

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 26 MARCH 2024

REFRESH OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2024/25

Summary

1. The Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel is 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 current draft Work Programme is 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 below agreed by Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB).
7. The OSPB 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 Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

9. The Corporate and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel is responsible for scrutiny of:
- Commissioning, contracts and commerce and ensuring the corporate commissioning cycle works well
 - Transformation
 - Finance
 - Localism and Communities
 - Organisation and employees

Dates of Future Meetings

- 3 June 2024
- 23 July 2024
- 1 October 2024
- 25 November 2024

Purpose of the Meeting

10. The Panel is asked to consider the 2024/25 Work Programme and agree whether it would like 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 – Corporate and Communities 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 and Minutes for Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 28 April 2023](#)

[Agenda and Minutes for Council on 18 May 2023](#)

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