

# **Residents' & Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee - Review Topics for First Major Review of 2017/18**

**Contact Officers:** Khalid Ahmed  
**Telephone:** 01895 250833

## **REASON FOR ITEM**

To enable the Committee to discuss possible review topics to be developed into a draft scoping report to be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

## **OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE**

The Committee is asked to select an area or areas within its remit to be developed into a scoping report. This will require the Committee to provide specific rather than broad areas to focus on. By so doing, officers will be able to produce a scoping report that addresses Members' main concerns and put forward an effective plan for the review.

Members can select multiple review topics, as well as specify whether it should be a major or minor review.

## **INFORMATION**

1. The Committee is responsible for undertaking the 'policy overview' role in relation to Residents Services. The full range of services under the Committee's remit is outlined below:

- Highways, traffic, parking & street environment
- Local transport, including rail, cycling & London Underground
- Footpaths and Bridleways
- Road safety and education
- Planning & Building Control
- Libraries
- The Borough's heritage and history
- Sport & Leisure services
- Waste management & recycling
- Green spaces, allotments, woodlands, conservation and sustainable development
- Consumer Protection, Trading Standards & Licensing
- Registrars & Bereavement Services
- Local watercourses, drainage and flooding
- Environmental Health, Air & Noise Quality
- Local impacts of Heathrow expansion
- Local impacts of High Speed Rail

2. Previous experience from both Hillingdon and other Councils indicates that the Committee can have the greatest impact by focusing on a work programme agreed at the start of the Council year. Similarly, focusing upon one or two items at each meeting can help Members engage with the major issues and encourage stakeholder engagement.
3. As in previous years, the Committee is recommended to use this first meeting of the year to set a work programme for the next 12 months and select topics for major and minor reviews.
4. Members are asked to give consideration to possible review topics for this Municipal Year.

### **Possible review topics**

5. At the last meeting of the Committee held on 26 April, and at previous meetings, discussion took place on possible areas which the Committee could either review, or receive information updates on. These were:
  - The feasibility of turning local plastic waste into road surfaces.
  - An investigation into the use of illicit drugs in the Borough. An investigation into what the Council was doing about illicit drugs and how extensive was police legislation in this area.
  - An update on the Council's fly tipping policy
  - A review into the Borough's road strategy, road maintenance and speeding. To include an investigation on what happens to the results from speed monitoring exercises.
  - Cycle paths / lanes, Road Safety, Pelican Crossings and Zebra Crossings.
  - An update on planning and major developments.
  - An update on flooding in the Borough focussing on whether a data base has been put together and what the Council's current flood management strategy is.
6. Officers will update Members on the feasibility of some of the above suggestions and Members are also asked to give consideration to other areas which the Committee could undertake a major review or receive an information update on..

## Review topic criteria - 2017/18

In selecting topics for possible reviews, please use as a minimum, the following criteria scorecard

<p><b>Resident-focused</b> - High impact on residents and the community, with public interest and scope for making a positive difference (whether universal or a targeted group, e.g. young people)</p>			
<p><b>Correct remit</b> - be conscious of the Terms of Reference of the POC so that any topic ideas do not cut across into the domain of others, or if they do then consider the possibility of a joint review, if the respective Chairmen and Committees agree.</p>			
<p><b>Influence</b> - A topic that affects residents, groups, businesses and other key stakeholders in Hillingdon and relates to a service, event or issue in which the Council is in control of, has a significant stake in or has influence over, e.g. with partners.</p>			
<p><b>New</b> - A new and fresh topic preferably. One which has not previously been reviewed by a Committee in the last 3 years, or which is not currently being reviewed by another Committee or internally. Does not relate specifically to an individual service complaint.</p>			
<p><b>Achievable</b> - A good level of expertise, best practice and information is available to draw on to complete this review. Committee resources, departmental plans and organisational timings permit a successful review with positive recommendations, during the current municipal year</p>			
<p><b>Wider organisational support</b> - A topic that is likely to receive full organisational buy-in from the Committee, Chief Officers and relevant Cabinet leads - and assists in</p>			
<p><b>Drives improvement</b> - a service or area of partnership that has been identified internally or externally that requires improvement in the medium-long term and would benefit from Members' insight. Performance risks or areas of consistent under-performance.</p>			
<p><b>Drives transformation and efficiency</b> - in support of the Cabinet's objectives, any areas where service re-modelling is under consideration in the longer-term, that with Members' insight can help to deliver future savings, efficiencies VFM.</p>			
<p><b>Useful</b> - a topic that will assist the Council in the implementation or awareness of external challenges, new legislation, national policy or the changing role of the public sector.</p>			

