

Northumberland County Council

Communities and Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme and Monitoring Report 2019-2020

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## **1. Terms of reference:**

- (a) To maintain an overview of the Management Agreements in place between the County Council and Active Northumberland, Woodhorn Museum Charitable Trust and Northumberland Tourism.
- (b) To monitor, review and make recommendations about:
- Development Planning
  - Neighbourhood Planning
  - Conservation
  - Housing
  - Climate Change
  - Countryside, Biodiversity and Landscape Quality
  - Waste Management and Energy Use
  - Public and Community Transport Network and Travel to School
  - Highway Maintenance, Streetscape and the Local Environment
  - Local and Neighbourhood Services
  - Crime, Community Safety, and Fear of Crime
  - Antisocial Behaviour and Domestic Violence
  - Fire and Rescue
  - Emergency Services and Emergency Planning
  - Customer Services
  - Provision of Cultural and Leisure Facilities
  - Improving Quality of Life Through Access to Culture and Leisure
  - Supporting Economic Growth in the Arts, Culture and Leisure Sectors

## **2. Issues to be Timetabled/Considered**

Domestic Violence - Implications of the Domestic Abuse Act (currently a bill)

Performance

Local Services - Service Improvements

Northumberland County Council  
Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2019-2021

3 February 2021

Enforcement Overview  
Anti-Social Behaviour Overview  
Customer Services Feedback

3 March 2021

Seasonal Grounds Maintenance  
Section 106 Agreements  
Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Assessment

7 April 2021

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| Ref | Date        | Report   | Decision  | Outcome   |
|-----|-------------|--|---|---|
| 1.  | 5 June 2019 | <b>Market Strategy</b>   | <b>RESOLVED</b> that<br>(a) progress made against the strategy action plan be noted, and<br>(b) a review of alternative operating arrangements that could be adopted for all markets currently managed by the County Council's Neighbourhood Services team, be supported. | The Committee will continue to monitor this issue.  |
| 2.  | 5 June 2019 | <b>Additional LTP Capital</b>  | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the programme of schemes undertaken through the additional £7.732m of capital maintenance funding and progress in delivering the programme, be noted.  | No further action required.   |
| 3.  | 5 June 2019 | <b>Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Support Services Commission Update</b> | <b>RESOLVED</b> that<br>(a) the report be noted, and<br>(b) a further update be provided to the Committee at a time when a meaningful assessment of progress can be made.   | A further update will be presented to the Committee in due course.                              |
| 4.  | 5 June 2019 | <b>Domestic Violence and Abuse</b>   | <b>RESOLVED</b> that<br>(a) the update be noted, and<br>(b) a further report on the outcome of the Government's consultation on domestic violence and abuse, be presented to the Committee in due course.   | A further update will be presented to the Committee in due course.                              |
| 5.  | 3 July 2019 | <b>Housing Strategy for Northumberland 2019-21</b>                             | It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that:-<br>(a) Cabinet be informed of the divided view of the Committee regarding whether the Strategy should   | The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it determined the report on 6 August 2019. |

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|     |                 |  | <p>have a three or five year term, and that Cabinet should consider which was more appropriate; and a request be made to Chairmen's Group for a report to a future meeting of the Committee on EMDOs and the empty property list.</p> <p>(b)</p>                         | A further report on Empty Dwellings Management Orders be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.   |
| 6.  | 3 July 2019     | <b>Public Protection Service Requests 2018-19</b>  | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the content of the report, and the member comments made above, be noted.  | No further action is required at this stage.   |
| 7.  | 30 August 2019  | <b>Food and Feed, Safety and Standards Service Plan 2019/20</b>                                  | <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that</p> <p>(a) subject to the comments above, the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supported the recommendation in the report, and</p> <p>(b) the Committee's thanks be conveyed to staff for all their hard work as set out in the report.</p> | The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it determined the report on 10 September 2019.  |
| 8.  | 30 August 2019  | <b>Northumberland County Council Housing Services Domestic Abuse Policy 2019</b>                 | <b>RESOLVED</b> that, subject to the comments above, the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supported the recommendation in the report.   | <p>The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it determined the report on 10 September 2019.</p> <p>A further update on the implementation of the Policy be provided to the Committee in the New Year.</p> |
| 9.  | 2 October 2019  | <b>The proposed implementation of the Northumberland Street Works Permit Scheme</b>              | <b>RESOLVED</b> that, subject to the comments above, the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supported the recommendation in the report.   | The Cabinet will consider the final report which will include consultation responses on 12 November 2019.  |
| 10. | 30 October 2019 | <b>Northumberland Inshore Fisheries &amp; Conservation Authority (NIFCA) Annual Plan 2019-20</b> | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the information provided be noted.  | No further action during the term of the current Council.  |
| 11. | 4 December 2019 | <b>Empty Homes in Northumberland</b>   | <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that</p> <p>(1) the report be noted.</p> <p>(2) Council be recommended to ring fence the additional Council Tax raised on empty properties</p>  | Recommendation to be considered by Council on 8 January 2020.  |

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|     |                 |  | as agreed at Council on 6 November 2019 for use in bringing empty properties back into use.  |  |
| 12. | 4 December 2019 | <b>Northumberland Homefinder Common Allocation Policy</b>                              | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the report be noted.  | No further action required at this stage.  |
| 13. | 5 February 2020 | <b>Fleet Replacement Programme</b>   | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the report be noted.  | The Committee will continue to receive this report annually.   |
| 14. | 4 March 2020    | <b>Street Lighting LED Project</b>   | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the contents of the report be noted.  | No further action required at this stage.  |
| 15. | 4 March 2020    | <b>Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Control</b>                              | <b>RESOLVED</b> that:<br>(a) The report be received.<br>(b) The email containing the Single Point of Contact details be recirculated to all Members with the report and minutes from the meeting.  | A copy of the original email, together with the minutes and report from this meeting be circulated to members.     |
| 16. | 4 March 2020    | <b>Environmental Enforcement Website</b>   | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the presentation be received.   | No further action required at this stage.  |
| 17. | 3 June 2020     | <b>Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan 2020-24</b> | <b>RESOLVED</b> that, subject to the comments above, the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supported the recommendation in the report for the adoption of the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan for 2020-24. | The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it determined the report on 9 June 2020.                      |
| 18. | 3 June 2020     | <b>Update concerning a potential boundary review for the Northumberland Coast AONB</b> | <b>RESOLVED</b> that a review of the Northumberland AONB be postponed until DEFRA's response to the Glover Review is published and certainty regarding the review process in the future is known.  | The Committee be updated on any further progress.  |
| 19. | 3 June 2020     | <b>'Our Way' Vision for Cycling and Walking in Northumberland</b>                      | <b>RESOLVED</b> that, subject to the comments above, the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supported the recommendation in the report.   | The Cabinet considered the Committee's comments when it determined the report on 9 June 2020.                      |
| 20. | 15 July 2020    | <b>Covid-19 - Northumberland County Council Response</b>                               | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the reports be noted and the issue identified by members be included in the work programme.   | The issues raised will be considered by Chairmen's Group for inclusion on the work programmes of the relevant OSC. |

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| 21. | 15 July 2020      | <b>Covid-19 - Planning for Recovery in Northumberland</b> | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the reports be noted and the issue identified by members be included in the work programme.   | The issues raised will be considered by Chairmen's Group for inclusion on the work programmes of the relevant OSC. |
| 22. | 16 September 2020 | <b>Fly-Tipping</b>  | <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Committee noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The report and options for reducing fly tipping in Northumberland.</li> <li>(b) That the majority of the increased incidents of flytipping relate to items of household waste that have been encountered in Ashington and Blyth and that these areas will be prioritised when taking actions to reduce fly tipping.</li> <li>(c) The enforcement and collection staffing resources deployed to prevent and remove fly tipping have increased in the last 18 months, so the increase in fly tipping is not a result of reduced investment, be noted.</li> <li>(d) There are a range of options available for households to dispose of their bulky household waste legally and that demand for these services remains at a high level and there is no evidence of a link between the increase in flytipping incidents and the introduction or increase in charges for waste services.</li> <li>(e) That overall bulky waste service performance in terms of availability of collection slots and undertaking collections on the agreed date is good and improving, so focusing on enhancing education and enforcement messages and activity is likely to have a bigger impact on this problem than further improvements in service performance.</li> <li>(f) Officers engage as actively as possible with officers in other departments, local members, Town and Parish Councils, community associations and other groups to tackle the issue of fly tipping.</li> </ul> | The Committee will continue to monitor this issue as appropriate.  |

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| 23. | 7 October 2020  | <b>Northumberland Waste Management Strategy Proposed Trial of Kerbside Glass Collections</b>                 | <b>RESOLVED</b> that, subject to the comments as set out above, the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supports the recommendations in the report.  | The Chairman presented the Committee's comments when the report was determined by the Cabinet on 13 October 2020.<br><br>The Committee requested a further update around the end of the trial period. |
| 24  | 7 October 2020  | <b>Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service Improvement Action Plan Update</b> | <b>RESOLVED</b> that:<br>(a) the contents of the report be noted.<br>(b) further reports be provided to the Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide assurance on the progress of the Improvement Action Plan, and<br>(c) an update be provided to the Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee following receipt of the formal letter following the second inspection. | The Committee will receive an update following receipt of the formal letter on the second inspection.   |
| 25. | 28 October 2020 | <b>COVID-19 : Response and Recovery Update</b>   | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the information be noted  | The Committee will continue to receive updates on the Council's response to the Covid 19 Pandemic as appropriate.   |
| 26. | 28 October 2020 | <b>Local Transport Plan 2020/21 – Capital Programme Update</b>   | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the report be noted.  | The Committee will continue to monitor this issue as appropriate.   |
| 27. | 13 January 2021 | <b>Active Northumberland</b>   | <b>RESOLVED</b> that the report be noted.  | The Committee will continue to receive updates annually.  |