

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject: Scrutiny Work Programme

Date: 11th November 2019

Author: Democratic Services Officer

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide an update on the 2018/19 and 2019/20 programme of scrutiny reviews and information requested at the September committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- Consider and comment on the Household Refuse Recycling review response
- Consider and comment on the information updates and decide if further information is required
- Discuss the progress of the scrutiny working groups
- Note the work programme forward plan.

2. CABINET RESPONSE TO THE HOUSHOLD RECYCLING REVIEW

The report and recommendations were presented to Cabinet on the 1st August 2019. A written response to the recommendations is attached at **Appendix 1**. Members will have the opportunity to discuss the response to the recommendations.

3. INFORMATION REQUESTED AT THE JULY COMMITTEE

I. VISITS TO CARLTON CONTACT CENTRE

At the July Committee members were concerned about the low number of people using the Carlton Contact point and asked for information regarding discussion or surveying of residents about opening on a different day.

Prior to opening the hub we surveyed 192 people in the locality as to their favoured day for opening. The results were as follows (the respondents were able to tick multiple boxes);

Monday	69.46%
Tuesday	61.68%
Wednesday	64.07%
Thursday	53.89%
Friday	58.08%

Unfortunately Monday presents us with an issue due to staffing the Civic Centre as it is, by far, our busiest day, particularly on the telephones (which currently represents the favoured method (by a very wide margin) of getting touch with the Council). Taking staff out on a Monday will mean an overall reduced telephone service for all Borough residents on our busiest telephone day.

As Wednesday was the next highest this day was chosen.

We are generally finding that where people need to bring documents in for copying etc. they will do this at the hub if they live/work over there. Other than that, demand for the service is quite low.

Rosie Caddy
Service Manager, Customer Services and Communications

II. GEDLING HOMES RIGHT TO BUY

Background

The Government has previously made a commitment to extend the Right to Buy to housing association tenants and undertook a Pilot in 2016-17. As a follow up to this, a second Pilot in the Midlands was developed to test one for one replacement of housing sold and the portability of discounts for tenants who are unable to buy the property they currently live in.

Tenants were invited to register for the Midlands Regional Right to Buy Pilot in Autumn 2018. The registration and subsequent ballot process was managed by the

Ministry of Homes, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). Once the registration period had ended MHCLG randomly selected tenants to proceed in the Pilot.

Gedling Homes

In total, 11 Gedling Homes tenants applied for the Pilot and 8 were successful in through the ballot.

Eligibility checks were completed on these 8 tenants, as well as financial assessments to ensure they were able to sustain their purchase and were fully aware of the costs of home ownership. At this stage 1 of the tenants opted not to proceed any further with their application.

At the outset of the Pilot each participating landlord set a criteria for the homes that they would consider selling under the Pilot, and if a successful applicant could not purchase their existing home because of this criteria then attempts would be made to port their discount to another property. None of the successful tenants have had to pursue the option of porting their discount to another property.

The process of purchasing under the Pilot mirrors the standard Right to Buy process with an independent valuation being used to calculate the discount a tenant is entitled to based upon the length of time they have held a qualifying tenancy. Gedling Homes completed its first sale through the Pilot in early October. The remaining 6 tenants have all accepted their offers and are in the process of conveyance. Gedling Homes anticipates that these remaining sales will complete with the 19/20 financial year.

Mike Murphy

Assistant Director of Income and Leasehold
Jigsaw Homes Group

III. EXPLANATION OF TRENDS DATA

The heading “Trend Compared to Last Period” compares the current quarter to the previous quarter.

The heading “Trend Compared to a Year Ago” compares the current quarter to the average of the previous 4 quarters.



The direction of the arrows should be read as:

- upwards shows improvement irrespective of whether the improvement is a lower or higher figure
- downwards shows that performance is getting worse.

These should only be seen as a guide to direction of travel.

With regards the PI's queried, see below:

LI076 Level of All Crime across Gedling Borough rate per 1000 population

Current Value	Current Target	Trend compared to last period	Trend compared to year ago
14.6	14.7		

For this indicator a lower figure shows improvement. For the 'Trend compared to last period' the figure for Q1 (14.6) was lower than Q4 (14.8) hence an improvement so it's an upwards arrow.

The 'Trend compared to year ago' compares the Q1 figure of 14.6 to the average of the previous 4 quarters, which equates to 14.575, which is lower than 14.6. The figure has got worse in the long term so the arrow is downwards.



LI133 Number of fly tipping incidents reported to Gedling Borough Council

Current Value	Current Target	Trend compared to last period	Trend compared to year ago
424	Tracking Only		

Again for this indicator a lower figure shows improvement. For the 'Trend compared to last period', the figure for Q1 (424) was higher than Q4 (422), so the figure had got worse, hence it's a downwards arrow.

The 'Trend compared to year' ago compares the Q1 figure of 424 to the average of the previous 4 quarters, which equates to 493. Therefore the current figure of 424 is lower which indicates improvement - hence the upward arrow.

LI081 Level of recorded anti-social behaviour across Gedling Borough

Current Value	Current Target	Trend compared to last period	Trend compared to year ago
4.4	4.6		

Also for this indicator a lower figure shows improvement. The 'Trend compared to last period' i.e. the quarter before shows a downwards arrow as the figure for Q1 (4.4) was higher than Q4 (4.1).

The 'Trend compared to year ago' compares the Q1 figure of 4.4 to the average of the previous 4 quarters, which equates to 4.15, so the figure has got worse in the long term, hence the downward arrow.

Alan Green
Performance Projects Officer.

IV. REFUSE STICKERS

An update on the issuing of new refuse stickers was requested
We are waiting for the joint officers' board to conclude the decision on the exact layout of the stickers. They are to be consistent across Nottinghamshire.

In essence though they will have exactly the same information as what is on the back of every domestic waste calendar that is issued to every household.

Esther Storer
Business Development and Support Manager – Environmental Services

4. SCRUTINY WORKING GROUPS

Executive-Scrutiny protocol.

Working group members: Councillors Clunie, Paling, Lawrence and Boyle

A draft executive/scrutiny protocol has been developed. After discussion with the Monitoring Officer this is being revised and will be sent back to the working group for approval prior to it being sent to Cabinet for agreement.

Economic Development

Working Group members: Councillors Clunie Boyle, Ellis, S Smith, M Smith.

A scoping document for the working group has been approved; a copy is attached at Appendix 2.

At the last meeting members considered 3 hypothetical sites which enabled consideration of social and economic priorities when the Council could intervene using Strand 3 of the Commercial Property Investment Strategy.

Housing Allocations Policy

The Council is currently leading on the refresh of the South Nottinghamshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy, covering Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe.

A Consultation with key stakeholders runs from 21st October – 18th November with the refresh due to be published by 31st December. Due to the time frame it would be difficult for the committee to be involved in this consultation. However the Council will also be shortly undertaking a full 12 week consultation on its Housing Allocation Policy which sets out the rules for how we allocate social housing. If the committee agrees to take this forward nominations will be invited for members to be included in the working group.

5. **SCRUTINY IN COMMITTEE**

At the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on July 15th, members agreed to continue with a programme of attendance by Portfolio Holders and relevant officers at committee. Areas of performance within each Portfolio for examination will be identified, and questions for Portfolio Holders submitted in advance of each meeting, however 'ad hoc' questions may be put forward at the meeting itself. Non-executive members will also be invited to submit questions for the Portfolio Holder.

At the last meeting members requested that in order to enable all Portfolio Holders to attend an additional committee was arranged. The date for this additional committee is the 27th April.

The programme for 2019/20 is below:

November 11th	Councillor D Ellis
January 20th	Councillor V McCrossen/ Councillor Gregory
March 9th	Councillor Hollingsworth/Councillor P Barnes
April 27th	Councillor Clarke/ Councillor Payne

The scrutiny work programme is attached at **Appendix 3**.

A copy of the Forward Plan which sets out details of key and non-key decisions which the Cabinet, individual Portfolio Holders or officers expect to take during the next four month period is attached at **Appendix 4**. A key decision is one that has financial implication over £500,000 or one that affects two or more wards. It has been requested that in future a copy is included in

the Overview and Scrutiny papers for Members to be aware planned decisions about which they may want information.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Household Refuse Response

Appendix 2: Economic Development Working Group Scope

Appendix 3: Overview and Scrutiny work programme

Appendix 3: Forward Plan