
**Meeting of the Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee – Thursday
17th July, 2025**

**Report of the Director for Legal, Compliance & Assurance (Monitoring
Officer)**

Programme of Meetings and Business Items for 2025/26

Purpose

1. To consider the programme of meetings and potential items of business for this Scrutiny Committee during 2025/26.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended:-
 - That the programme of meetings for 2025/26 be noted.
 - That Members consider potential business items, as referred to in paragraph 4 of this report, subject to the need for flexibility during the municipal year.
 - That the Director for Legal, Compliance & Assurance, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, be authorised to make all the necessary arrangements to enable this Committee to undertake its work during the 2025/26 municipal year.
 - That the terms of reference for the Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the Appendix (Scrutiny Procedure Rules), be noted.

Background

3. As agreed at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 15th May, 2025, meetings of this Scrutiny Committee have been programmed during the 2025/26 municipal year to undertake its work and consider any relevant items of business during the municipal year.

4. The Council has approved the establishment of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Core Business), together with three other Scrutiny Committees, for the 2025/26 municipal year.
5. Initial consideration has been given to the Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2025/26 informally with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees on 2nd June, 2025. The items listed below are recommended for consideration at programmed meetings of this Scrutiny Committee during 2025/26:

Thursday 17th July, 2025

- Programme of Meetings and Business Items for 2025-26
- Director of Public Health Annual Report
- Mental Health and Learning Disabilities and Autism

Monday 22nd September, 2025

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Sufficiency Report
- The Re-modelling of Adult Social Care
- Update on the Household Support Fund
- Children's Social Care Complaints, Comments and Compliments Annual Report
- Annual Adult's Social Care Complaints, Comments and Compliments

Wednesday 22nd October, 2025

- Provision at Ladies Walk
- Children's Services Development Plan
- 0-19 Services – Healthy Child Programme

Monday 10th November, 2025

- Adult Social Care – action plan for Improvements identified in Care Quality Commission
- Education Reports
- Dudley Children's Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report
- Social Care Sufficiency

Wednesday 3rd December, 2025

- Impact Assessment of the Welfare Rights Team
- Cardiovascular Disease – Prevention
- Adult Social Care and Deprivation of Liberty Standards Annual Report
- Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report

Monday 19th January, 2026

- Medium-Term Financial Strategy
- Feedback from Children’s Services Ofsted Inspection
- Dementia Gateway

Monday 16th March, 2026

- Review of Public Health Grant

6. Action Tracker reports will also be included as a standing item on each agenda to ensure that any outstanding actions agreed by the Committee are progressed and monitored.
7. The Committee is requested to consider the outline programme of business as outlined above taking account of the need for considerable flexibility due to changing circumstances and any issues that might arise during the municipal year. The Committee will retain the discretion to establish Task and Finish Groups as required.
8. Subject to the views of the Committee at this meeting, the Director for Legal, Compliance & Assurance, following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, will make the necessary practical arrangements for the Committee to conduct its work during 2025/26.
9. An “Effective Scrutiny Committee Working” Development Workshop was held on Wednesday 9th July, 2025 for all Scrutiny Committee Members by the Local Government Association, with emphasis on the importance of the Members role and essential scrutiny techniques to assist in the development of scrutiny work for the 2025/26 municipal year.

Finance

10. The costs of operating the scrutiny arrangements will be contained within existing budgetary allocations.

Law

11. Committees are established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the requirements of the Council's Constitution, which was adopted under the Local Government Act 2000, subsequent legislation and associated Regulations and Guidance.

Risk Management

12. Reports to Scrutiny Committees will include a paragraph to ensure proper consideration of any ongoing material risks as part of the Council's Risk Management Framework.

Equality Impact

13. Provision exists within the Council's scrutiny arrangements for overview and scrutiny to be undertaken of the Council's policies on equality, diversity and inclusion.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

14. The Council's scrutiny arrangements are administered within the resources available to the Democratic Services Team with support from Directorates and other Officers as required.

Commercial/Procurement

15. Individual items may have commercial or procurement implications, which will be reported to relevant Scrutiny Committees.

Council Plan

16. Work undertaken by Scrutiny Committees will contribute to the delivery of key Council Plan priorities. Reports to meetings will include details of how proposals impact on key Council Plan priorities.

Aftab Razzaq

Director for Legal, Compliance & Assurance (Monitoring Officer)

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Appendix

Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Procedure Rules

List of Background Documents

The Council's Constitution