

Scrutiny Work Programme 2021 and Suggestions for Scrutiny

Report number:	OAS/WS/21/019	
Report to and date(s):	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	2 September 2021
Chair of the Committee:	Councillor Ian Shipp Telephone: 07368 134769 Email: ian.shipp@westsuffolk.gov.uk	
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Decisions Plan: This item is not included in the decisions plan.

Wards impacted: Not applicable.

Recommendation: It is recommended that Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

1. Reviews and notes the current status of topics currently scheduled in its rolling work programme for 2021, attached at Appendix 1.
2. Resolves whether to include “fines for idling” into its forward work programme for 2021-2022.
3. Resolves whether to include a review of “20 mph zones and signage” into its forward work programme for 2021-2022.

1. Context to this report

1.1 Rolling Work Programme

- 1.1.1 The Committee has a rolling work programme whereby suggestions for scrutiny reviews are brought to each meeting, following the completion of the work programme suggestion form, and if accepted, are timetabled to report to a future meeting.
- 1.1.2 The work programme also leaves space for Call-ins and Councillor Calls for Action.
- 1.1.3 The current position of the work programme, including any Task and Finish Group(s) or Working Groups, and items currently agreed, but yet to be programmed for 2021 is attached at **Appendix 1**.

2. Proposals within this report

2.1 Suggestion for Scrutiny: Fines for Idling

- 2.1.1 At its meeting held on 8 July 2021, Councillor Diane Hind informed members she had produced a small report on “anti-idling” on the work carried out by the Residents Working Group which was emailed to the Committee for information.
- 2.1.2 As a follow-up to this, Councillor Diane Hind agreed to complete a work programme suggestion form for the Committee’s consideration at its September 2021 meeting, focusing on anti-idling, 20 mile an hour speed limits and improving air quality around our towns. This piece of work was originally raised by Councillor Lisa Ingwall-King back in January 2020.
- 2.1.3 Following the meeting Councillor Diane Hind has prepared a suggestion form, attached at **Appendix 2**, to undertake a review. If supported, it is proposed that the suggestion be included into the committee’s forward work programme.

2.2 Suggestion for Scrutiny: 20 mph zones and signage

- 2.2.1 On 27 July 2021, Councillor Diane Hind approached the Chair of the Committee about a potential scrutiny topic relating to possibly carrying out a review of 20 mile per hour zones and their signage and possibly requesting that Suffolk County Council arrange for 20 mile per hour zones (or limits) to be extended, adequately signed, and enforced.
- 2.2.2 Councillor Diane Hind has prepared a suggestion form, attached at **Appendix 3**, to undertake a review.

Further information for consideration

- 2.2.3 The responsible authority for speed limits lies with Suffolk County Council (SCC). The following information is available on the SCC website, which is set out below for the committee's consideration:

20mph speed limits

The Department of Transport has encouraged highway authorities to introduce 20mph limits in urban areas and village streets that are primarily residential.

In response to this we have agreed on **criteria** to assess whether limits can be introduced and how funding will be prioritised. The flow chart shows how the **assessment process** will be carried out.

Contact your local county councillor if you would like us to consider introducing a 20mph limit. If your councillor agrees they will contact us to discuss the change.

Note: the agreed criteria and assessment process are attached at **Appendix 4** and **5**.

- 2.2.4 Taking into account all information available to the committee, and if supported, it is proposed that a small group of members would meet alongside officers to discuss, with a view to making recommendations to Suffolk County Council.

3. Appendices referenced in this report

- 3.1 Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Work Programme 2021
- Appendix 2 – Completed suggestion for scrutiny, Fines for Idling
- Appendix 3 – Completed suggestion for scrutiny, 20 mph zones and signage
- Appendix 4 – SCC criteria for 20 mph speed limits
- Appendix 5 – SCC flow chart setting out the assessment process for 20 mph speed limits

4. Background documents associated with this report

- 4.1 None