

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 27 SEPTEMBER 2016

UPDATE ON CHALLENGE PANELS

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION

LEAD CABINET MEMBER – COUNCILLOR BRIAN EDWARDS

PART A – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

1.1 South Staffordshire Council introduced the Challenge Panel model in 2013 and is currently undertaking its fourth round of reviews. This report provides an update on proposed challenge panel reviews for 2016/17; a full update on progress from previous years' recommendations will follow in November.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 To note the Challenge Panel reviews for the 2016/17 municipal year.

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

POLICY/COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Council Plan objectives?	
	Yes	The Challenge Panel Action Plans contribute to the overall progress of the Council Plan.
	Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) been completed?	
	No	The proposed decision is not considered to have any adverse implications and is considered to comply with the Council's equal opportunities and diversity policies.
SCRUTINY POWERS APPLICABLE	No	
KEY DECISION	No	
TARGET COMPLETION/ DELIVERY DATE	Completion dates for each review will be set by each Panel.	
FINANCIAL IMPACT	No	
LEGAL ISSUES	None	
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	None	
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	

PART B – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. INFORMATION

4.1 Background

The Challenge Panels were created in 2013 following a review of the Council's existing scrutiny process. The three Challenge Panels have been structured around the overarching principles in the Council Plan - Your Council, Your Place and Your Community.

The Challenge Panels report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee every six months to provide a progress report on the implementation of outstanding recommendations for each of the panels. We will be bringing an update to each Committee meeting on the ongoing Challenge Panels.

4.2 Challenge Panels 2016/17

The Your Council Challenge Panel will be undertaking a review into the voluntary and community sector funding regime. The first meeting of the Panel on 6 September 2016 scoped the topic and a number of key issues for further investigation were identified. The lead officer, Clodagh Peterson – Policy and Partnership Manager, will report back on the identified issues at the next meeting on 17 October. This Panel is being chaired by Cllr Ewart as the Chairman of the Panel and Cllr Mrs Megan Barrow as Vice Chairman.

The Your Place Challenge Panel: the topic for this Panel had not been selected at time of writing and a verbal update will be provided to the Committee following the meeting of the Panel on the 19 September.

The Your Community Challenge Panel will be overseeing the £20,000 uncommitted voluntary and community sector funding pot. The Panel met on 5 September and agreed a work programme; potential bids will be considered and scored at the next meeting on 3 October. Presentations from providers will then take place at the November meeting. Required outcomes from the successful project(s) will then be agreed at the December meeting with a review taking place at the January meeting. This Panel is being chaired by Cllr Bates as the Chairman of the Panel and Cllr Cope as Vice Chairman.

5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Not applicable.

6. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Not applicable.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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