise it more widely?

This Council therefore resolves to:-

- (1) Investigate what improvements can be made to the process of getting debt and homelessness advice to tenants as early as possible in Aylesbury Vale.
- (2) Engage with the public and landlords and any relevant others in Aylesbury Vale, to inform, advise and guide better understanding and implementation, of best practice in getting debt and homelessness advice to tenants as early as possible.

(3) Consider, having provided early information about debt and homelessness, how AVDC can persuade those experiencing initial problems, to engage with AVDC as early as possible”.

It was thereupon proposed by Councillor Mrs Pearce and seconded by Councillor Poll:-

“That consideration of the Notice of Motion be added to the work programme of the Environment and Living Scrutiny Committee with a view to a report being brought back to Cabinet in due course on any changes considered necessary to address any gaps in the current arrangements for providing housing tenants with debt advice”.

Upon being put to the meeting, the amendment was declared to be **CARRIED**. The amendment was then put to the meeting as the substantive motion and declared to be **CARRIED**.

ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER 2014-15

Decision				Tracking			
Scrutiny Committee	Meeting Date	Item and Recommendations	Contact Officer	Further Action (Yes/No)	Committee	Meeting Date	Status (√/O/X)
Environment & Living	11/6/14	Proposal to adopt a scheme of additional licensing for HMOs in Aylesbury Vale	Martyn Chuter	Yes	Cabinet	17/6/14	√
		1. That Cabinet be recommended to adopt the scheme of additional licensing for HMOs		Yes	Cabinet	17/6/14	
		2. That the comments made at the scrutiny meeting be reported and considered by Cabinet in finalising the scheme:- (i) additional rights notice displayed (ii) investigate developing a Student Housing Strategy for AV as part of the VALP					√
Environment & Living	11/6/14	VALP – Development Management Policies 1. Current position was noted	Roger Newell Charlotte Stevens	No			√
Environment & Living	11/6/14	Work Programme 1. Agenda items for meetings on 22/9/14, 5/11/14 and 9/12/14 were agreed	Craig Saunders	Yes	E & L SC	Future WP	√

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Decision				Tracking			
Scrutiny Committee	Meeting Date	Item and Recommendations	Contact Officer	Further Action (Yes/No)	Committee	Meeting Date	Status (√/O/X)
Carried over from 2013-14							
Environment & Living	25/3/14	Drug and Alcohol Services 1. Safer Bucks Partnership Manager thanked. 2. Current work being done in AV was noted.	Kay Aitken	No No			√ √
Environment & Living	25/3/14	Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2014-17 and Annual Plan 2014-15 1. Success of the current Strategy was noted 2. Scrutiny comments be reported to the CM to consider in finalising the Strategy / Action Plan	Kay Aitken	No Yes Yes	Cabinet Council	6/5/14 14/5/14	√ √ √
Environment & Living	25/3/14	Work Programme 1. Report on flooding lessons to Sept '14 meeting 2. Include Alzheimers information in Public Health update report 3. Re-commence DM policies T & F Group	Craig Saunders	Yes Yes Yes	E & L SC E & L SC E & L SC	5/11/14 5/11/14 11/6/14	O O √
Environment & Living	12/2/14	Call-In: Jonathan Page Play Centre Review Decision was referred back to Cabinet for further and fuller consideration (to delay the funding cut until the end of the 2015 FY)	Jeff Membery	Yes	Cabinet		√
Environment & Living	12/2/14	Drug and Alcohol Services 1. Safer Bucks Partnership Manager thanked. 2. Current work being done in AV was noted.	Kay Aitken	No No			√ √
Environment & Living	12/2/14	Work Programme Work Programme as discussed at the meeting was agreed	Craig Saunders	Yes	E & L SC	Future WP	√

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ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER 2014-15

Decision				Tracking			
Scrutiny Committee	Meeting Date	Item and Recommendations	Contact Officer	Further Action (Yes/No)	Committee	Meeting Date	Status (√/O/X)
Environment & Living	16/12/13	AV Community Safety Partnership Update 1. Progress made against the plan was noted 2. To receive a report in due course on the new ASB powers and measures	Kay Aitken	No	E & L SC	TBA	√
				Yes			X
Environment & Living	16/12/13	VAHT Update Report Good overall performance over the last 18 months was noted.	Will Rysdale	No			√
Environment & Living	16/12/13	Work Programme 1. Report on flooding lessons to Sept '14 meeting 2. Include Alzheimers information in Public Health update report 3. Re-commence DM policies T & F Group	Craig Saunders	Yes	E & L SC	22/9/14	O
				Yes	E & L SC	5/11/14	O
				Yes	E & L SC	11/6/14	√
Environment & Living	06/11/13	Pedestrian and Cycling Safety 1. Officers thanked for attending + work done. 2. Comments made passed to Transport for Bucks	Stephanie Moffat	No	Comments passed to TfBucks		√
				Yes			√
Environment & Living	06/11/13	Draft Housing & Homelessness Strategy 2014-17 1. Members happy with approach being taken. 2. Director + CM for Community Matters asked to consider comments in finalising draft Strategy	Khyati Vaughan	No	Cabinet Council	17/12/14 26/2/14	√
				Yes			√

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Scrutiny Committee	Meeting Date	Item and Recommendations	Contact Officer	Further Action (Yes/No)	Committee	Meeting Date	Status (√/O/X)
Environment & Living	06/11/13	AV Community Cohesion & Integration Strategy 1. Progress noted. 2. Comments on progress & future direction be passed to Director + CM for Community Matters	Stephanie Moffat	No	Comments passed on		√
				Yes			√
Environment & Living	6/11/13	Work Programme 1. Current position noted 2. WP Planning meeting to be organised in Nov or Dec 2013	Craig Saunders	Yes	E & L SC WP	future	√
				Yes	E & L SC	28/11/13	√
Environment & Living	18/9/13	Farming and Wildlife 1. Officers thanked. 2. Work done by AVDC to support biodiversity, green infrastructure noted. 3. Offer to Members for biodiversity site visits. 4. Greater publicity for work of the team	Lesley Davies	No	Members to advise Team to speak with Comms & Marketing		√
				No			√
				Yes			?
				Yes			√
Environment & Living	18/9/13	Audit of Leisure Facilities 1. Findings of 2012/13 leisure audit noted 2. Committee fully supportive of work being done to improve leisure facilities across the Vale 3. Members to consider facilities site visits	Lesley Davies	No	Members to advise		√
				No			√
				Yes			?

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Scrutiny Committee	Meeting Date	Item and Recommendations	Contact Officer	Further Action (Yes/No)	Committee	Meeting Date	Status (√/O/X)
Environment & Living	18/9/13	VAP – Development Management Policies 1. Initial work of DM Policies Research Group noted	Roger Newell Charlotte Stevens	Yes	E & L SC	11/6/14	√
Environment & Living	18/9/13	Work Programme 1. Current WP position + approach to considering it at future meetings was noted	Craig Saunders	No			√
Environment & Living	12/6/13	Public Health 1. BCC Cabinet Member + Direct or Public Health thanked for attending 2. Health improvement work was noted. 3. Committee welcome opportunity to work more closely with partners.	Stephanie Moffat	No No No			√ √ √
Environment & Living	12/6/13	VAP – Development Management Policies 1. T&F Research Group to be established 2. 2 places on Research Group offered to Members not sitting on E&L SC. 3. DM Policy Schedule sent to all Members for their suggestions.	Roger Newell Charlotte Stevens	Yes Yes Yes	Research Group E & L SC	July '13	√ √ √
Environment & Living	12/6/13	Quarterly Performance Digest (Jan-March 2013) 1. Contents noted. 2. Further information on Aqua Vale & customer feedback	Tamsin Ireland	No Yes	E & L SC	18/9/13	√ √

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