

Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Agenda
Item:
A.2

Meeting Date: 19th November 2013
Portfolio: Cross Cutting
Key Decision: No
Within Policy and Budget Framework
Public / Private Public

Title: OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME
Report of: Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Report Number: OS 26/13

Summary:

This report provides an overview of matters related to the Community O&S Panel’s work. It also includes the latest version of the work programme.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- Decide whether the items on the Notice of Key Executive Decisions should be included in the Panel’s Work Programme for consideration.
- Note and/or amend the Panel’s work programme

Tracking

Executive:	Not applicable
Overview and Scrutiny:	19th November 2013
Council:	Not applicable

1. Notice of Key Executive Decisions

The most recent Notice of Key Executive Decisions was published on 18th October 2013. The following issues fall into the remit of this Panel and full details are attached at **Appendix 1**:

KD.024/13 Tullie House Business Plan – on the agenda for this meeting of the Panel.

KD.029/13 Carlisle Sports Strategy 2013-23 - this item will be on the agenda for the Panel meeting on 9th January 2013.

KD.030/13 Budget Process 2014/15 – items within the remit of the Panel are on the agenda for this meeting.

2. References from the Executive

The following reference from the Executive has been received from their meeting on 28th October 2013 and is attached at **Appendix 2**.

EX.119/13 – Carlisle’s Play Provision

3. Work Programme

The Panel’s current work programme is attached at **Appendix 3** for comment/amendment.

Contact Officer:

Nicola Edwards

Ext: 7122

Appendices attached

1. Notice of Key Decisions

to report:

2. References from the Executive

3. Community O&S Work Programme 2013/14

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

Items relevant to the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Notice of Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive

The following key decision is to be made on behalf of Carlisle City Council:

Key Decision Reference:	KD.024/13
Decision Title:	Tullie House Business Plan
Decision to be taken:	The Executive will be asked to consider the business plan and refer it to the Community Overview and Scrutiny prior to making recommendations to Council
Date Decision to be considered:	18 November 2013 consultation period to include Overview and Scrutiny as appropriate
Date Decision to be taken:	16 December 2013
Is the Decision Public or Private?:	The decision will be taken in public
Documents submitted for consideration in relation to the Decision:	The report of the Deputy Chief Executive will be available five working days before the meeting
Contact Officer for this Decision:	Deputy Chief Executive, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG
Relevant Portfolio Area:	Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People (Councillor Ms Quilter)
Relevant or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

All public reports can be viewed in the Customer Contact centre of the Civic Centre, Carlisle, the Public Library and on the Council's website www.carlisle.gov.uk.

Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker.

These, if available, may be obtained by contacting the named contact officer.

Items relevant to the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Notice of Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive

The following key decision is to be made on behalf of Carlisle City Council:

Key Decision Reference:	KD.029/13
Decision Title:	Carlisle Sports Strategy 2013-23
Decision to be taken:	The Executive will be asked to review and approve the draft Sports Strategy for Carlisle.
Date Decision to be considered:	
Date Decision to be taken:	18 November 2013
Is the Decision Public or Private?:	The decision will be taken in Public.
Documents submitted for consideration in relation to the Decision:	The report of the Deputy Chief Executive will be available five working days before the meeting
Contact Officer for this Decision:	Deputy Chief Executive, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG
Relevant Portfolio Area:	Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People (Councillor Ms Quilter)
Relevant or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

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Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker. These, if available, may be obtained by contacting the named contact officer.

Items relevant to the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Notice of Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive

The following key decision is to be made on behalf of Carlisle City Council:

Key Decision Reference:	KD.030/13
Decision Title:	Budget Process 2014/15
Decision to be taken:	<p>To consider strategic financial issues arising from the budget setting process:</p> <p>(a) Budget Update – Revenue Estimates (18th November 2013)</p> <p>(b) Individual Charges Reviews (Local Environment, Governance , Economic Development, Community Engagement) (18th November 2013)</p> <p>(c) New Revenue Spending Proposals (18th November 2013)</p> <p>(d) New Savings Proposals (18th November 2013)</p> <p>(e) New Capital Spending Proposals and Provisional Capital Programme (18th November 2013)</p> <p>(f) Repair and Maintenance (18th November 2013)</p> <p>(g) Treasury Management and Prudential Borrowing Implications (18th November 2013)</p> <p>(h) Consideration of Overview and Scrutiny Consultation feedback (9th December 2013)</p> <p>(i) Draft Revenue Support Grant Settlement (if available) (16th December 2013)</p> <p>(j) Summary Overall Revenue and Capital Position (16th December 2013)</p> <p>(k) Draft Treasury Management and Investment Strategy including MRP Strategy (16th December 2013)</p> <p>(l) Executive Draft Budget Proposals for consultation (16th December 2013)</p> <p>(m) Final Revenue Support Grant and Final Revenue Budget Summary (15th January 2014)</p> <p>(n) Provisional Capital Programme (15th January 2014)</p> <p>(o) Treasury Management and Investment Strategy including MRP Strategy (15th January 2014)</p> <p>(p) Consideration of Final Budget Consultation (15th January 2014)</p> <p>(q) Pension Fund Revaluation (15th January 2014)</p> <p>(r) Executive's Final Budget Proposals (15th January 2014)</p>
Date Decision to be considered:	18 November 2013, 9 December 2013, 16 December 2013 and 15 January 2014 consultation period to include Overview and Scrutiny as appropriate
Date Decision to be taken:	18 November 2013, 9 December 2013, 16 December and 15 January 2014

Items relevant to the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

Is the Decision Public or Private?:	The decision will be taken in Public
Documents submitted for consideration in relation to the Decision:	The report of the Director of Resources will be available five working days before the meeting
Contact Officer for this Decision:	Director of Resources, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG
Relevant Portfolio Area:	Finance, Governance and Resources (Councillor Dr Tickner)
Relevant or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel, Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

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Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker. These, if available, may be obtained by contacting the named contact officer.

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
EXECUTIVE
HELD ON 28 OCTOBER 2013**

EX.119/13 CARLISLE'S PLAY PROVISION
(Key Decision – KD.018/13)

Portfolio Environment and Transport

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel Community

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EX.105/13, the Deputy Leader; and Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder reported (LE.32/13) that the City Council operated 69 play areas serving its population of 106,000. 'Play for Today, Play for Tomorrow' was the City Council's Play Policy and Strategy for Children and Young People 2007 – 2012 and it was now time for the City Council to review its approach to play area management. She reiterated that the intention was to create a legacy of play facilities offering high play value in a safe environment, accessible to every child and allowing them to explore their individual abilities and learn to assess and overcome the risks inherent in physical challenge.

To do that successfully the Council's proposed strategy would focus on quality. Details of a methodology by which an assessment could be made of the quality, play value and accessibility of each individual equipped play area were provided. The outcome thereof would be used to determine the type, specification and maintenance requirements of each site in the future. Those could be broadly characterised as:

- 'Destination' sites – where the accessibility and play value combined to attract visitors from a wider catchment area (2,000m)
- 'Neighbourhood' sites – used by children and young people living in the vicinity (1,200m)
- 'Local Play' – smaller areas that may have no formal equipment but were managed as spaces for free play by all age groups (500m)

The standard adopted would aim to ensure that every child had access to a high quality play area within a reasonable distance of their home.

In some instances existing play equipment was either obsolete or poorly located (or both) and was no longer providing a quality play experience. Application of the criteria would differentiate between sites and allow decisions to be made on how their future management could contribute to raising quality standards, the outcome of which could

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be that the equipment was removed and not replaced. Advances in the construction of play equipment and the materials used had led to the development of 'low maintenance' options and those had been extensively utilised in Carlisle. The Council also made use of natural materials, where possible, to provide challenging play experiences at low cost.

The Deputy Leader; and Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder further drew Members' attention to the Risk Assessment; Aim and expected Outcomes of the Play Areas Review; Review Methodology; and Criteria, details of which were set out within the report.

The Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel had, on 3 October 2013, considered the matter and resolved:

"1) That Report CD.52/13 – Carlisle's Play Provision – be noted and the comments from the discussion referred to the Executive in consideration of the criteria for the review.

2) That the Executive be asked to consider a capital budget to be made available for the replacement of equipment when and where required."

A copy of Minute Excerpt COSP.66/13 had been circulated.

The Deputy Leader; and Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder further commented upon the full discussion undertaken at the Panel meeting, adding that some of the suggestions highlighted had been incorporated within Report LE.32/13. The only exception was the request for consideration of a capital budget to be made available for the replacement of equipment when and where required, which aspect would be considered as part of the budget process.

The Chairman of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel stated that many of her comments had already been covered by the Deputy Leader. She emphasised that Panel Members were concerned to ensure that quality was sustained since that aspect was a priority in the Carlisle Plan and also a healthy city objective. The Panel was also concerned to ensure that resources were in place to keep the high quality up and the Chairman was reassured by the Deputy Leader's comments.

In conclusion, the Deputy Leader; and Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder reiterated that the review of play provision in Carlisle was timely and would ensure that the highest standards could be maintained at all times. The City Council had, for the first time, set out the criteria for assessment and by which their play areas would be measured. As a result the community would be assured that the quality of provision was the best it could be.

In order to fulfil the aims of the review, Officers would draw up a programme of work using the outcomes of the review as a guide. The work programme would utilise existing City Council resources, plus any external sources of funding that may be available, in order to deliver a portfolio of high quality play facilities accessible to every child.

The Deputy Leader then moved the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive:

1. Approved the principles adopted for the review of children's play areas in Carlisle as set out in Report LE.32/13.
2. Agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Local Environment, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to implement the approved principles with regard to the individual play areas in line with the review findings.

Reasons for Decision

Raising the standards of the Council's children's play facilities would contribute to a number of 'Carlisle Plan' objectives and also impact on wider social issues such as health and physical activity of young people.

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13

Date last revised: 07 November 2013

Issue	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance Management	Key Decisions Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/ External Agency	Monitoring	Budget		30 May 13	11 Jul 13	22 Aug 13	3 Oct 13	19 Nov 13	9 Jan 14	13 Feb 14	27 Mar 14
CURRENT MEETING - 19th November															
Tullie House Trust							Business Plan 2013/14 - 2016/17					✓			
Performance Monitoring Reports	✓						Reporting of performance relevant to remit of Panel	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Budget 14/15 - 18/19		✓	✓				Consideration of service implications					✓			
TASK AND FINISH GROUPS															
Hate Crime			✓				To appoint Members to Task Group and determine Terms of Reference			✓				✓	
Customer Access Strategy			✓				To appoint Members to Task Group and determine Terms of Reference			✓				✓	
Community Centres				✓			Monitor implementation of recommendations						✓		

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								30 May 13	11 Jul 13	22 Aug 13	3 Oct 13	19 Nov 13	9 Jan 14	13 Feb 14	27 Mar 14
FUTURE MEETINGS															
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	✓		✓				To consider Strategic Assessment 2013 Partnership Plan 2014/15						?	✓	
Carlisle Sports Facility Strategy 2013-23			✓				Scrutiny of draft strategy		✓				✓		
Riverside Carlisle				✓			Monitoring progress and developments of joint working		✓					✓	
Arts Centre		✓					Scrutiny of reports detailing progression of Arts Centre		✓						
Scrutiny Annual Report			✓		✓		Draft report for comment before Chairs Group							✓	
COMPLETED ITEMS															

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	Performance Management	Key Decisions Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/ External Agency	Monitoring	Budget		30	11	22	3	19	9	13	27	
								May	Jul	Aug	Oct	Nov	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Carlisle's Play Provision Action Plan											✓					
Revenue & Benefits Services											✓					
Benefits Advice Service											✓					
Localisation of Council Tax											✓					
Transformation					✓	✓					✓					

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	Performance Management	Key Decisions Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/ External Agency	Monitoring	Budget		30	11	22	3	19	9	13	27
								May	Jul	Aug	Oct	Nov	Jan	Feb	Mar
							13	13	13	13	13	14	14	14	
CCTV		✓				✓			✓						
Shaddongate Resource Centre					✓		✓								
Regulatory Reform Order – Empty Property Policy Amendments		✓					✓								
INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS															
Details								Date Circulated							