

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANELS – UPDATE

Outcomes of discussion regarding the proposed operation of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's Corporate Plan 'themed' Panels:

- Panels intended to add capacity for more detailed discussion of complex issues relating to Corporate Plan Themes. Panels will not review projects/reports already considered or expected to be considered by the Committee.
- Panels will not be required to maintain oversight of *all* projects, the wider Committee may choose to oversee specific projects such as the Sheringham Leisure Centre or NWHSZ, or delegate oversight to the Panels where appropriate.
- The Panel's Work Programmes will be proposed by the Panels and agreed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Meeting frequency will be determined by workload, though the maximum number of meetings is not expected to exceed one per month.
- Panels will be encouraged to undertake investigatory pre-scrutiny reviews of emerging proposals prior to implementation.

Suggested approach:

- Suggested that a single Panel be established on a 6 month trial period to determine efficacy and workload.
- Committee required to consider and agree which 2 Corporate Plan themes the trial Panel will relate to, taking into consideration current active projects. Options include:
 - Boosting Business Sustainability and Growth
 - Financial Sustainability and Growth
 - Climate, Coast and the Environment
 - Local Homes for Local Need
 - Customer Focus
 - Quality of Life
- The Committee are required to propose and approve Chair for trial Panel from existing Membership of the Committee. Group leaders will then be asked to appoint the remaining 4 Panel Members according to political balance to form a Panel of 5. The remaining appointments are not required to be Members of the Committee.
- Relevant Cabinet Members may be asked to attend if required, and wider Members will also be able to attend as observers.
- Minutes of Panel meetings and any recommendations will be reported to the Committee at the next available meeting, alongside a verbal update provided by the Chair of the Panel.
- If determined to be successful by the Committee, further Panels will be established upon completion of the trial period.