Isle of Anglesey County Council
Scrutiny Report

Committee:	**Corporate Scrutiny Committee**
Date:	**18th March, 2026**
Subject:	**Corporate Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme**
Scrutiny Chair:	**Councillor Jeff Evans**

1.   Who will be the portfolio holder presenting / leading the report?

Portfolio Holder	Role
Not applicable	
Service Officer (Supporting)	**Role**
Angharad Hughes	Scrutiny Manager

2.   Why the Scrutiny Committee is being asked to consider the matter

Assist the Scrutiny Committee in considering, agreeing and reviewing its forward work programme for 2026/27.

3.   Role of the Scrutiny Committee and recommendations

☒ For assurance
☐ For recommendation to the Executive
☐ For information

Recommendation(s):
The Committee is requested to:
R1 agree the current version of the forward work programme for 2026/27.

4.   How does the recommendation(s) contribute to the objectives of the Council's Plan?

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 Council and corporate transformation programmes – ensuring the role of Member scrutiny makes a tangible contribution to the Council's improvement priorities.

5.   Key scrutiny themes

Not applicable

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg
This document is available in Welsh

6.   Key points / summary

1. **Background**
   1.1 Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective local government scrutiny function[1]. 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 programming[2]**
      - 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 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 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 considered an important vehicle to oversee these programmes and jointly negotiate priorities.

[1] A Cunning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)
[2] A Cunning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

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.

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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 2026/27 work programme is attached as **APPENDIX 1** to this report for reference.

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)

- the ability of the Committee to have influence and/or add value on the subject (A Scrutiny Test of Significance Form will be completed).

7. Impact assessments

7.1. Potential impacts on groups protected under the Equality Act 2010

Not applicable

7.2. Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage (strategic decisions)

Not applicable

7.3. Potential effects on opportunities to use Welsh and not treat the language less favourably than English

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.

7.4. Potential impact on the Council's Net Zero Carbon target

Not applicable

8.   Financial implications

Not applicable

9.   Appendices

Corporate Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2026/27

10.   Report author and background papers

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ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR SCRUTINY → MAY, 2026 – APRIL, 2027
[Version dated 09/03/26]

Note for Stakeholders and the Public:
A **Protocol for Public Speaking at Scrutiny Committees** has been published by the Council.
Should you wish to speak on any specific item at a Scrutiny Committee then you should register your interest by submitting a written request using the form available as soon as possible and at least 3 clear working days prior to the specific Committee meeting. You can access information about the meeting and which items being discussed by reading this Forward Work Programme. Contact the Scrutiny Team if you have any queries
[sgriwtiniscrutiny@ynysmon.llyw.cymru]

CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
May, 2026 (19/05/2026)	**May, 2026 (19/05/2026)**
Election of Chair: 2026/27	Election of Chair: 2026/27
Election of Vice-chair: 2026/27	Election of Vice-chair: 2026/27
June, 2026 (10/06/2026) – Q4	**June, 2026 (09/06/2026) – Education / Welsh Language**
Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Qtr4: 2025/26	Welsh Language: • Annual Report on the Welsh Standards: 2025/26 • Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032: Measure Progress→2025/26
Annual Delivery Plan: 2026/27	
	Item for Information: Ambition North Wales Qtr 4: 2025/26 Progress Report
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27
No meeting scheduled	**July, 2026 (14/07/2026)**
	Tackling Poverty Strategic Plan
	Natural Resources Wales
	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27
September, 2026 (16/09/2026) – Q1	**September, 2026 (15/09/2026)**

CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Q1: 2026/27	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27
October, 2026 (14/10/2026)	**October, 2026 (13/10/2026)**
Annual Report North Wales Regional Partnership Board (Part 9): 2025/26	Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Community Safety Partnership Annual Report: 2025/26
Regional Emergency Planning Service Annual Report: 2025/26	North Wales Fire and Rescue
Social Services Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	
	Item for Information: Ambition North Wales: • Annual Report: 2025/26 Qtr 1: 2026/27 Progress Report
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27
November, 2026 (11/11/2026) - Q2	**November, 2026 (10/11/2026) -Education**
Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q2: 2026/27	Gypsy and Traveler Accommodation Action Plan
Self-Assessment, Performance and Wellbeing Report 2025/26	School improvement guidance: framework for evaluation, improvement and accountability
Corporate Safeguarding	Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27
January, 2027 (19/01/2027) – 2027/28 (morning)	**January, 2027 (20/01/2027)**
2027/28 Budget Setting (Revenue Budget) – initial budget proposals	Gwynedd and Ynys Môn Public Services Board: • Annual Report 2025/26 • Governance arrangements / scrutiny of delivery of the Wellbeing Plan
Resources Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	
Towards Zero Net Strategic Plan 2026-2031- measure progress	

CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
	Item for Information: Ambition North Wales Qtr 2: 2026/27 Progress Report
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27
February, 2027 (17/02/2027) – 2027/28 Budget	**February, 2027 (16/02/2027) - Education**
Final Draft Budget Proposals for 2027/28 – revenue & capital	ALN & Inclusion Service - Progress Report
Resources Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	
Smallholdings Management Strategic Plan 2026-2031 -progress report	
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27
March, 2027 (10/03/2027) - Q3	**March, 2027 (09/03/2027)**
Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q3: 2026/27	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai
Housing Assistance Grant Strategy 2027-2031	Ynys Môn Free Port – measure progress
Annual Report on Equalities: 2025/26	
	Item for Information - Ambition North Wales Qtr 3: 2026/27 Progress Report
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2026/27
April, 2027-No meeting scheduled	**April, 2027 -No meeting scheduled**