

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2017 /18

**PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY,
COMMUNITIES & PROSPERITY
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

27th JULY 2017

AGENDA ITEM No. 5

**PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY,
COMMUNITIES & PROSPERITY
SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME
FOR THE 2017/18 MUNICIPAL
YEAR**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Members on issues for consideration when preparing a work programme for the Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2017/18.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members of the Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Agree on issues for inclusion on the Committee's Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2017/18 (as set out in **Appendix 1**) and as informed by the work of the Committee during 2016/17; and,
- 2.2 Agree a topic for consideration and further scrutiny at its meetings of the Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee to be held on 26th October 2017 and on the 25th January 2018.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 There is a requirement to devise and publish a Work Programme for each of the Council's Scrutiny Committee as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution (Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules). Each Committee is responsible for setting and agreeing its own Work Programme.

- 3.2 It is important that all Members have the opportunity to put forward items for consideration and it should be noted that the draft work programme is only provided as a basis for discussion.
- 3.3 In consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee together with appropriate Council Officers an initial list of work topics for 2017/18 has been compiled for Members' consideration (as set out at Appendix 1).

4. DEVISING A SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2017/18

- 4.1 To assist Members' thinking when agreeing their work programme, key sources of information that may be helpful are set out below:-

Service areas within the remit of the Committee

- 4.2 The Terms of Reference for the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Committee is the overview and scrutiny role in connection with scrutinising public service delivery across a range of Council services. The Committee considers areas which contribute to prosperity and also community safety issues. It is the Council's designated Crime and Disorder Committee (pursuant to Section 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006).

Overview and Scrutiny 2016/17 Annual Report

- 4.3 Through its work during 2016/17, the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee identified a number of areas for on-going attention in 2017/18, as set out in the Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report for 2016/17 (click [here](#) for the full Overview & Scrutiny 2016/17 Annual Report). These were:-

- Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO – Dog Controls);
- Recycling (to continue the Committee's monitoring role in overseeing the Council's recycling performance); and
- To continue to monitor the recommendations as set out in the Overview and Scrutiny 2016/17 Annual Report relating to this Committee;

Crime & Disorder Committee

- 4.4 Crime & Disorder Committee- Under Sections 19 & 20 of the Police & Justice Act 2006 there is a requirement to hold at least one meeting of the Crime & Disorder Committee at least once a year – in 2016/17 there was a request for the Committee to meet more frequently so as to monitor the joint services of the Cwm Taf Safety Partnership in greater detail.

4.5 Following consideration of the key headings, Members are asked to choose from one of the following topics identified as requiring further scrutiny which can be considered over the course of two meetings (scheduled for the 26th October 2017 and 25th January 2018):-

- Strategic Assessment of Crime & Disorder in Cwm Taf – To scrutinise the draft strategic assessment of crime and disorder for Cwm Taf that will inform the priorities and action plan for the community safety partnership;
- Anti Social Behaviour – to scrutinise the approach to tackling anti social behaviour in RCT;
- Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence – to scrutinise the draft local strategy required by Welsh Government; and,
- Substance Misuse – To receive and consider an update on the plans for an integrated substance misuse service in Cwm Taf.

Shortlisting Topics

4.4 Members involved in Scrutiny must be selective and ask particular questions to identify only the very best topics for more in-depth consideration. It will be important for Scrutiny Committees to show why it has been decided to conduct a review into a particular topic and Members will need to consider the arguments both for and against including a topic on the Work Programme before making a decision.

4.5 As a result of the above, there will no doubt be the need for Members to balance the desire to examine a large number of topics with the likelihood of securing greater impact through focussing on a small number of items in more detail.

4.6 In addition to the information noted at Appendix 1, other principles to take account of when considering topics include:

- Public Interest: the concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;
- Extent: priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the County Borough;
- Duplication: work programmes must take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort; and
- Balance: achieve a balance between pre-decision scrutiny, policy development and performance monitoring.

Pre-Scrutiny

- 4.9 On the 18th September 2017, opportunity will be provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and invited Chairs and Vice Chairs to consider the proposed list of matters requiring consideration by Cabinet over the 2017/18 Municipal Year to ascertain if there are any topics that can undergo pre-scrutiny by this Committee.
- 4.10 An update will be brought back to the Public Service Delivery, Communities & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee in September 2017 to inform Members which topics have been identified for pre scrutiny.

Flexible Work Programme

- 4.11 In having regard to the above sources of information together with the local knowledge and insight of Members, the Committee may also wish to consider building some flexibility into the Work Programme to be able to accommodate specific referrals, for example, from Cabinet, Audit Committee or the Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee.

5. VENUES

- 5.1 As part of the Council's proposals to improve its arrangements for public participation in its overview and scrutiny process, we are committed to identifying opportunities for receiving evidence outside the formal Council Headquarters, for example, in schools or other more informal settings.
- 5.2 However, Members will need to consider the practical requirements of taking a committee to an alternative location such as accessibility and/or available services and amenities. Therefore, suggestions can be agreed following a full assessment of the proposed venue.

6. KEY QUESTIONS FOR MEMBERS

- 6.1 Attached at Appendix 1 for consideration is the draft work programme for the Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee for 2017/18.
- 6.2 The Committee is asked to consider whether it is in agreement with the proposals and whether there are any issues Members would wish to see included.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

as amended by

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

**PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, COMMUNITIES & PROSPERITY SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

27 JULY 2017

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Item - Work programme

Freestanding Matter

PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, COMMUNITIES & PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

INFORMATION TO CONSIDER AS PART OF DRAFTING THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2017/18

Service Area/theme	Date and Venue of Meeting	Possible topic	Is scrutiny likely to impact in service improvements or other measurable benefits? Yes/No	Cabinet Member(s) to be invited Yes/No	Include as a shortlisted topic? Yes/No
Waste Services – Regular updates in respect of Recycling data/Fixed Penalty Notices & Street Cleansing	27 th July, 2017 To be held at the Council Headquarters, Clydach Vale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation in respect of Recycling in RCT Scrutiny Work Programme To receive the Cabinet Response to the Mobile Library Scrutiny Review 	Yes Yes Yes		
	Streetcare Services Highways	28 th September, 2017 Venue: to be agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taff Vale Precinct Update 	Yes	
Economic Development Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership Procurement	26 th October, 2017 Venue: to be agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee (To consider one of the following topics:- Crime & Disorder Anti Social Behaviour Substance Misuse Domestic Abuse 	Yes		
To undertake any reviews as considered appropriate by Members	30 th November , 2017 Venue: to be agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the impact of the Residents Parking scheme in Pontypridd Review the Annual KPI in respect of the number of local businesses submitting bids/tenders for Council contracts – 1 year on from the Scrutiny Review 	Yes Yes		
	12 th December 2017 Venue: to be agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital Programme 	Yes		

PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY, COMMUNITIES & PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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	25th January 2018 Venue: to be agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee to consider onw of the following topics:- • Crime & Disorder • Anti Social Behaviour • Substance Misuse • Domestic Abuse 	Yes		
	22nd February 2018 Venue: to be agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the Recycling Data for RCT (To include Fixed penalty Notices/Street Cleansing etc) • Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Controls)–Consider the outcomes following the implementation of the Public Spaces Protection Order 	Yes Yes		
	22nd March 2018 Venue: to be agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the impact of the new arrangements of the Planning & Development Committee • Taff Vale Precinct Update • Scrutiny Annual Report Preparations 	Yes Yes Yes		