

Scrutiny Work Programme - Proposal for New Work:

Potential **INQUIRIES** on:

1. Building Sustainable Communities

- To understand objectives, actions, outcomes around this council priority.
- Assessment of progress, achievements, impact
- To identify possible contribution of scrutiny to what needs improving (e.g. work around community asset transfer / supporting community involvement)

2. Tackling Poverty

- To understand issues, objectives, actions, outcomes around this council priority
- Assessment of progress, achievements, impact
- To identify possible contribution of scrutiny to what needs improving (e.g. work around targeting resources, partnership working, community engagement)

(NB – this would take the place of previously agreed Target Areas WG)

3. Sustainability - Food Security *(recommended by Sustainability Scrutiny Working Group)*

- Panel to develop terms of reference for inquiry, based on issues identified:
 - a. How we build stronger resilience into our food supply chain in Swansea (moving away in part from the 'just in time' model). We would also like to consider whether food security should form part of the authorities resilience planning.
 - b. How to reduce the length of food chains in particular in relation to key food items.
 - c. Procurement practices including ensuring using the right balance of local growers / providers
 - d. More local food growing encouraged (given that agriculture in Wales has reduced by 10% in the last 10 years)
 - e. Encouraging individuals and communities to grow more, eat healthier and buy local, seasonal produce including
 - § Education, schools and communities first actions
 - § Planning, the LDP and the availability of growing space and allotments
 - f. The benefits of local growing in relation to health, wellbeing and community cohesion including the issue of food poverty in deprived areas
 - g. The role of the local authority in the leadership and facilitation of this agenda with both the public and private sector.
 - h. Our longer term plans and aspirations in this area including looking at future generation implications.

4. Transition from Children to Adult Social Care

- To have briefing on process relating to service transition and issues concerning provision of support and care during transition
- To identify possible focus for scrutiny inquiry

Potential **WORKING GROUPS** (one-offs):

1. Civic Events

- the relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide a report to enable the Working Group to discuss and consider the organisation, support for and management of civic events.

2. Welsh Housing Quality Standard

- this was a request from the Affordable Housing Scrutiny Inquiry Panel. The relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide a report to enable the Working Group to consider the Council's progress towards achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standard within its social housing stock.

3. Tethered Horses

- the relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide a report covering policy and practice in relation to issue of tethered horses, and extent of problem. Issues raised about horse welfare, impact on local communities and council resources. Questions to be put, including whether any learning from examples / actions elsewhere.

4. Corporate Building Services

- the relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide a report covering assessment of current service (objectives and achievements, procedures and practice, value for money, challenges, improvement plans etc) for questions and discussion. Some issues raise in relation to procurement, costs / competitiveness, joined up working across the Council.

5. Roads / Highway Maintenance

- the relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide a report covering service practices and procedures (e.g. dealing with pot holes), use of resources, prospects for improvement. This will enable questions about the quality and effectiveness of highway maintenance and repair, and also issues relating to the relationship with utilities and strategic planning / co-ordination of works to minimise disruption to major access roads.

The above proposal includes topics that were outstanding from the 2014/15 work programme. Working Groups will be convened in the future as time and resources allow, in the order of priority shown.

REFERRAL ELSEWHERE:

1. Procurement Service

- Service Improvement & Finance Performance Panel to request report covering assessment of current service (objectives and achievements, procedures and practice, value for money, challenges, improvement plans etc) for questions and discussion.