

Suggested topics for the 2019/20 work programme

Suggested topic	Information	Timescales
Climate change	<p>A key topic suggested by a number of scrutiny and executive members. An examination of how the declaration of a 'climate emergency' has impacted the organisation's work, and how it plans to tackle the emergency and support its ambition for 'clean growth'. Particular areas of focus suggested by members include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An 'audit' of current and planned strategies (Energy, Blue/Green Infrastructure, planning) and programmes (cycling, walking, air quality, business engagement) related to tackling climate change and their environmental impact • A possible strategic, coordination role to determine if current strategies/interventions amongst the combined authority, stakeholders and partner authorities are aligning 	Throughout the year
Local industrial strategy	The local industrial strategy will be a key piece of work this year for the combined authority and LEP. It constitutes a key decision and scrutiny has inputted heavily to the Strategic Economic Plan in the past.	Sept & Nov 2019
Business grants – application criteria	Revisit the recommendations made by the committee to the LEP regarding application criteria for business grants scheme. The criteria are currently under review by the LEP and its panels and are due to report back in Autumn/Winter 2019.	Sept / Nov 2019
Business grants – evaluation of outcomes	The committee was informed in March 2019 that many business grants schemes are due to end in 2019/20 and independent evaluations have been arranged for– in order to fulfil a recommendation made by scrutiny in September 2018.	Throughout the year
Budget, finances and business planning	Scrutiny considers the budget every year. Other finance related work such as the gateway review, spending review, medium term financial strategy, capital strategy and Growing Places Fund is also expected this year.	Sept 2019
Enterprise Zones	Key programme developing enterprise zones in the region which the Combined Authority / LEP retain the business rates from as a key piece of revenue funding.	To be confirmed
Devolution	Key meetings are expected this year between Yorkshire leaders as a whole and ministers to discuss devolution options after the government rejected the One Yorkshire option. Other meetings between the West Yorks Combined Authority leadership and ministers to discuss interim funding arrangements are also planned.	To be confirmed

LEP merger/review	Update on progress of the talks and an analysis of implications on governance, assurance, funding and strategy/delivery in any scenario.	To be confirmed
Preparations for Brexit	An overview of the authority's plans to navigate the country's exit from the European Union – currently expected in October 2019.	Sept 2019
Channel 4 opportunities and inward investment	Examining what work is being done to seize the opportunities presented in skills and inward investment presented by the successful bid to bring the new C4 HQ to Leeds.	To be confirmed
Apprenticeships and Skills Commission	Last year members considered separate items on apprenticeships, requesting further information on how apprenticeship activity has impacted the regional picture, how the apprenticeship grants programme is performing, how internal approach to apprenticeships is developing and the findings of the Skills Commission.	To be confirmed
Transport connectivity	Members suggested looking more at transport connectivity across the district – ensuring that communities are effectively connected via transport links to job opportunities. A consultation on a Connectivity Plan is ongoing and Inclusive Growth Corridors and a bid for the connectivity focused Transforming Cities Fund are in development. A Bus Alliance and Rail Forum have also been established to bring together the Transport Committee, transport operators and other stakeholders to improve connectivity within the context of current deregulation legislation.	To be confirmed
Digital inclusion / exclusion	The transport working group made various conclusions in regards to caution around striving for a 'digital by default' approach that might leave some communities and demographics digitally excluded.	To be confirmed
Procurement Strategy	At the January 2018, members requested to be kept updated on work being undertaken to revise procurement policies is a good opportunity to support apprenticeships, environmental outcomes and inclusive growth through a more selective approach in procurement.	To be confirmed
Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), corporate plan and performance	Scrutiny has considered the Corporate Plan annually and, at the May 2019 meeting, members expressed an interest in focusing on KPIs that are RAG-rated as Red and areas where the authority is struggling to meet targets in particular.	March 2020 May 2020
Assurance Framework	This is refreshed every year.	To be confirmed

Flood Review	A suggestion was made to revisit progress on flood review recommendations in the future following the scrutiny meeting in Nov 2018.	To be confirmed
Consultations	<p>Following consultations are expected to possibly start this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Bradford junctions improvement scheme phase 2a (Bradford) – July 2019 • Southern Gateways /Cross Church St scheme (Kirklees) – July 2019 • Elland rail station and wider access scheme (Calderdale) - Oct 2019 • Leeds-Bradford Airport Link Road phase 1b (Leeds) – Nov 2019 • New Pudsey rail station extension – Nov 2019 • A62/A644 Wakefield Link Road phase 2 (Kirklees) – Dec 2019 • White Rose rail station (Leeds) – Jan 2020 	Throughout the year
Pre-decision scrutiny on projects due for approval	<p>The Combined Authority has committed to keeping scrutiny members informed of developments on projects as they pass through the assurance process so that scrutiny members can conduct any pre decision scrutiny.</p> <p>This year, decisions are expected on the following projects in the following months:</p> <p>August 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strategic case for the Kirklees cycling and walking station access project (Activity 2 in the assurance process) <p>September 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeds City Region Enterprise Zones: Clifton site, Calderdale (Activity 3 – OBC) • A65-Leeds Bradford International Airport Link Road (Activity 3 – OBC) • New station site at White Rose, Leeds (Activity 3 – OBC) <p>October 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ultra-low emissions bus project (Activity 2 – strategic case) • South Featherstone Link Road, Wakefield (Activity 2 – strategic case) • Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme schemes (A65 signals, Alwoodley gates park and ride, A58 bus priority, Temple Green park and ride phase 3) • Castleford growth corridor scheme 	Throughout the year

	<p>November 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• full business case + finalised costs for the York central station frontage scheme (Activity 5)• outline business case (Activity 3) for Wakefield city centre package – phase 2 Ings Road <p>December 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic Case (Activity 2) for ERDF connecting innovation scheme• outline business case (Activity 3) for Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme schemes (Corn Exchange gateway and A660 corridor)• Bradford –Shipley transport corridor project• Bradford Interchange Phase 1	
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