

EXTERNAL SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME

Committee name	External Services Select Committee
Officer reporting	Nikki O'Halloran, Corporate Resources and Services
Papers with report	Appendix A – Work Programme
Ward	n/a

HEADLINES

To enable the Committee to track the progress of its work and forward plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the External Services Select Committee considers the Work Programme at Appendix A and agrees any amendments.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. At its meeting on 8 September 2020, the Committee agreed that all future meetings be scheduled to start at 6.30pm for the remainder of the municipal year, to provide those attending straight from work with a little extra time to arrive. Should the need arise, the Committee will be able to vary the start time on an ad hoc basis. Given the current changing situation with regard to COVID-19, whether the meeting will be held in person or virtually will also be determined on an ad hoc basis.
2. The meeting dates for the 2020/2021 municipal year were agreed by Council on 16 January 2020 and are as follows:

Meetings	Room
Thursday 11 June 2020 CANCELLED	CR6
Thursday 2 July 2020, 6.30pm (Private / Informal)	VIRTUAL
Tuesday 8 September 2020, 6.30pm	VIRTUAL
Thursday 8 October 2020, 6.30pm	VIRTUAL
Tuesday 10 November 2020, 6.30pm	VIRTUAL
Tuesday 12 January 2021, 6.30pm	?? CR6
Tuesday 9 February 2021, 6.30pm	?? CR5
Tuesday 23 March 2021, 6.30pm	?? CR5
Wednesday 28 April 2021, 6.30pm	?? CR5
Thursday 29 April 2021, 6.30pm	?? CR5

3. Further details of the issues to be discussed at each meeting can be found at Appendix A.

Topics to be Scheduled into the Work Programme

4. It should be noted that the Committee is required to meet with the local health trusts at least twice each year. It is also required to scrutinise the crime and disorder work of the Safer Hillingdon Partnership (SHP).

5. The Committee received an update from NHS England (NHSE) / NHS Improvement (NHSI) at its meeting on 9 October 2019 in relation to the review of the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre. Following a period of engagement, expressions of interest were sought and evaluated and a recommendation has been made to NHSE. The Chairman of the Committee attended a site visit and workshop at Mount Vernon Hospital on Tuesday 4 February 2020. Representatives from a number of organisations attended including: East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust, NHSE, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH), The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (THH), Healthwatch Hillingdon, East and North Hertfordshire CCG and Hillingdon CCG.
6. It is anticipated that all Members of the health scrutiny committees at the London Borough of Hillingdon and Hertfordshire County Council will be invited to attend a site visit which, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, has yet to be arranged. Members should note that, given that there are a large number of Health Scrutiny Committees that may want to scrutinise proposals for the future of cancer services at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre, a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) is likely to be established. The Committee will be kept apprised of any developments with regard to this issue.
7. Members have previously stated that they would like to hold a special meeting to specifically focus on the challenges faced by The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (THH) and the development of a new hospital. Although it was previously suggested that this issue be considered at the meeting on 8 October 2020, this has been rescheduled to be included on the meeting on 10 November 2020. Members have previously requested that the meeting be preceded by a site visit to Hillingdon Hospital but this is not currently advisable.
8. At its meeting on 8 October 2020, the Committee agreed that Network Rail services along the Great Western line would be considered at the meeting scheduled for 12 January 2021 with particular reference to the following issues:
 - a. the availability and effectiveness of communication with local residents about construction and noise for different works;
 - b. the lack of bus access to West Drayton station;
 - c. the lack of communication regarding access changes at Hayes station and station entrance closures;
 - d. action taken by British Transport Police to reduce and prevent crime on the rail network in Hillingdon;
 - e. the maintenance of the Network Rail land between properties and the line and dealing with fly tipping and vermin; and
 - f. the impact of delays around the Crossrail development on the businesses and residents in the area.
9. Post office services were last considered by the Committee at its meeting on 14 January 2020. Following the recent court action regarding a faulty IT system, Members have requested an update from the Post Office at a future meeting on:
 - a) whether this would impact the likelihood of businesses signing up to provide post office services;
 - b) how it has impacted existing services; and
 - c) whether this will leave some areas without a service.

10. The lack of post office services in Heathrow Villages has already been recognised and has resulted in some residents having to travel long distances to access services. It was agreed that this issue be considered at a future meeting.

Live Broadcasting of Meetings

11. It should be noted that Cabinet, at its meeting on 30 May 2019, agreed that all future policy overview and select committee meetings would be broadcast live on YouTube. As such, all formal External Services Select Committee meetings will be broadcast live. Where possible, these meetings have been moved into Committee Room 5 to facilitate better views of the meetings. If the meeting is held virtually, it will also be streamed and broadcast live.

Reviews

12. As the meetings of the External Services Select Committee usually deal with a lot of business, the Committee is able to set up Select Panels to undertake in depth reviews on its behalf. These Panels are 'task and finish' and their membership can comprise any London Borough of Hillingdon Councillor, with the exception of Cabinet Members.

13. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings of the Select Panel have been put on hold for the time being. It is hoped that these will resume in the near future.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.