

# Report to Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date 26 February 2024  
 Key Decision No  
 Public/Private Public

Portfolio Cross cutting  
 Directorate Cross cutting  
 Lead Officer Rose Blaney, Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny)

**Title Committee Update Report and Work Programme**

**Summary:**

To provide Members of Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an overview of matters related to the committee’s work. The report also sets out a draft work programme for the committee.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Scrutiny Committee:

- (1) Note progress on resolutions from previous meetings.
- (2) Note and agree any changes to the work programme for 2023/24.
- (3) Review information presented within the report in relation to the development of the Committee’s work programme and comment on the work programme, in particular on items for the next Committee meeting.

Tracking

Executive:	n/a
Scrutiny:	Joint OSC 26 February 2024
Council:	n/a

**1. Background**

1.1 The Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) between Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council sets out that the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee will seek at their meetings to:

3.1.1 develop a forward work programme of activities;

3.1.2 review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken by the Joint Executive Committee;

3.1.3 seek reassurance and consider whether the Functions and Services are operating in accordance with the Service Strategies, including the budgets and any implementation plans for disaggregation and continuing service provision;

3.1.4 identification of barriers to progress, best practice and possible improvements; and

3.1.5 holding the Joint Executive Committee to account by providing critical challenge to ensure that it provides the high-level strategic direction for the implementation of the Service Strategies.

1.2 The minutes of the last meeting are considered as a separate agenda item and the Chair will seek declarations of interest at the start of each scrutiny meeting. This Scrutiny Committee Update Report will provide detail on references to the committee, responses of the Joint Executive and any Councillors Call for Action.

## **2. References to Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

2.1 None.

## **3. Councillors Call for Action**

3.1 None.

## **4. Responses of Joint Executive Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

4.1 None.

## **5. Progress on resolutions from previous meetings**

5.1 The following table sets out the meeting date and resolution that requires following up. The status is presented as either “completed”, “pending” (date expected), or “outstanding”. An item is considered outstanding if no update or progress has been made after three panel meetings. All the completed actions will be removed from the list following the meeting.

	<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	30/10/23	Work Programme	Clarification as to removed item from the Work Programme - “Review of identified risks/ Learning and improvements”	Completed

	<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Status</b>
2	14/12/23	Work programme	Standing item to be added to the Work Programme regarding a Programme of Proposed Disaggregation to allow the Committee the opportunity to query whether timescales are being met and what possible disaggregation may be taking place.	Completed
3	14/12/23	Officer Attendance	The requested Senior Manager(s) with the overview of all hosted services be present at future meetings to help answer the Committee's queries.	Pending <i>(In discussion with the appropriate Director)</i>
4	14/12/23	Request for Further Information	Clarification sought as to who would be responsible for scrutiny for the future of the LEP – Joint Scrutiny, a collaboration between the appropriate Cumberland and Westmorland & Furness Scrutiny Committees or a combination of the two approaches.	Completed
5	14/12/23	Work programme	The requested report regarding Integration of LEP activities to Local Authorities be added to the Work Programme.	Completed
6	14/12/23	Request for Further Information	Clarification sought as to the meaning of "resilience accountability" regarding the Stronger Local Resilience Forum Pilot Programme.	Pending
7	14/12/23	Work programme	The requested report regarding the Stronger Local Resilience Forum Pilot Programme be added to the Work Programme.	Completed
8	14/12/23	Work programme	The requested additional information regarding Waste Contracts be added to the Waste Agenda Item for February.	Completed
9	14/12/23	Additional Information	The requested metrics around Adults Services be provided by the next scheduled meeting.	Completed
10	14/12/23	Additional Information	The requested additional information regarding whether the £56k for enhancements/allowance was an	Completed

	<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Status</b>
			additional figure or included within the total costs for staff for Adults Services.	

## **6. Work planning**

- 6.1 A robust work programme is important for scrutiny. Work planning activity will take place across the year to ensure that the work programme remains up to date. A copy of the current work programme is provided at Appendix A.
- 6.2 The work programme should be a living document and be reviewed regularly. Activity will take place across the year to ensure that the work programme remains up to date.

## **8.0 Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

- 8.1 This report provides Members of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an overview of matters related to the committee's remit. The report also sets out a draft work programme. Members are asked to consider the recommendations to ensure that scrutiny activity remains effective and focussed on the priorities from the IAA.

### **Implications:**

**Contribution to the Cumberland Council & Westmorland and Furness Council's Priorities** - Effective scrutiny plays an important part in the delivery of the priorities of both Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.

**Relevant Risks** - None directly associated with this report.

**Consultation / Engagement** – n/a

**Legal** – None directly associated with this report.

**Finance** – None directly associated with this report.

**Information Governance** – None directly associated with this report.

**Impact Assessments** – Not required. Report for information only.

### **Contact details:**

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**Appendices attached to report:**

- Appendix A - Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme 2023/24

**Background papers:**

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:

- None