

Allerdale Borough Council

Council – 8 December 2021

Report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Report from	Co-Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Wards affected	All
Is this a key decision	No

1.0 The reason for the decision

- 1.1 To update Council on the activities and recommendations of the Committee since the last meeting.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Members note the content of the report.

3.0 Background and Introduction

- 3.1 This is a regular report that comes to each meeting of Council. The purpose of the report is to provide Council with an update and overview of the activities of the Committee.

The work of the Committee is described in the paragraphs below. Any member wanting more information on any of the topics mentioned or to see reports or interim reports should contact Democratic Services.

4.0 Update on activities since last report

4.1 Timing of meetings

The Committee held its September meeting on a different day and later in the day as an experiment to see if an alternative time was more convenient for members, however the majority of Committee members felt the established Friday afternoon scheduling of meetings was preferred. The Committee remains flexible in its approach to scheduling future meetings to suit members' needs.

4.2 Scrutiny of quarterly performance and finance reports

The Committee continues to receive the quarterly reports on performance and finance and to raise questions on aspects of each, particularly looking at the relationship between the two.

Members' questions have focused on the Police Local Focus Hub, the provision of affordable housing and progress with the housing company, waste minimisation, compliance with Equalities Act requirements at Helena Thompson Museum, and capacity to enforce on local environmental quality.

4.3 Current task and finish groups

The Culture and Leisure Provision task and finish group has begun meeting and will focus on a number of forthcoming studies and reports regarding both arts and culture as well as sports and leisure across the area. Alongside that there will be a briefing for all O&S members on the operation of the Council's main contracted Sport and Leisure facilities.

There are two other task and finish groups planned though initial meetings have yet to be held, and Members are encouraged to offer to join these groups. These are focusing on Community Leadership and Engagement and on provision for Young People.

Members are also invited to join the very short-term quick focus TFG on the preparation of next year's budget. Involvement of Audit Committee members in particular is very welcome.

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