

SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY**

'Holding the Executive & Council to account in respect of the four wellbeing objectives within the Council's Corporate Plan'

Each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees is responsible for setting and agreeing its own work programme by identifying a list of themes and topics which fall under the remit of each individual Scrutiny Committee. Following discussion with the Chair, Vice Chair and Scrutiny Members a practical, realistic and timetabled programme can then be developed.

The scrutiny forward work programmes should provide a clear rationale as to why particular issues have been selected; be outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Throughout the year, there are a number of ways in which additional issues can be considered for inclusion in the Scrutiny Work Programme and ideas for inclusion may come from a number of sources such as:-

- Individual Councillors;
- Performance or budget monitoring information;
- Inspection reports;
- Referrals from Council (such as Notices of Motion), Cabinet/Audit or other scrutiny committees;
- Service users;
- Monitoring the implementation of recommendations previously made by the Committee; and
- Local Residents

The Cabinet is also required to produce forward work programmes and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee keeps abreast of forthcoming items or topics which may enable scrutiny to be involved in the development of Council policy prior to its formal consideration by Cabinet. It is important to bear in mind that an element of flexibility is applied to each individual work programme that provides Committees with the capacity to scrutinise new / urgent issues that arise during the year.

Date/Time	Overarching Item	Officer	Scrutiny Focus
15 th July 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Overview & Scrutiny Work programme's 2024-25 2. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: review of remuneration for lay members of corporate joint committees 	<p>Service Director Democratic Services & Communications</p> <p>Service Director Democratic Services & Communications</p>	<p>For O&S to agree its own work programme and that of the thematic Scrutiny Committees for the 24-25 Municipal Year</p> <p>To consider a formal response to the consultation</p>
22 nd July 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Q4 performance report 2. Involvement Strategy Consultation 	<p>Service Director Democratic Services & Communications</p> <p>Service Director Democratic Services & Communications</p>	<p>To provide Overview and Scrutiny with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective</p>
18 th September 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pre-Scrutiny Residential Care Homes for Older People 2. Corporate Asset Management Plan 	<p>Service Director Democratic Services & Communications</p> <p>Director of Corporate Estates</p>	<p>To provide the opportunity for pre-Scrutiny on the Residential Care Homes for Older People</p>
30 th September 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bi-Annual Cabinet Member Engagement 2. Q1 Performance report 	<p>Service Director Democratic Services & Communications</p> <p>Service Director – Finance and Performance Services</p>	<p>To scrutinise any arising matters with the portfolio holder responsible for and to ensure that the appropriate mechanisms are in place to effectively scrutinise the Executive.</p> <p>To provide Overview and Scrutiny with an overview of the Council's performance, both from a financial and operational perspective</p>

<p>11th November 2024</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child Poverty 2. Pre –Scrutiny - Petitions Strategy 3. Coal Tips – Update 	<p>Director of Public Health, Protection and Community Services</p> <p>Service Director Democratic Services & Communications</p> <p>Director Highways, Streetcare and Transportation</p>	<p>To consider a report on Child Poverty following a notice of motion to Council</p> <p>To Provide comment on the Petitions Strategy ahead of Cabinet approval</p> <p>To receive an update on the Coal Tips throughout RCT area</p>
<p>9th December 2024</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council’s Budget Strategy 2025-26 (Phase 1) 2. Q2 Performance report 	<p>Deputy Chief Executive and Group Director Finance and Digital Services</p> <p>Service Director – Finance and Performance Services</p>	<p>To formally respond to the first phase of the Councils Budget setting process</p> <p>To provide Overview and Scrutiny with an overview of the Council’s performance, both from a financial and operational perspective</p>
<p>27th January 2025</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council’s Budget Strategy 2025-26 (Phase 2) 2. Corporate Safeguarding Annual Report 	<p>Deputy Chief Executive and Group Director Finance and Digital Services</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>To formally respond to the second phase of the Council’s Budget Setting process</p> <p>To receive the Annual report for comment</p>
<p>24th March 2025</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Equality Report 2023-24 2. Q3 Performance report 	<p>Director of Human Resources</p> <p>Service Director – Finance and Performance Services</p>	<p>To pre-scrutinise the Annual Equality report</p> <p>To provide Overview and Scrutiny with an overview of the Council’s performance, both from a financial and operational perspective</p>
<p>7th April 2025</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scrutiny Annual Report 2024-25 	<p>Service Director Democratic Services and Communications</p>	<p>To receive a draft of the Scrutiny Annual report in advance of Council endorsement</p>

	2. Bi-Annual Cabinet Member Engagement	Service Director Democratic Services and Communications	To scrutinise any arising matters with the portfolio holder responsible for and to ensure that the appropriate mechanisms are in place to effectively scrutinise the Executive.
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Items to consider for inclusion:

- Sickness and Absence Management
- Council Size Consultation
- Wales Audit Office National Reports
- Corporate Joint Committee
- Medium Term Financial Plan
- Digitalisation – Communicating with the Council
- Joint working with partners
- Business in the Community – Placemaking