

Barrow Borough Council
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Wednesday 2 November, 2022
Work Programme Update

Report from: Democratic Services Manager

Report Author: Paula Westwood

Wards: All Wards

1.0 Summary and Conclusions

1.1 Work Groups have been established to review the topics identified in the 2022/2023 Work Programme. A summary of the progress made in respect of each topic is detailed below.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 **Members are requested to note the updates on progress and consider whether further action is required.**

3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 Flood Work Group

At the previous meeting, the Committee had agreed to extend the scope of the review to look at wider flooding of the entire coast. A meeting of the Work Group took place in October with the Head of Programme Management and Climate Change so that the Work Group could understand the duties and responsibilities, along with the different organisations involved and their obligations with regards to flooding. Further information has been provided in the Coastal Protection Briefing Note attached at **Appendix 1**. The Head of Programme Management and Climate Change will be in attendance at the meeting to answer any questions from Members.

Flooding on Walney Promenade

At the previous meeting, Members had requested that United Utilities be invited to provide an update on the plans being made for the sewer network to prevent flooding on Walney Promenade.

Arrangements have been made for a United Utilities representative to attend the meeting to provide an update, following on from the investigatory work they have undertaken earlier this year.

Discretionary Housing Payments

At the previous meeting, the Committee had agreed to change the focus of this review to cover looking into the national legislation and potential loopholes and requested that the Director of Recourses be invited to present an update report at the next meeting. There is a separate item on the agenda from the Director of Resources.

Review of Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy and Action Plan

At the previous meeting, Members had requested Senior Management Team to provide a press release to communicate to Council Tax payers, details of ongoing or planned works in relation to the anti-social behaviour strategy. Members had also requested that Gareth Sargent of Cumbria Police, together with the Head of People and Communities, be invited to the next meeting to provide an update.

Following consultation with Senior Management Team and the Head of People and Communities, I have been advised that there is multi agency work ongoing to address the issues previously reported in July, and at present, there are no further updates. The Council is working with Partners to secure funding to assist with monitoring anti-social behaviour in the Town Centre; a report will be taken to Executive Committee prior to Christmas with an update on that. The Head of People and Communities will attend Committee in the future when this piece of work has been finalised and there is additional information to report.

I have also been advised that corporate communications will be issued imminently around Halloween and safety around Bonfire Night, in partnership with the Fire Service and the Police.

Impact of Covid-19 Going Forward

The Work Group have not met since the last Committee meeting in September. The Head of Public Protection has advised that national and local comms were now focused on the Autumn Booster for both Covid and Flu and at present, there was nothing further to report.

Barrow BID

At the previous meeting it was agreed that a review of Barrow BID be added to the Work Programme.

The Head of Regeneration in her capacity as the named Liaison Officer between the Borough Council and the BID will bring a report to December's Committee meeting detailing the annual activity of the BID. The BID Manager will also attend

that meeting to present the Business Plan and answer any questions from Members.

4.0 Consultation

4.1 We do not need to undertake a consultation at this stage.

5.0 Alternative Options

5.1 Additional information is required before we can consider alternative options.

6.0 Contribution to Council Plan Priorities

6.1 The Scrutiny Work Programme covers all of the Council's priorities.

7.0 Implications

7.1 Financial, Resources and Procurement

7.1.1 This is an update report and there are no implications at this stage.

7.2 Legal

7.2.1 This is an update report and there are no implications at this stage.

7.3 Local Government Reorganisation

7.3.1 This is an update report and there are no implications at this stage.

7.4 Equality and Diversity

7.4.1 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis?

No – This is an update report and there are no implications at this stage.

Risk

Risk	Consequence	Controls required
N/A	N/A	N/A

Appendices

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Coastal Protection Function Briefing Note

Background Documents Available

Name of Background document	Where it is available
N/A	N/A

Contact Officers

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