

## CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
<b>Report Subject</b>	Forward Work Programme
<b>Report Author</b>	Democratic Services Manager
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work programme of the Committee of which they are Members.

By reviewing and prioritising the Forward Work Programme Members are able to ensure it is Member-led and includes the right issues.

A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

The Committee is asked to consider, and amend where necessary, the Forward Work Programme for the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme and approve/amend as necessary.
2	That the Democratic Services Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.

## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME
1.01	<p>The Forward Work Programme (FWP) is intended to set out the Committee's schedule of work for the coming months.</p> <p>It is a 'working document' that remains under constant review to ensure that the Committee is carrying out the proper level of scrutiny and is focussing on the appropriate areas in accordance with its Terms of Reference which are currently being reviewed.</p>
1.02	<p>Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from several sources.</p> <p>Members can suggest topics for review by Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council or Chief Officers.</p> <p>Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Improvement Plan.</p>
1.03	<p>The Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee has assumed an oversight role for the 'Transformation Programme' that is currently being developed. In light of this, the Committee's Terms of Reference will be reviewed by the Democratic Services Manager in conjunction with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee.</p> <p>This review, along with the 'Transformation Programme' will then inform the Forward Work Programme.</p>
1.04	<p>A number of items from previous Committee meetings are still to be scheduled, as listed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council Tax Collections, Discretionary (s13a) Discounts/Write Offs That a report is brought back to committee following a Cabinet review and the production of a comprehensive policy on s13a discretionary discounts, taking into account the comments raised and consultation with Overview &amp; Scrutiny.</li><li>• Delivering public services in the 21st century: Shared Services That officers liaise with the Chairman in order to schedule presentations on various themes at future meetings. <b>This will be included under the 'transformation' element which CROSC is assuming responsibility for, and be scheduled accordingly.</b></li><li>• Community Asset Transfers To provide an update on the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process.</li><li>• Acquisition of land for Flintshire cemeteries To provide details of how Flintshire County Council provided value for money in its land acquisition for cemeteries.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Industrial Estates To review the Council's business/commercial units, further to Paragraph 1.30 of agenda item 7 Capital Programme 2024/25 – 2026/27 from the County Council meeting of 6 December 2023.</li> </ul>
1.05	<p>The following items from more recent meetings need to be scheduled.</p> <p>July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A report was requested for the November/December 2024 meeting to provide details of expenditure and financial controls within the Assets portfolio.</li> <li>• An update on mitigation options for homelessness was also requested for the Autumn.</li> </ul> <p>September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A report was requested detailing how the PSB operates, its benefits, and costs etc.</li> <li>• An invitation be extended to the Chief Fire Officer for a representative to attend a future meeting of this Committee</li> </ul> <p>October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A report was requested about the Council's long-term financial strategy.</li> <li>• That regular items on transformation projects are reported, and these are to include the impact on equalities.</li> <li>• An update report on the work of the Assets department.</li> </ul> <p>Once dates have been confirmed for these items, they will be included on the Committee's FWP.</p>
1.06	<p>As well as the 'targeted' work items, there are standard, regular reports that follow a 'pattern'. These are included in Appendix 1 under 'Regular Items' and will be scheduled on the FWP accordingly.</p>
1.07	<p>Members are also encouraged to consider and propose items for inclusion on the FWP, noting the guidance at paragraph 1.08.</p>
1.08	<p>In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?</li> <li>2. Is it an area of major change or risk?</li> <li>3. Are there issues of concern in performance?</li> <li>4. Is there new Government guidance or legislation?</li> <li>5. Is it prompted by the work carried out by Regulators/Internal Audit?</li> <li>6. Is the issue of public or Member concern?</li> </ol>

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	None as a result of this report.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	Not applicable.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	None.

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Steven Goodrum, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p><b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702320</p> <p><b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Steven.Goodrum@flintshire.gov.uk">Steven.Goodrum@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	Improvement Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.