

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16

**FINANCE & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

AGENDA ITEM 5

7TH OCTOBER 2015

**PROPOSED SCRUTINY WORK
PROGRAMME**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide Members with a draft work programme for consideration for the Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members of the Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Agree a work programme (a draft work programme being set out at Appendix 1) and the approach for scrutinising each agreed topic; and
- 2.2 Agree that the Work Programme be amended as necessary during the year to reflect the demands of the work.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 There is a requirement to devise and publish a Work Programme for each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution, (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules). Each Committee is responsible for setting and agreeing its own Work Programme; however, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a role in co-ordinating the work of the four thematic Scrutiny Committees and ensuring that the work of each of these committees is effective.
- 3.2 The terms of reference for the Committee is to undertake the overview and scrutiny role in connection with scrutinising financial and operational performance; treasury management arrangements; the annual revenue budget consultation process; statutory performance reporting requirements and monitoring the implementation of medium term financial planning decisions taken by the Executive.

- 3.3 As part of the new scrutiny arrangements, a more rationalised approach has been taken to the development of this year's work programme and during the July and September meetings of the Committee, Members have considered the benefits of scrutinising a range of topics which come within the scope of this committee.

4. PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME

- 4.1 In addition to what could be regarded as the routine responsibilities of the Committee which includes quarterly performance monitoring, scrutiny of treasury management, acting as a consultee in the revenue budget setting process and scrutiny of the Corporate Plan, Members have expressed a wish to undertake focussed scrutiny in relation to the following areas:

- Performance Target Setting
- Medium Term Service Planning
 - Use of accommodation
- Service change evaluation

- 4.2 In response to this and following further discussion with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee, attached at Appendix 1 is a proposed timetable for the delivery of the Work Programme.

- 4.3 Subject to Members' consideration of the draft Work Programme, Members are also requested to determine the preferred method of scrutiny e.g. via full Scrutiny Committee meetings or via 'working groups', that report back to the full Scrutiny Committee.

- 4.4 It should be noted that there will need to be an element of flexibility with regard to the work programme as in some instances Members will need to take a view on the best method of scrutiny to adopt once they have been provided with sufficient background information upon which to make a judgement.

- 4.5 Members will also note that as a first step information is provided at agenda item 6 in relation to scrutiny of target setting.

- 4.6 In addition to the above considerations, during the year the Committee could also receive requests from the Executive or other committees e.g. Council, Audit Committee, Overview & Scrutiny to consider a particular issue.

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The revised approach has been used to formulate a work programme that aims to demonstrate the rationale for topic selection together with the intended outcome(s) from the Committee's work.

- 5.2 Members are asked to consider and agree a work programme and the approach through which they wish to scrutinise each agreed topic.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

as amended by

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

FINANCE & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7TH OCTOBER 2015

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PROPOSED SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

Minutes of the meetings of the Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committees held on 27th July and 16th September 2015. (Minutes numbers 16 and 21 refers.)

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APPENDIX 1

FINANCE & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

Monday 27 July 15 5 pm	Weds 16 Sept 15 5 pm	Weds 7 Oct 15 5 pm	Weds 4 Nov 15 5 pm	Weds 9 th Dec 15 5 pm	Weds 27 th Jan 16 5 pm	Weds 9 th March 16 5 pm	Monday 11 th April 16 5 pm
Draft Work Programme Quarter 4 14/15	Treasury Management Training (beforehand) Treasury Management – annual review Work Programme	Quarter 1 Budget & Performance European Funding Programme – progress report Work Programme Target Setting	MTSP – use of Council's accommodation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline overview • Draft scope Service change evaluation	Part 1 Budget Consultation Quarter 2 Budget & Performance Feedback - Target Setting	Part 2 Budget Consultation Treasury Management – mid year Review Service change evaluation	Feedback – target setting (subject to the outcome of the Dec 15 meeting) Interim feedback – accommodation review Service change evaluation (subject to the outcome of the Nov 15 and Jan 16 meetings)	Quarter 3 – Budget & Performance Treasury Management Strategy Scrutiny of Corporate Plan Preparation – scrutiny annual report

