



Report to:	Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	17 November 2023
Subject:	Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/24
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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To note the current Work Programme.
- 1.2 To consider any additional agenda items, formal referrals to scrutiny, reviews, call in, and any other tasks, issues or matters the Committee resolves to undertake or consider further.

2. Information

Work Programme 2023/24

- 2.1 The Work Programme is set at the beginning of the year and considered at each meeting where it can be amended and changed as the year progresses. It outlines the work the Committee has agreed to undertake, investigate, and focus on in the municipal year (June 2023 – June 2024) within the resources, remit, and powers available.
- 2.2 The Work Programme was decided over the summer following an initial work planning meeting between Members in July, and subsequent discussions between the Scrutiny Chairs, Scrutiny Members, scrutiny officers and the lead directors and officers for each committee. During discussions, amongst other things, they considered:
 - The Committee's remit and terms of reference
 - Combined Authority's main strategic priorities and the Mayors Pledges
 - The committee's work last year and what should be rolled over
 - Major ongoing and upcoming challenges for West Yorkshire residents
 - Members' areas of expertise and interests
 - The number of meetings: three, excluding Mayors Question Time, each being two hours long
- 2.3 The joint work programme (as of the date of publication), including the other two scrutiny committees, is attached as **Appendix 1**.

Referrals to scrutiny

- 2.4 Under Scrutiny Standing Order 7, any CA Scrutiny Member, any Combined Authority Member, or any elected Member of a West Yorkshire council (or the City of York Council) may formally refer a matter to a scrutiny committee for consideration. The referral must be in writing to the Statutory Scrutiny Officer. The relevant scrutiny committee must then consider and discuss the referral and respond to the referrer explaining whether or not it will consider the matter further and why.
- 2.5 There are no formal referrals for this committee to consider at this meeting.

Key decisions and call in

- 2.6 Scrutiny members may call in any decision of the Mayor, Combined Authority, a decision-making committee, and any key decisions taken by an officer (with the exception of urgent decisions). Key decisions are defined as any decision incurring a financial cost or saving of £1 million or more, or a decision likely to have a significant effect on two or more wards.
- 2.7 Decision-makers (both committees and officers) have two days to publish notice of a decision, at which point scrutiny members have five working days to decide whether to call in the decision, delaying its implementation, and formally requiring the decision maker to reconsider. The call-in process is outlined Section 14 of the Scrutiny Standing Orders.
- 2.8 Any five members of a scrutiny Committee – including at least one member from two different constituent councils (West Yorkshire) – may call-in a decision by notifying the Statutory Scrutiny Officer in writing by 4.00 pm on the fifth working day following publication of a decision notice. The relevant scrutiny chair must then decide whether to approve the call-in and delay the implementation of the decision, after which the committee has 14 days to meet, scrutinise the decision and make any recommendations. Further information is set out in Scrutiny Standing Order 14.
- 2.9 The latest key decisions and forward plans of key decisions are published and available for viewing on the [key decisions section of the Combined Authority's website](#).

Changes in membership

- 2.10 Since the last meeting, the following changes to memberships have occurred:
- Cllr Richard Hunt (Wakefield, Independent) has stepped down.
 - Cllr John Ford (Calderdale, Conservative) has stepped down.
 - Cllr Manisha Kaushik (Kirklees, Labour) has been appointed.
 - Cllr Peter Caffrey (Calderdale, Conservative) has been appointed.
 - There remains one vacancy (Wakefield, Conservative) which is in the process of being filled.

Actions for the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

- 2.11 As outlined in Scrutiny Standing Order 17, the statutory scrutiny officer provides support to a scrutiny committee's work programme and all scrutiny members in exercising their scrutiny duties and fulfilling their objectives.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1 There are no climate emergency implications directly arising from this report.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1 There are no inclusive growth implications directly arising from this report.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

- 8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

- 9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1 That the Committee notes or amends the Work Programme

11. Background Documents

[Scrutiny Standing Orders](#)

[Key Decisions Forward Plan \(as of this month\)](#)

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Joint Scrutiny Work Programme (as of the date of publication)