



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021 /22

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5th July 2021

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE 2021/22 MUNICIPAL
YEAR**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &
COMMUNICATIONS**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' comment and approval on the draft Work Programmes of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year and to receive a list of matters requiring consideration by the Cabinet over the 2021/22 Municipal Year and ascertain whether there are any topics that can undergo pre-scrutiny by this Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Agree on issues for inclusion on the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the 2021/22 Municipal Year (as set out in **Appendix 1**) (with appropriate amendment as necessary); and
- 2.2 Ascertain if there are any topics that can undergo pre-scrutiny by this Committee from the Cabinet Work Programme for the 2021/22 Municipal Year (as set out at **Appendix 2**).

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 There is a requirement to devise and publish a Work Programme for each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution (Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules). The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is responsible for setting and agreeing its own Work Programme. However, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee also has a co-ordinating role and will ensure that there is no duplication of work across the thematic scrutiny committees.
- 3.2 In consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee together with appropriate Council Officers and the relevant Cabinet Members, through the one-to-one engagement sessions, an initial list of work topics for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been produced and is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 Opportunity is provided to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to consider the proposed list of matters requiring consideration by Cabinet during the 2021/22 Municipal Year to ascertain whether there are any topics which can undergo pre-scrutiny by this committee. (A copy of the Cabinet Work Programme is attached for information at Appendix 2).

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 As Members will recall, the Scrutiny Work Programmes have a reduced number of meetings for this Municipal Year to allow for the work to be timetabled with the best use of resources available. This will allow for a more flexible approach to recognise the needs of emerging priorities and provides opportunity for Scrutiny Working Groups to be taken forward and training provision where requested.
- 4.2 The work programme should reflect the committee's aims and objectives as well as add value to the work of the Council. It is up to the Committee to agree the items for inclusion in its work programme, but ideas are brought together from a number of sources to assist members in their choices. It is important that all Members have the opportunity to put forward items for consideration.
- 4.3 Recently, 1-1 Engagement sessions have been undertaken to provide an opportunity for the respective Cabinet Members, Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs and Scrutiny lead Officers to discuss their respective work programmes, identify any key topics for inclusion and enhance dialogue and the flow of information between Cabinet and Scrutiny.
- 4.4 There are a number of areas which will be revisited in 2021/22 where work was commenced during the previous municipal year or where strands of work are

ongoing such as the opportunity to undertake scrutiny of the Section 19 statutory reports on conclusion of the investigations that the Council has undertaken into the February Floods as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the modernisation of the council's residential care home service for older people.

4.5 Other principles which have been taken into account:

- The work programme represents a mixed selection of topics;
- It meets deadlines in relation to other Council meetings and those of external partners;
- Consideration as to whether the topic duplicates review activity which is taking place elsewhere; and
- Flexibility- to ensure that new topics can be factored in and changes accounted for.

5. **CABINET WORK PROGRAMME**

- 5.1 Attached at Appendix 2 is the Cabinet Work Programme for 2021/22 and Committee is asked to consider if there are any topics that can undergo pre-scrutiny by this Committee.

6. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not needed because the contents of the report are for information purposes only and further analysis of each of the Work Programme will be needed if the recommendations are to be taken forward.

7. **CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The draft Work Programme has been compiled in discussion with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees in consultation with Council Officers as well as the relevant Cabinet Member.

8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report.

9. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 9.1 The report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph Part 4 of the Constitution (Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5th JULY 2021

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COMMUNICATIONS**

APPENDIX 1 & 2

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

CABINET WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22