

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL 29 JUNE 2023

STARRED ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MINUTES

SCRUTINY AND PETITIONS – 1 JUNE 2023

3. **SCRUTINY REVIEW WORK PROGRAMME**

3.1 With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of 20 April 2023, there had been circulated copies of a report by the Clerk to the Council, which provided further details of those subjects submitted for consideration for review by the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee and sought approval for their inclusion in the Scrutiny Review Work Programme to be recommended to Council. The report explained that there were 9 topics being take forward for inclusion in the Scrutiny Review Programme as follows:-

1. Public Toilet Provision in the Scottish Borders
2. Employability Service Public Engagement
3. Private Sector Housing Grants and Assessment Process
4. Industrial Estates in the Scottish Borders
5. Covid Recovery Funds
6. Community Access to Schools out-with school hours
7. Shared Lives
8. E-Fleet
9. See Hear Grant Funding

3.2 In providing further information for each review, consideration had been given to the potential scale of each review, the resources required to take it forward, the timing of such a review and the method of taking the review forward i.e. by way of an information hearing or focussed hearing. Working Groups were not being considered at this time due to the current pressure on staff. The breadth of some reviews would require to be taken into consideration, as would the number of reviews being undertaken at any given time, to ensure that Members and Officers did not become over-burdened and resources were not stretched too thinly. Depending on the subject matter, Officers from various Services of the Council could provide support to Scrutiny & Petitions hearings.

3.3 With regard to the review of Public Toilet Provision, Members were keen to be updated on progress with this work before the suggested date of Winter 2024, due to the public interest in the matter. It was suggested that interim update reports on progress with the programme for public toilet provision would be brought to the Committee, with the first such report to be in December 2023 and this was unanimously agreed.

DECISION

- (a) **AGREED the Scrutiny Review Work Programme as detailed in the Appendix to this Minute.**
- (b) **NOTED that the Review Work Programme may be added to at a later date, subject to approval by Scottish Borders Council.**
- * (c) **AGREED to RECOMMEND to Scottish Borders Council that the Scrutiny Review Work Programme as detailed in the Appendix be approved.**