| | Policy Panel | Item 10 |
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| Colchester | 27 September 2023 | |
| Report of | Group Manager – Neighbourhood Author Owen Howell Services 282518 | |
| Title | Work Programme 2023-24 | |
| Wards affected | Not applicable | |

1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report sets out the dates of the Work Programme for 2023-2024 for the Policy Panel and gives the Panel an opportunity to consider what subjects for which it may wish to request Cabinet approval for the Panel to consider in the 2023-24 municipal year, and to formally make recommendations to put these to Cabinet for approval. Cabinet may also wish to consider what subjects it might want the Policy Panel to consider during 2023-24.

2. Recommended Decision

2.1 The Panel is asked to note the dates of the Panel's Work Programme for 2023-2024 as set out below and to consider the proposed scheduling and whether it wishes to request Cabinet approval for work items to be added.

3. Alternative Options

3.1 This function forms part of the Panel's Terms of Reference and, as such, no alternative options are presented.

4. Background Information

- 4.1 The Policy Panel's Work Programme will evolve as the municipal year progresses. Items can be added to the Work Programme by request of Portfolio Holders and/or Cabinet requesting policies, strategies or other issues to be reviewed.
- 4.2 At its meeting of 12 July 2023, Cabinet approved a number of requests by the Panel for permission to examine topics in this municipal year, but cautioned that the Panel might wish to prioritise which it chooses to take on, given the number of topics raised. Following that meeting, relevant senior officers were informed of the subjects raised within their remits, and offered scheduling advice.
- 4.3 Two items were approved by Cabinet, but have not yet been scheduled, as officers have noted that the Council's approach in these areas is dictated by national statute and regulations, leaving extremely limited scope for the Policy Panel to make recommendations. These two items are:
 - The Licensing, Food and Health and Safety Policy
 - Policy on rights to bid on assets of community value, when up for sale

Policy Panel may still add these to the Work Programme if it wishes to do so, but colleagues in the Licensing and Planning Teams have stated that these would be more for information and discussion, rather than having scope for recommendations to be made to Cabinet.

5. Standard References

5.1 There are no specific references to publicity or consultation considerations; or financial; equality, diversity and human rights; community safety; health and safety or risk management implications.

6. Strategic Plan References

- 6.1 Policy review is integral to the delivery of the Strategic Plan's priorities and direction for the City as set out under the themes of:
 - Respond to the climate emergency;
 - Deliver modern services for a modern city;
 - Improve health, wellbeing and happiness;
 - Deliver homes for those most in need;
 - Grow our economy so everyone benefits;
 - Celebrate our City, heritage and culture.

Policy Panel Work Programme 2022-23

28 June 2023

• Work Programme 2023-24

2 August 2023

- Grounds Maintenance Contract update
- Landscape, Nature and Waterways Strategy development update
- Work Programme 2023-24

27 September 2023

- Financial inequalities and cost of living
- Future of Retail Vision
- Levelling Up Fund and Town Deal [TBC]
- Work Programme 2023-24

29 November 2023

- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Future of Sports and Leisure Strategy [TBC]
- Work Programme 2023-24

10 January 2024

- The Council's Policy on Procurement
- Mapping and examination of community assets and asset-based community development approach;
- Work Programme 2023-24

6 March 2024

- Parking Policy
- Approach to local commemorations, including benches, flags and statues