

## **ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

### **25 MARCH 2024**

## **REFRESH OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

### **2024/25**

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#### **Summary**

1. The Panel is being asked to consider suggestions for its 2024/25 Work Programme prior to it being submitted to Council for approval.

#### **Background**

2. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny. The Panel routinely reviews its work programme at each meeting to consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.
3. In addition, on an annual basis, the rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny is approved by Council.

#### **Scrutiny Work Programme 2024/25**

4. The Scrutiny Work Programme for 2024/25 is now being refreshed. Panel Members and other stakeholders have been invited to suggest topics for future scrutiny.
5. The suggestions are detailed on the draft Work Programme (attached at Appendix 1).
6. Members are asked to consider the draft Work Programme and agree its priorities for 2024/25. Issues should be prioritised by using the scrutiny feasibility criteria agreed by OSPB.
7. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board will receive feedback on the Scrutiny Panels' and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee's discussions and agree the final Scrutiny Work Programme at its 25 April meeting. Council will be asked to agree the Work Programme at its meeting on 16 May.

#### **Feasibility Criteria**

8. The criteria (listed below) will help to determine the scrutiny programme. A topic does not need to meet all of these criteria to be scrutinised, but they are intended as a guide for prioritisation.
  - Is the issue a priority area for the Council?
  - Is it a key issue for local people?
  - Will it be practicable to implement the outcomes of the scrutiny?
  - Are improvements for local people likely?

- Does it examine a poor performing service?
- Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?
- Is it related to new Government guidance or legislation?

## Remit of the Panel

9. The Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel is responsible for scrutiny of:
- Economy
  - Workforce Skills
  - Strategic Infrastructure
  - Broadband and Communications

## Dates of Future 2024 Meetings

- 5 June at 10am
- 15 July at 10am
- 3 October at 10am
- 20 November at 10am

## Purpose of the Meeting

10. The Panel is asked to consider and prioritise the draft 2024/25 Work Programme and consider whether it would wish to make any amendments. The Panel will wish to retain the flexibility to take into account any urgent issues which may arise.

## Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2024/25

## Contact Points

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## Background Papers

In the opinion of the Proper Officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance), the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on Friday, 28th April, 2023, 2.00 pm - Worcestershire County Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

All Agendas and Minutes are available on the Council's website [weblink to Agendas and Minutes](#)