

Report to Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date 15 April 2025
Key Decision No
Public/Private Public

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

Title Joint Overview and Scrutiny 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 2024/25.
- (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 15 April 2025
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.

Meeting date	Item	Resolution	Status
21.10.24 02.12.24	Hosted Waste Disposal Contract and Service and Waste IAA Update	That details of the tonnage of waste disposed of be provided. Addition – with bench marking with other authorities within the UK, combined recycling rates, whether incineration or leading to landfill, to help provide context	Pending – Waste is on the Work Programme for April 2025
21.10.24	Programme for Proposed Disaggregation	That details of the shared arrangements in respect of waste be circulated to members.	Pending
02.12.24	Minutes of Previous Meeting	That confirmation be provided on whether the Cyber Security Training had been delivered.	Complete
02.12.24	Minutes of Previous Meeting	That information as to why a question on the disaggregation of mines and quarries was not included within the minutes from 21.10.24	Pending – Answer to be provide at the meeting
02.12.24	Programme for Proposed Disaggregation	That an update on the disaggregation of the HR Occupational Team be provided.	Pending – the item was added to the Work Programme date TBC
02.12.24	Programme for Proposed Disaggregation	That a review of the hosted services following the publication of the Devolution White Paper be conducted when possible.	Pending – the item was added to the Work Programme but the date is yet to be set
02.12.24	Joint Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme	That an update on Connecting Cumbria and the roll out of Full Fibre be provided.	Pending – the item was added to the Work Programme for April 2025
10.02.25	Enterprising Cumbria -	A workshop be organised for the Committee to provide their comments on the final Enterprising Cumbria	Complete – 13.02.25

	Meeting date	Item	Resolution	Status
		Economic Growth Update	Economic Strategy before it is presented to the Joint Executive Committee for agreement	
	10.02.25	Joint Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme	The Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) highlight the suggestion for an additional cyber security training session to the appropriate Director and Assistant Director.	Complete – officer to confirm dates

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:

Contact Officer: Rose Blaney, Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny)
rose.blaney@cumberland.gov.uk

Appendices attached to report:

- Appendix A - Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme 2024/25

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