

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Scrutiny Report Template

Committee:	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
Date:	9 th March, 2020
Subject:	Corporate Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme
Purpose of Report:	Assist the Scrutiny Committee in considering, agreeing and reviewing its forward work programme for 2019/20 and beyond
Scrutiny Chair:	Cllr Aled Morris Jones
Portfolio Holder(s):	Not applicable
Head of Service:	Lynn Ball, Head of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer
Report Author:	Anwen Davies, Scrutiny Manager
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Local Members:	Applicable to all Scrutiny Members

1 - Recommendation/s

The Committee is requested to:

R1 agree the current version of the forward work programme for 2019/20

R2 note progress thus far in implementing the forward work programme.

2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

Effective work programming is the foundation of effective local government scrutiny. Our Scrutiny rolling forward work programmes are aligned with the corporate priorities of the 2017/2022 Council Plan and corporate transformation programmes – ensuring the role of Member scrutiny makes a tangible contribution to the Council's improvement priorities.

3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members

To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-

3.1 Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]

3.2 A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]

3.3 A look at any risks [focus on risk]

3.4 Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]

3.5 Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

[focus on wellbeing]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

5 – Background / Context

1. Background

1.1 Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective local government scrutiny function¹. Done well, work programming can help lay the foundations for targeted and timely work on issues of local importance demonstrating where Member scrutiny can add value. Good practice advocates two key issues at the heart of the scrutiny forward work programme:

- i. Challenge around prioritising work streams
- ii. Need for a member-led approach and interface with officers.

1.2 Basic principles of good work programming²

- Work programming should not be a “start-stop” process
- Complementary work programmes for separate scrutiny committees
- Balance between different methods of work
- An effective process for reporting / escalating issues to the Executive
- Input and views of internal stakeholders
- Close working with the Executive
- Links with the Annual Scrutiny Report (evaluation and improvement tool).

2. Local context

2.1 There is now a well-established practice of forward work programming which are now rolling programmes focusing on the quality of scrutiny with fewer items, to add value. They are an important tool to assist Members in prioritising their work and are discussed with the Senior Leadership Team and Heads of Service. Both committees review the content of their work programmes on a regular basis, to ensure that they remain relevant and keep abreast with local priorities. Our local forward planning arrangements now ensure greater focus on:

- Strategic aspects
- Citizen / other stakeholder engagement and outcomes
- Priorities of the 2017/2022 Council Plan and transformation projects
- Risks and the work of inspection and regulation
- Matters on the forward work programme of the Executive.

Outcome: rolling work programmes for scrutiny committees which are aligned with corporate priorities.

2.2 Committee chairs lead on developing the forward work programmes and are submitted to the monthly Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs Forum and for approval at each ordinary meeting of the scrutiny committees. The Forum is

¹ A Cuning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

² A Cuning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

considered an important vehicle to oversee these programmes and jointly negotiate priorities.

- 2.3 **“Whole council” approach to Scrutiny:** our work programmes provide a strong foundation for our improvement programme, ensuring the role that Scrutiny plays in the Authority’s governance arrangements:
- i. Supports robust and effective decision-making
 - ii. Makes a tangible contribution to the Council’s improvement priorities
 - iii. Continues to evolve

2.4 **2019/20 Municipal Year:** the Corporate Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2019/20 was confirmed by the Committee in June, 2019³.

3. Issues for consideration

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee receives regular update reports on the implementation of its forward work programme. A copy of the current 2019/20 work programme is attached as **APPENDIX 1** to this report for reference and includes changes made to the work programme since the Committee last considered the document (13th January, 2020).

3.2 Where appropriate, items may be added to the Committee’s forward work programme during the municipal year. Requests for additional matters to be considered for inclusion on the work programme can be submitted via the Members Request Form for an item to be considered for Scrutiny. Requests are initially considered by the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs Forum, using the following criteria:

- the Council’s strategic objectives and priorities (as outlined in the Council Plan 2017/2022)
- the ability of the Committee to have influence and/or add value on the subject (A Scrutiny Test of Significance Form will be completed).

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]

Not applicable for this overarching issue but will be considered as an integral part of preparing for specific proposals to be submitted for consideration by the Committee.

7 – Financial Implications

Not applicable.

8 – Appendices:

Corporate Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2019/20: Quarter 4.

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

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³ A meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee convened on 3rd June, 2019

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR SCRUTINY → JANUARY – APRIL, 2020
[Version dated 28/02/20]

CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	PARTNERSHIP & REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
January, 2020 (change date of meeting 23/10/19 → 13/01/20)	January, 2020 (21/01/20)
2020/21 initial budget proposals	Schools' Standards Report (Summer, 2019)
Consultation Plan for the 2020/21 budget	Schools' Progress Review Panel: Progress Report
Finance Scrutiny Panel: Progress Report	Transformation of Learning Disabilities Day Opportunities
	Waste Contract
January, 2020 (14/01/20)	
Schools' Modernisation Programme – Llangefni area	
February, 2020 (change date of meeting 03/02/20 → 27/02/20)	February, 2020 (04/02/20)
2020/21 final draft budget proposals	Strategic Equality Plan: 2020/24
Progress report of the Finance Scrutiny Panel	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
	North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
Library Service Annual Report: 2018/19 (item for information)	North Wales Safeguarding Board Annual Report: 2018/19
	Chwefror, 2020 (25/02/20)
	Medrwn Môn
	North Wales Regional Emergency Planning Service
	Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
March, 2020 (09/03/20)	March, 2020 (change date of meeting 10/03/19 → 11/03/20)
Qtr3 Performance Monitoring: 2019/20	Public Services Board – scrutiny of progress in implementing the Wellbeing Plan
Progress Monitoring: Social Services Development Plan	Leisure Strategy
Public Speaking Protocol – Scrutiny Committees	Public Speaking Protocol – Scrutiny Committees
April, 2020 (06/04/20)	April, 2020 (07/04/20)
	Additional Learning Needs Partnership – Gwynedd & Môn
	Schools' Progress Review Panel: progress report

Items to be Agenda'd:

Schools' Modernisation Programme – Amlwch / Llangefni / Seiriol

Welsh Stanards Annual Report / Use of Welsh Language in Internal Administration of the Council (scheduled for 16/06/20)

Care Connect Charging Policy: Council House Tenants (Galw Gofal)

GwE Annual Report: 2018/19

Review of Scrutiny Panels

Collaboration with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (scheduled for 16/06/20)