



# Report to Business and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date 16 April 2024  
Key Decision No  
Public/Private Public

Portfolio Cross cutting  
Directorate Cross cutting  
Lead Officer Ian Hinde, Policy and Scrutiny Officer

**Title** **Committee Update Report and Work Programme**

## Summary:

To provide Members of the Business and Resources 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 items on the most recent Forward Plan of Key Decisions.
- (2) Note progress on resolutions from previous meetings.
- (3) Note and agree any changes to the work programme for 2023/24.
- (4) 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:	Business and Resources OSC 16 April 2024
Council:	n/a

## 1. Background

1.1 The Cumberland Constitution (Part 3, Section 5 Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules) sets out that Overview and Scrutiny Committees will consider the following items at their meetings:

### 16 PROCEDURE AT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

16.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall consider the following business:

16.1.1 minutes of the last meeting;

16.1.2 declarations of interest (including whipping declarations);

16.1.3 consideration of any matter referred to the Committee for a decision in relation to call in of a decision;

16.1.4 responses of the Executive to reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;

16.1.5 Councillor's Call for Action; and

16.1.6 the business otherwise set out on the agenda for the meeting.

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 Executive and any Councillors Call for Action.

## 2. References to Business and Resources Scrutiny Committee

2.1 None.

## 3. Councillors Call for Action

3.1 None.

## 4. Responses of Executive to Business and Resources 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	28/11/23	Work programme	The Scrutiny Officer seek clarification on the length of the lease extension.	Pending

## 5.2 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2023-24

5.2.1 Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs have been working with Policy and Scrutiny Officers to develop the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report that is required to go to full Council each year.

5.2.2 Each Chair has provided comments on the work of their committee over the past year. The report also provides an introductory section on the purpose of overview and scrutiny, an update on overview and scrutiny activity in 2023-24, scrutiny development work and a forward look to Overview and Scrutiny priorities for 2024-25. The priorities for 2024-25 were highlighted as being: strong work planning, continued development of scrutiny skills and good practice and building the role of scrutiny in policy development.

5.2.3 Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs agreed the report at their informal Scrutiny Chairs meeting on 22 March. The report will go to Council on 30<sup>th</sup> April.

## 6. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

6.1 The most recent Forward Plan of Key Decisions is published on the Cumberland Council website, covering the period 1 January 2024 to 30 April 2024:

[Forward Plan 1 May 2024 to 31 August 2024](#) The following decisions fall within the remit of Business and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Issue	Decision due	Details
None		
<b>Decisions to be taken by individual Executive Members</b>		
None		

## 7. Work planning

7.1 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.

7.2 Scrutiny Members are asked to consider this work programme, in the context of the key decisions that are currently on the Forward Plan and any references to scrutiny and comment on this.

7.3 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 Business and Resources 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 Cumberland Council's strategic priorities.

### **Implications:**

**Contribution to the Cumberland Plan Priorities** - Effective scrutiny plays an important part in the delivery of the Council Plan priorities.

**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 - Business and Resources 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