

Cumberland Shadow Authority Scrutiny Committee

01 February 2023

Scrutiny Overview and Work Programme

Report from: Scrutiny Officers

Report Author: Joel Rasbash and Rowan Jones

1.0 Purpose/Summary of report

1.1 To provide Members of the Shadow Scrutiny with an overview of matters related to the committee's work. It also includes the current version of the scrutiny work programme.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that scrutiny:

- (1) Note items on the most recent Forward Plan of Key Decisions**
- (2) Note the update on Scrutiny Arrangements for Cumberland Council**
- (3) Note the current work programme, work planning activity and comment on the programme, in particular on items for the next Committee meeting.**

3.0 Background

3.1 The Cumberland Shadow Constitution (Part 4, D Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules) sets out that Overview and Scrutiny will consider the following items at their meetings:

14 Procedure at Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meetings.

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

- (a) record of the last meeting;*
- (b) consideration of any matter referred to the Committee by the Shadow Authority or by the Shadow Executive;*
- (c) consideration of any matter referred to the Committee for advice in relation to call-in or a decision;*
- (d) responses of the Shadow Executive on reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and*
- (e) the business otherwise set out on the agenda for the meeting.*

3.2 The minutes of the last meeting are considered as a separate agenda item, at the start of each scrutiny meeting. This Scrutiny Overview Report will cover the remaining items of business that are required.

4.0 References and Responses to Scrutiny

4.1 References from the Shadow Authority or Shadow Executive:

None

4.2 Matters Referred to Scrutiny for Advice in Relation to Call-in or a Decision:

None

4.3 Responses of Shadow Executive on Overview and Scrutiny Reports

None

5.0 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	Action	Status
1	02/11/22	Future Scrutiny Arrangements: T&F Group	that the report and recommendations be considered initially by the Informal Executive with feedback made available to this Committee, Constitution Working Group, Shadow Council in December and Shadow Authority in January for formalisation.	Complete
2	02/11/22	Scrutiny Overview and Workplan	2) briefings on major projects of sovereign councils and local government re-organisation impacts on staff be made available to members.	Pending
3	21/12/22	Finance update	b) The Section 151 Officer provide the Committee with the agreed additional information via the agreed upon briefing note.	Complete
4	21/12/22	LGR Programme Update Report	b) The Scrutiny Officers contact the relevant officer to circulate the grant list as requested.	Pending
5	21/12/22	LGR Programme Update Report	c) The cyber security report be brought to Scrutiny in February	Complete
6	21/12/22	Scrutiny Overview and Work Programme	d) An example of the draft calendar of meetings for 2023/24 be added onto the agenda for the next meeting.	Pending Draft was not available at time of publishing document pack

6.0 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 February 2023 to 31 May 2023.

Issue	Decision due	Details
Draft Budget 2023/24 and Medium Term Financial Forecast	Shadow Executive 16/02/23	Executive to consider the latest proposals for a balanced budget proposal in February 2023, for consultation.
Planning for Service Transition	Shadow Executive 16/02/23, 27/03/23	Executive to receive update reports on LGR programme in planning for service transition and be asked to make decisions, at key points as required.
Section 24 Direction and General Consent – The Wave, Maryport and Integrated Sexual Health Services	Shadow Executive 16/02/23	Executive to consider specific consents under Section 24 direction and general consent, in relation to The Wave, Maryport and Integrated Sexual Health Services
Section 24 Direction and General Consent – Award of Contract Carlisle Southern Link Road and Carlisle Station Gateway Project	Shadow Executive 27/03/23	Executive to consider a specific consent under Section 24 direction and general consent for the award of contract for Carlisle Southern Link Road, and Carlisle Station Gateway Project

7.0 Work planning

7.1 A robust workplan is important for scrutiny. Work planning activity will take place across the year to ensure that the workplan remains up to date. A copy of the current draft workplan is provided at 7.3.

7.2 Scrutiny Members are asked to consider this workplan, 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 Cumberland Shadow Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2022/23

Meeting Date	Item	Lead Officer
25/05/2022	Induction Session for Scrutiny Members – Introduction to Scrutiny at the Shadow Authority	Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS)
20/06/2022	Scrutiny Terms of Reference and Induction Update	Scrutiny Officer/ Interim Monitoring Officer
	Local Government Re-organisation Programme Status Report	Programme Director
	Scrutiny Overview and Work Plan Report	Scrutiny Officer
22/06/2022	Induction Session for Scrutiny Members – Work Programming	CfGS
10/08/2022	Draft Cumberland Council Plan	Interim Head of Paid Service
	Local Government Re-organisation Programme Status Report	Programme Director
	Scrutiny Overview and Work Plan Report	Scrutiny Officer
26/08/22	Draft Cumberland Plan – virtual workshop - plan development	
23/09/2022	Cumberland Plan – feedback from Scrutiny workshop and consultation findings. Include update on the Cumberland Headquarter Arrangements work (report on Forward Plan)	Interim Head of Paid Service
	Local Government Re-organisation Programme Status Report Including risk register (if possible – Panel requested)	Programme Director
	Scrutiny Overview and Work Plan Report	Scrutiny Officers
23 Sept 2022	Scrutiny Committee “away day” afternoon	Scrutiny Officers
Sept-Oct '22	T&F Group – Future Scrutiny Arrangements	Scrutiny Officers
02/11/2022	Task and Finish Group Report - Future Scrutiny Arrangements for Cumberland Council	Scrutiny Officer
	Local Government Re-organisation Programme Status Report	Programme Director
	Scrutiny Overview and Work Plan Report	Scrutiny Officer
25/11/2022	Budget workshop	S.151 Officer
21/12/2022	Finance Update	S.151 Officer
	Local Government Re-organisation Programme Status Report	Programme Director
	Scrutiny Overview and Work Plan Report	Scrutiny Officer
01/02/2023	Local Government Re-organisation Programme Status Report	Programme Director
	Scrutiny Overview and Work Plan Report including Update on Scrutiny Activity on Cost of Living Crisis in Sovereign Councils	Scrutiny Officer
22/03/2023	Local Government Re-organisation Programme Status Report	Programme Director
	Shadow Scrutiny Annual Report	Scrutiny Officer
	Scrutiny Overview and Work Plan Report	Scrutiny Officer

Risk Management	Consequence	Controls required
Poor scrutiny governance	Scrutiny is unconstitutional and does not fulfil its role	Tracking references to scrutiny and recommendations by scrutiny.
Poor scrutiny work planning	Failure to support good decision making through lack of robust discussion and evidence gathering.	Alignment of Forward Plan and Scrutiny workplan to ensure appropriate scrutiny activity on key issues.

Contact Officer

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8.0 Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Briefing on Scrutiny Activity on Cost of Living Crisis in Sovereign Councils