
**Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee –
28th September, 2022**

Report of the Lead for Law and Governance

Terms of Reference

Purpose

1. To report on the Scrutiny Committee's terms of reference for the 2022/23 municipal year.

Recommendation

2. That the terms of reference for the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the Appendix, be noted.

Background

3. At the Annual Meeting of the Council on 19th May, 2022, the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee was established for the 2022/23 municipal year. The terms of reference were discussed at the first meeting of this Committee on 20th June, 2022. It was agreed that the terms of reference would be submitted to this meeting for noting.
4. Also, at the Annual Meeting of the Council, the Leader reported on the appointment of a Cabinet Member portfolio for Waste Management and Climate Change for the 2022/23 municipal year. The Lead for Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was authorised to take any necessary and consequential actions required to implement the decisions taken at the Annual Meeting of the Council.

5. The executive functions of the Cabinet Member for Waste Management have now been agreed and incorporated in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution, namely:
- (1) Responsibility for the policy and strategic direction of functions relating to Waste Management and Climate Change (other than policies that require approval by the Cabinet/Council).
 - (2) The co-ordination and development of the environmental sustainability agenda and matters associated with the Council's decision to declare a Climate Emergency.
 - (3) Lead responsibility in relation to Climate Change activity, including the development and implementation of a Carbon Reduction Plan.
 - (4) Approval and implementation of the Waste Strategy.
6. Scrutiny of the above functions are reflected in the terms of reference of this Committee as set out in the Appendix. In particular, the terms of reference reflect that this Scrutiny Committee has a key role in scrutinising corporate and strategic activity in relation to Climate Change and priorities concerning the environment. The Committee is developing a detailed work programme for the 2022/23 municipal year.
7. The Council's scrutiny arrangements are set out in Part 2, Article 6 of the Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny). The associated Scrutiny Procedure Rules are contained within Part 4 of the Constitution which also contains the terms of reference for the Council's Scrutiny Committees.

Finance

8. The costs of operating the scrutiny arrangements will be contained within existing budgetary allocations.

Law

9. Scrutiny Committees are established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the requirements of the Council's Constitution, which was adopted under the Local Government Act 2000, subsequent legislation and associated Regulations and Guidance.

Risk Management

10. The Council is committed to adopting best practice in its management of risk. It aims to ensure risk is maintained at an acceptable level to maximise opportunities and demonstrate that it has given full consideration of the implications of risk to the delivery and achievement of its outcomes, strategic aims and priorities.

Equality Impact

11. Provision exists within the Council's scrutiny arrangements for overview and scrutiny of the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

12. The Council's scrutiny functions are administered within the resources available to the Democratic Services Team with support from Directorates and other Officers as required.

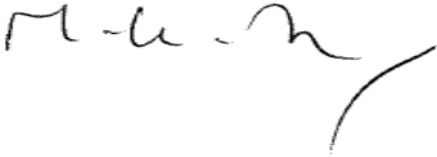
Commercial/Procurement

13. Individual items included in the Annual Scrutiny Programme may have commercial implications, which will be reported at the relevant Committee meeting.

Council Priorities and Projects

14. Dudley operates a One Council ethos to build an effective and dynamic organisation aligned to its three core priorities to grow the economy and create jobs; create a cleaner and greener place and support stronger and safer communities.

15. Items within the Annual Scrutiny Programme and the work undertaken by the Scrutiny Committee will contribute to the delivery of key Council priorities including the Borough Vision, Council Plan and Future Council Programme.



Mohammed Farooq
Lead for Law and Governance
(Monitoring Officer)

Report Author: Steve Griffiths/Gemma Gray
Telephone No. 01384 815238
Email – democratic.services@dudley.gov.uk

Appendix

Appendix 1 – Terms of reference

List of Background Documents

The Council's Constitution

Annual Meeting of the Council – 19th May, 2022

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Membership

13 Councillors

Terms of Reference

In accordance with the Annual Scrutiny Programme and any statutory requirements:-

- (a) To undertake overview and scrutiny functions with specific reference to:
- Climate Change and matters associated with the Council's decision to declare a Climate Emergency, including the development and implementation of a Carbon Reduction Plan and action to support the United Nations sustainable development goals.
 - The development of the environmental sustainability agenda and action to address the corporate priority to create a cleaner and greener place.
 - Working collaboratively with partners, businesses and communities to achieve long term goals in connection with the above.
- (b) To contribute to policy development and undertake scrutiny investigations/inquiries as required.
- (c) To consider and determine any items that are called in for scrutiny in accordance with the Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules.
- (d) To submit reports and recommendations to the relevant decision taker(s).