



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021 /22**

**FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**20<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE 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 Programme of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Members of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Agree on issues for inclusion on the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the 2021/22 Municipal Year (as set out in **Appendix 1**); and,
- 2.2 Consider and determine any other matters that Members may wish to scrutinise over this period.

**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).
- 3.2 In consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Finance and Performance 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 Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committee has been produced and is attached at Appendix 1.

#### 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.
- 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. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 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.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The draft Work Programme has been compiled in discussion with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Committees in consultation with Council Officers as well as the relevant Cabinet Members.

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

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

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972**

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**20<sup>th</sup> JULY 2021**

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

**Contact Officer: Sarah Handy, Members Researcher & Scrutiny Officer**

**APPENDIX 1:**

**FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22**

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMMES 2021/22** **FINANCE & PERFORMANCE**

*‘Holding the Executive to account in respect of all three priorities within the Council’s Corporate Plan.... People (Ensuring People are independent, healthy and successful), Places (Creating Places where people are proud to live, work and play) and Prosperity (Enabling Prosperity creating the opportunity for people and businesses to: be innovative; be entrepreneurial; and fulfil their potential and prosper ) as well as its key principle ‘Living within our Means’.*

Each of the Council’s Scrutiny Committees is responsible for setting and agreeing its own work programme by identifying a list of themes and topics which fall under the remit of each individual Scrutiny Committee. Following discussion with the Chair, Vice Chair and Scrutiny Members a practical, realistic and timetabled programme can then be developed.

The scrutiny forward work programmes should provide a clear rationale as to why particular issues have been selected; be outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the Council’s performance management and improvement arrangements.

Throughout the year, there are a number of ways in which additional issues can be considered for inclusion in the Scrutiny Work Programme and ideas for inclusion may come from a number of sources such as:-

- Individual Councillors;
- Performance or budget monitoring information;
- Inspection reports;
- Referrals from Council (such as Notices of Motion), Cabinet/Audit or other scrutiny committees;
- Service users;
- Monitoring the implementation of recommendations previously made by the Committee; and
- Local Residents.

The Cabinet is also required to produce forward work programmes and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee keeps abreast of forthcoming items or topics which may enable scrutiny to be involved in the development of Council policy prior to its formal consideration by Cabinet. It is important to bear in mind that an element of flexibility is applied to each individual work programme that provides Committees with the capacity to scrutinise new / urgent issues that arise during the year.

Date/Time	Overarching Item	Officer	Cabinet Member	Scrutiny Focus
<b>Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021, 5pm</b>	2021/22 Work Programme	Service Director, Communications & Democratic Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Councillor Bevan, Cabinet Member For Enterprise Development and Housing	<b>Scrutiny &amp; Challenge –</b> For Committee Members to consider the work programme for the 2021/22 Municipal year.
	Quarter 4 Performance Report	Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Committee Members to consider the Council's Quarter 4 Performance Report (2020/21)
	Draft Tourism Strategy Update	Director of Prosperity and Development	Councillor Bevan, Cabinet Member For Enterprise Development and Housing	For Committee members to receive an update in respect of the Council's Tourism Strategy.
<b>Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021, 5pm</b>	Treasury Management Training	External Provider – AirlingClose	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	To receive an overview of Treasury Management, delivered by Airlingclose (the Council's Treasury Management Advisors), to assist Members in undertaking their role

	Treasury Management Annual Report	Head of Finance: Education & Financial Reporting	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Committee Members to consider the Council's Treasury Management Annual Report 2020/21
	Understanding the Council's Budget	Service Director – Finance and Improvement Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	To provide Committee Members with an overview of the Council's 2021/22 Revenue Budget and 3-year Capital Programme (2021/22 to 2023/24)
	Community Infrastructure Levy Annual Monitoring Report	Director of Prosperity and Development	Councillor R Bevan Cabinet Member for Enterprise Development and Housing	Scrutiny will undertake pre scrutiny of the Community Infrastructure Levy Annual Monitoring Report
<b>Thursday, 21 October 2021, 5pm</b>	Quarter 1 Performance Report	Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Committee Members to consider the Council's Quarter 1 Performance Report (2021/22)
	Engagement on the Council's Budget	Service Director, Communications & Democratic Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	To receive an overview of the Council's approach to the 2022/23 Budget Consultation Process
	Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2021/22 to 2024/25	Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Committee Members to consider the Council's MTFP 2021/22 to 2024/25 (in preparation for the Committee to provide feedback, as a consultee of the Council's Budget Consultation process, at a future meeting(s) during the year)

	Corporate Asset Management Plan <i>(INFORMATION ONLY)</i> <i>(Exempt Item)</i>	Director of Corporate Estates	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Committee Members to consider an interim update of the Corporate Asset Management Plan
	Regeneration Grants	Director of Prosperity and Development	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Members to scrutinise the impact of the refocus and review of the Regeneration Business Grants.
<b>Tuesday, 30 November 2021, 5pm</b>	Budget Consultation 2022/23 (Phase 1)	Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Committee Members to feedback their views as part of phase 1 of the 2022/23 Budget Consultation Process
	Quarter 2 Performance Report	Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Committee Members to consider the Council's Quarter 2 Performance Report (2021/22)
<b>Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022, 5pm</b>	Budget Consultation 2022/23 (Phase 2)	Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	To undertake pre-scrutiny of the draft 2022/23 Budget Strategy agreed by Cabinet
	2021/22 Mid-Year Treasury Management Stewardship Report	Head of Finance: Education & Financial Reporting	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	To consider the 2021/22 Mid-Year Treasury Management Stewardship Report
	Rhondda Cynon Taf's 'Kickstart Programme' Update	Service Director – Community Services	Councillor R Bevan Cabinet Member for Enterprise Development and Housing	For Committee members to receive an update in respect of the Council's 'Kickstart Programme'.



<b>Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022, 5pm</b>	Quarter 3 Performance Report	Service Director – Finance & Improvement Services	Councillor Norris, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	For Committee Members to consider the Council's Quarter 3 Performance Report (2021/22)
	Town Centre Strategy Update	Director of Prosperity and Development	Councillor R Bevan Cabinet Member for Enterprise Development and Housing	For Committee Members to receive an update in respect of Town Centres across the County Borough.

**Training Requirements:-**

- Treasury Management Training – Airlingclose