

CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 15 July 2024

Title: Draft Forward Work Programme 2024/25

Purpose of the report: Review the current work programme of the Committee

Reason Scrutiny have requested the information:

The forward work programme of the Committee is reviewed and updated at each meeting

Background

Overview and Scrutiny Committees oversee the work of the Council to make sure that it delivers services in the best way and for the benefit of the local community.

The role of Overview and Scrutiny is to look at the services and issues that affect people in Ceredigion. The process provides the opportunity for Councillors to examine the various functions of the council, to ask questions on how decisions have been made, to consider whether service improvements can be put in place and to make recommendations to this effect.

Scrutiny plays an essential role in promoting accountability, efficiency and effectiveness in the Council's decision making process and the way in which it delivers services.

The main roles of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

- Holding the cabinet and officers as decision-makers to account
- Being a 'critical friend', through questioning how decisions have been made to provide a 'check and balance' to decision makers, adding legitimacy to the decision making process
- Undertaking reviews of council services and policy
- Undertaking reviews to develop council services and policies
- Considering any other matter that affects the county
- Ensuring that Ceredigion is performing to the best of its ability and delivering high quality services to its citizens
- Assessing the impact of the Council's policies on local communities and recommending improvement
- Engaging with the public to develop citizen centred policies and services

Effective Overview and Scrutiny can lead to:

- Better decision making

- Improved Service Delivery and Performance
- Robust Policy Development arising from public consultation and input of independent expertise
- Enhanced Democracy, Inclusiveness, Community Leadership and Engagement
- Adds a clear dimension of transparency and accountability to the political workings of the Council
- Provides an opportunity for all Members to develop specialist skills and knowledge that can benefit future policy making and performance monitoring processes
- Creates a culture of evidence based self-challenge

Current Situation

Questions to consider when choosing topics

- Is there a clear objective for examining this topic?
- Are you likely to achieve a desired outcome?
- What are the likely benefits to the Council and the citizens of Ceredigion?
- Is the issue significant?
- Are there links to the Corporate Strategy
- Is it a key issue to the public?
- Have the issues been raised by external audit?
- Is it a poor performing service?

Choosing topics

Overview and Scrutiny Committees should consider information from the Corporate Strategy, the Corporate Risk Register, budget savings – proposals and impact, Quarterly Corporate Performance Management panel meetings and departmental input in choosing topics and designing their Forward Work Programmes, as well as any continuing work.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why.

No

Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:

Long term: N/A
Collaboration: N/A
Involvement: N/A
Prevention: N/A
Integration: N/A

Recommendation(s):

To review and update the current Forward Work Programme.

Contact Name: Dwynwen Jones

Designation: Overview and Scrutiny Support Officer

Date of Report: 3 July 2024

Acronyms:

FWP – Forward Work Programme

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
Healthier Communities			
15 July 2024	<p>Age-friendly Communities – assessment</p> <p>Oversight of in year financial matters as agreed at the Budget meetings. (Possibly moved on to September)</p> <p>Supported Lodgings Policy</p> <p>Special Guardianship Orders Policy</p> <p>Air Quality report</p>	<p>Greg Jones</p> <p>Duncan Hall</p> <p>Emily Booth/Audrey Somerton-Edwards</p> <p>Heddwyn Evans</p>	<p>Information</p> <p>Pre-Cabinet</p> <p>Pre-Cabinet</p> <p>Pre-Cabinet</p>
2 nd September 2024 Special Meeting	<p>Independent Reviewing Service Performance Management Report report quarter 3 – 1.10.23 to 3.12.23</p> <p>Cartref Tregerddan to include all Residential Homes in the County</p> <p>Direct Payment Policy</p> <p>Update on the development of the in-house 24-hour care provision at Felinfach, Aberaeron and Cardigan? – detailing potential cost savings and benefits.</p> <p>Update report on the 15 pledge points – Home Care</p>	<p>Elizabeth Upcott</p> <p>Donna Pritchard</p> <p>Heather West</p> <p>Donna Pritchard</p> <p>Donna Pritchard/Heather West</p>	<p>Pre-Cabinet</p>

17 September 2024	Wellbeing Centre 2 paper Carers Annual Report CIW Inspection Action Plan update	Nicola James Iwan Davies Audrey Somerton-Edwards	
6 November 2024			
22 January 2025	Common Allocations Policy – Housing Register	Cerys Purches-Phillips	Pre-Cabinet
6 February 2025			
5 March 2025			
Future agenda items			