

**Eden District Council**  
**Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee**

15 June 2017

## Environment and Economy Scrutiny Reviews 2017-2018

<b>Report from:</b>	Deputy Chief Executive
<b>Wards:</b>	All wards
<b>OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>	

### **1 Purpose**

- 1.1 To inform the Committee about the Scrutiny Reviews and briefings that have been allocated to the Committee by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Board.

### **2 Recommendation**

That the report be noted.

### **3 Report Details**

- 3.1 Each year a public consultation exercise is undertaken to seek possible Scrutiny Review topics for the forthcoming year. The process for the consultation process was reviewed by officers in early 2017 and reported to this Committee on 6 April 2017. The consultation process that led to this report is outlined in paragraph 5.1 of this report. As in previous years, a workshop was held in May to which all non-Executive Members were invited with the purpose of producing a shortlist of potential areas for scrutiny reviews
- 3.2 This year, the Scrutiny Review Workshop was held on the 25 May 2017 and seventeen members attended. The finalised shortlist was presented and agreed by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Board meeting on the 25 May 2017. The Board has overall responsibility for setting the annual work programme for the two Scrutiny Committees.
- 3.3 In addition to the reviews, a number of briefings have been allocated to each Committee. These are topics that were initially put forward as potential Scrutiny Reviews but it was felt that a briefing, either from an Officer of the Council or an external body would be a more suitable way of gathering information about the subject. The full list of briefings and reviews have been attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 3.4 The briefings allocated to this Committee are as follows:
- Waste and Recycling – this was raised as an issue by a number of members of the public and by parishes, and although the topic had been the subject of a briefing the previous year, an update on progress to date would be beneficial.
  - Footway Lighting – the current state of footway lighting in Eden, and the impact that devolution to parishes could have on footway lighting.

- Car Parking – Cumbria County Council are undertaking a parking strategy review of Penrith and have indicated that they would like to consult with Eden District Council on this to understand parking needs in Penrith both on and off road.
- Public Toilets – Are public toilets being retained and maintained properly. What role will devolution to parishes play in the future of public toilets in Eden?
- Growing the Economy of Eden, including tourism – this was the subject of a briefing in the previous year, but Members wished to hear of any progress made, with particular emphasis on the impact of tourism on Eden's economy.

3.5 No reviews have been allocated to this Committee.

## **4 Policy Framework**

4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:

- Decent Homes for All
- Strong Economy, Rich Environment
- Thriving Communities
- Quality Council

4.2 This report meets the Strong Economy, Rich Environment corporate priority.

4.3 This report also meets the Quality Council corporate priority by ensuring that the Council has good governance arrangements in place and is operating in an open and transparent way, with Members who are kept informed and motivated.

## **5 Consultation**

5.1 A public consultation was undertaken between 6 March 2017 and 21 April 2017, with an article being placed in the 'All About Eden' magazine (which is sent to all residents), encouraging the public to send in suggestions. A press release, was sent out and social media was utilised along with a letter/e mail to all Parish and Town Councils and Parish Meetings.

5.2 Additionally a pro-forma has been sent to Parish Councils, Town Councils and Parish Meetings in order to obtain more detailed information about why they feel certain topics would merit a Scrutiny Review. Officers and Members of the Council were also asked to send in suggestions.

5.3 The suggestions received formed the basis of the topics Members were asked to choose from to form the upcoming year's review and briefing programme.

## **6 Implications**

### **6.1 Financial and Resources**

6.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2015-19 as agreed at Council on 17 September 2015.

6.1.2 There are no proposals in this report that would reduce or increase resources.

## 6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There are no legal implications.

## 6.3 Human Resources

6.3.1 There are no Human Resources implications.

## 6.4 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	There are no implications
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	There are no implications
Crime and Disorder	There are no implications
Children and Safeguarding	There are no implications

## 6.5 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
Scrutiny can choose not to set a work plan for the forthcoming year.	The Council does not scrutinise topics of public interest or the work of the Executive, leading to reputational damage to the Council.	That Scrutiny regularly review their work plan and add to it as necessary.

## 7 Other Options Considered

7.1 No other options have been considered.

## 8 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

8.1 To confirm the Scrutiny review programme for the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee for 2017-2018.

### Tracking Information

Governance Check	Date Considered
Chief Finance Officer (or Deputy)	06.06.17
Monitoring Officer (or Deputy)	05.06.17
Relevant Assistant Director	05.06.17

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Scrutiny Reviews and Briefings 2017-2018

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