

## Appendix 2: Scrutiny Work Planning Conference – COMBINED FEEDBACK - SUMMARY OF PRIORITIES

(topics gaining wider support in bold)

WHAT?	WHY?	HOW?	Relevant Considerations to aid prioritisation
TOPIC FOR SCRUTINY	WHAT IS THE CONCERN / PROBLEM THAT NEEDS SOLVING?	POSSIBLE APPROACH Inquiry / Performance Panel / Working Group / Committee	e.g., significance of topic, alignment with Council priorities / issues, good use of time, timely, duplication etc.
Highways & Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Accountability of utility companies i.e., digging up the road / pavements and reinstating to proper standard; signs not removed on completion</b></li> <li>• <b>Council's relationship with such companies / contractors</b></li> <li>• <b>Awareness of work schedules and communications with local Councillors</b></li> </ul>	Inquiry or Performance Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority - Transforming our Economy and Infrastructure (road repairs)</li> <li>• Councillor and Public Concern</li> <li>• Was subject of an in-depth Scrutiny Review in 2007' A Review of the Authority's Relationship with Statutory Undertakers'</li> <li>• Other Previous Scrutiny: Roads and Footway Maintenance Working Group in 2018; Committee Session with Cabinet Member on Highways and Engineering, Infrastructure and Maintenance in 2021 but may not have specifically focussed on the Council's co-ordination and control of utility companies; Road Safety Working Group in Dec 2022 raised/discussed awareness of work schedules and comms with local Cllrs</li> <li>• Issue reported in the media</li> <li>• For Service Improvement Performance Panel if not taken forward as Inquiry. Road Repairs – report to Performance Panel due on 27 June 23. Will cover criteria/process for road repairs and performance data</li> </ul>
Recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To look at recycling and how it could be improved and the whole issue around commercial waste collection and recycling, and the Council's influence upon this.</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Recycling &amp; Waste Management Performance reported to Service Improvement &amp; Finance Performance Panel</li> </ul>
Post-Covid Cost Implications for Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many schools struggling financially following period of supported funding through the pandemic, and dealing with increased costs; need to gauge the position / experience of Schools and what can be done to help them</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority – Improving Education &amp; Skills</li> <li>• Performance reports in 2022/23 show fallout from the pandemic may still be having some affect on some</li> </ul>

			<p>areas of performance, which is included in the corporate risk around pupil attainment and achievement, e.g., school attendance, which is an issue across Wales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education Performance Panel could pick this issue up if not taken forward as Inquiry Topic</li> <li>• Issue reported in the media</li> </ul>
Flood Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can the Authority reduce / manage flood risk, dealing with impact of Climate Change and growing incidence of heavy rainfall?</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority - Delivering on Nature Recovery and Climate Change</li> <li>• Climate Change &amp; Nature Performance Panel already considers annually and will continue if not taken forward as an Inquiry Topic</li> </ul>
Community Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on Parks and Community Centres; now a number of 'Friends Groups' established and taking over running of community assets – how is that process working?</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority - Tackling Poverty and Enabling Communities (building community assets)</li> </ul>
Bus Routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on routes / coverage across City</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority - Transforming our Economy and Infrastructure</li> <li>• Subject of recent Scrutiny: Bus Services Working Group in 2021. This is being followed up by the Committee during 2023/24 so can pick this up</li> <li>• Issue reported in the media</li> </ul>
Future of Swansea Docks		Inquiry	
Planning Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on experience and effectiveness of the Call-In process, which is a concern to many Councillors about the extent to which decisions are delegated to officers and their ability to call-in applications.</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority - Transforming our Economy and Infrastructure (dealing with planning applications)</li> <li>• Planning Services report annually to Scrutiny on Performance. Has been standing item on Service Improvement &amp; Finance Performance Panel</li> </ul>
School Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact of changes – introduction of free school meals across year groups – on quality of school meals</li> <li>• Concern about rising costs to Schools</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority - Improving Education and Skills</li> <li>• Education Performance Panel could pick this issue up if not taken forward as Inquiry Topic</li> </ul>
Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on Contractors - getting onto approved contractors list, value-for-money and accountability, use of / opportunities for local firms and supporting Council values</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority - Transformation and Financial Resilience</li> <li>• Significant Governance Issue (Annual Governance Statement)</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On Internal Audit work plan for 2023/24</li> <li>• Subject of recent Scrutiny: Procurement Scrutiny Inquiry in 2022. Inquiry Panel is being reconvened in Oct 2023 to follow up recommendations agreed by Cabinet</li> </ul>
Oracle Fusion Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it functioning well?</li> <li>• Focus on implementation success / issues arising, e.g., performance management, DBS checking, and disaster recovery planning</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority area – Governance issues relating to Performance Reviews / Training; ICT Disaster Recovery</li> <li>• Following discussion on the investment of over £10m, Committee has already asked for post implementation report on final project costs and benefits and could ask questions on the success of the implementation</li> <li>• Internal Audit review also planned</li> <li>• Corporate Risk - Cyber, Data &amp; Digital Security</li> </ul>
Corporate Transformation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress against principles, objectives, predicted outcomes</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMT Priority area / Corporate Risk &amp; Cross-cutting aspect of Corporate Plan</li> <li>• Appropriate for on-going monitoring whilst Plan is in progress, with relevant Performance Panels picking up relevant strands, and get a better understanding of plans, any changes since being agreed, and timescales for implementation</li> </ul>
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on use of agency staff across the Council – relationship with resources, levels of sickness / overtime within directorates</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate Risk (workforce recruitment &amp; retention) / Cross-cutting aspect of Corporate Plan</li> <li>• Identified in the Annual Governance Statement as a significant governance issue, which is being addressed</li> <li>• Has been topic of Governance &amp; Audit Committee discussion</li> </ul>
Waste Management / Litter & Cleansing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on workforce utilisation, different services duplicating work</li> <li>• Concerns about extent of litter along main roads into Swansea</li> </ul>	Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Transforming our Economy and Infrastructure</li> <li>• Annual Recycling &amp; Waste Management Performance reported to Service Improvement &amp; Finance Performance Panel</li> <li>• Committee Session with Cabinet Member on Litter &amp; Cleansing in 2021</li> <li>• Issue reported in the media</li> </ul>

<b>Public Rights of Way</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview on public rights of way across Swansea (mapping / numbers) and issues</li> <li>• Impact on public rights of way from developments</li> <li>• Effect on communities</li> </ul>	<b>Inquiry or Working Group or Committee item</b>	
<b>Customer Contact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry over from 2022/23</li> <li>• Should include information / questions on phone response rates – many complaints from residents unable to get in touch with anyone when calling; relevant Oracle issues</li> <li>• Issues around public consultation</li> </ul>	<b>Working Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Transformation and Financial Resilience</li> <li>• Already identified as Scrutiny priority and planning underway for Working Group and delivery of this activity early in 2023/24 - was delayed given the attention being given to the implementation of the new Oracle Fusion system. The Working Group should be able to meet early in the new municipal year when relevant officers are in better position to support, provide information, and facilitate questions / discussion.</li> <li>• To cover 'digital inclusion' which has been identified as topic for annual Scrutiny</li> </ul>
<b>Active Travel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry over from 2022/23</li> <li>• (raised again by Councillor(s) with concerns around costs and consequences / impact of routes to local communities)</li> <li>• Including issues around public consultation &amp; engagement</li> </ul>	<b>Working Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Delivering on Nature Recovery and Climate Change</li> <li>• Already identified Scrutiny priority - reserve list Working Group Topic from 2022/23 for focussed questioning &amp; discussion on the Council's Active Travel Plans and outcomes; current &amp; future developments; improvements to community consultation; how well we are meeting obligations of Welsh Government Active Travel Act; usage - impact on numbers cycling / walking; and relevant issues</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy City</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry over from 2022/23 – but need to clarify focus of Scrutiny</li> </ul>	<b>Working Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Safeguarding People from Harm</li> <li>• Already identified as Scrutiny priority but delayed. The Health City Partnership, which is led by the Local Health Board, has not met since before the pandemic, therefore work is currently on hold.</li> <li>• This Working Group could be replaced in the 2023/24 work programme, but revisited in the future at the appropriate time. Meeting would enable information, focussed questioning &amp; discussion exploring the Healthy City Partnership, key activities and achievements, work in relation to</li> </ul>

			health promotion, particularly physical activities, including provision of outdoor sport and activities and opportunities for young people, etc.
<b>5G Masts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Concern about siting / health issues</b></li> <li>• <b>Local process / rules in dealing with applications</b></li> </ul>	<b>Working Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue reported in the media</li> </ul>
<b>Local Area Coordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evaluation of LAC approach following its expansion across Swansea, including focus on LAC communication and updating / feedback; any cross over with Healthy City objectives</b></li> </ul>	<b>Working Group or Performance Panel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has been picked up within Adult Services Performance Panel</li> </ul>
Public Electric Vehicle Charging Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well is the Council prepared / assisting public green vehicle adoption through provision of charging infrastructure?</li> <li>• Consideration of electric vehicle charging point provision in Swansea</li> </ul>	Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Delivering on Nature Recovery and Climate Change</li> <li>• Corporate Risk on Net Zero 2030 target</li> <li>• Climate Change progress against Net Zero 2030 Action plan is a CMT Priority area</li> <li>• Has been discussed with Cabinet Member within Climate Change &amp; Nature Performance Panel – most recently Jan 2023</li> </ul>
Drainage Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around work programmes / timetable of works; drainage solutions for flood avoidance</li> </ul>	Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Priority - Transforming our Economy and Infrastructure (roll-out of new drainage team / programme)</li> </ul>
Temporary Road Closures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing number of events resulting in road closures; issues around co-ordination with existing road works adding to traffic delays / congestion</li> </ul>	Working Group	
Council Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure of Council departments / staffing structures, responsibilities / duties; discussion around opportunities for efficiency / effectiveness</li> </ul>	Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Transformation and Financial Resilience</li> <li>• Links to Delivery against Workforce Development Strategy, which is a CMT Priority area</li> </ul>
Fly Tipping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hot topic for many Councillors - concern about prosecutions; concern about Fly Tipping enforcement policy / strategies and practice, and how effective is the current practice in preventing Fly Tipping?</li> </ul>	Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject of recent Scrutiny: Committee Session with Cabinet Member in Nov 2022</li> <li>• Issue reported in the media</li> </ul>
Fleet Renewal & Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around procurement process, contracts, testing, etc.</li> </ul>	Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of Fleet Maintenance Audit Report 2022/23 within Governance &amp; Audit Committee - June 2023</li> </ul>
Public Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectiveness of current approaches</li> </ul>	Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Transformation and Financial Resilience</li> <li>• Links to Co-production Working Group which met in March 2023</li> </ul>

<b>Overall Performance Panel arrangements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Merger of Service Improvement &amp; Finance Panel and Development &amp; Regeneration Panel. New Service Improvement, Regeneration &amp; Finance Panel to meet monthly. Creates capacity within overall Programme. New Panel workload to be managed carefully. Committee to keep under review</b></li> </ul>	<b>Performance Panel</b>	
<b>Tackling Racism in Schools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Focussed questioning &amp; discussion on the extent of the issue; how schools deal with suspected racist incidents; reporting arrangements, rates, etc</b></li> </ul>	<b>Performance Panel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was already identified Scrutiny priority - reserve list Working Group topic from 2022/23</li> <li>• Issue was discussed by Education Performance Panel in May 2023.</li> </ul>
<b>Domestic Abuse</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Concerns around rising number of cases; victim experience / family effects; discussion around quality of organisational support available for victims and what could be done better, etc.</b></li> </ul>	<b>Performance Panel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Safeguarding People from Harm</li> <li>• Already identified Scrutiny priority – reserve list Inquiry Panel topic from 2022/23</li> <li>• For Adult Services Performance Panel</li> <li>• Or, Committee could consider as a Community Safety issue as is a Safer Swansea Partnership priority</li> <li>• Community Safety is a CMT Priority area and one of public concern</li> </ul>
Community Growing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around examples (e.g., allotments) and experience; benefits / success</li> <li>• Including focus on Schools / children &amp; young people</li> <li>• Contribution to health &amp; well-being</li> </ul>	Performance Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link to Corporate Plan - Tackling Poverty and Enabling Communities</li> <li>• Links to Corporate Risk on Cost of Living Crisis.</li> <li>• Previously identified for Committee Session with Cabinet Member</li> </ul>
Impact of Housing on Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns around housing developments and impact on the environment, including flooding / flood risk</li> </ul>	Performance Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan - Delivering on Nature Recovery and Climate Change</li> <li>• For Climate Change &amp; Nature Performance Panel</li> </ul>
Councillor / Officer Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For discussion around communication between Councillors and Officers; processes; issues around Officer responses to Councillor contact; protocols around information / awareness affecting local areas being communicated to relevant ward members ahead of wider comms.</li> </ul>	Performance Panel	
Reading / Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern around falling levels of reading/literacy</li> </ul>	Performance Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan – Improving Education &amp; Skills</li> <li>• For Education Performance Panel</li> </ul>
School Attendance		Performance Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Corporate Plan – Improving Education &amp; Skills</li> <li>• Links to Corporate Risk on Pupil Attainment and Achievement</li> <li>• Performance reports in 2022/23 show fallout from the pandemic may still be having some effect on some areas of performance, which is included in the corporate risk around pupil attainment and achievement, e.g., school attendance, which is an issue across Wales.</li> <li>• For Education Performance Panel</li> <li>• Has been an issue in the media</li> </ul>

Electric Scooters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local response to rise in use / implications for the Authority; partner (Police) response</li> </ul>	Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee is responsible for Crime &amp; Disorder Scrutiny and could be picked up within that as a Community Safety issue</li> <li>Community Safety / Anti-Social Behaviour is a CMT Priority area as well as area of public concern</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns around Primary Care provision since Covid / problems accessing GP Surgeries; implications of citizen wellbeing</li> </ul>	Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Health Scrutiny is the responsibility of the Swansea Bay Community Health Council</li> </ul>
Partnership between Health and Social Care Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion around current practice and effectiveness of partnership working</li> <li>Should there be a joint budget?</li> </ul>	Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links to Corporate Plan - Safeguarding People from Harm (integrated health &amp; social care services)</li> </ul>
Library Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Move Annual Report from Performance Panel to Committee</li> </ul>	Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion with Panel Convener needed to consider way forwards for this and any other potential report that may need moving</li> </ul>
Public Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion around public transport, in particular buses</li> </ul>	Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links to Corporate Plan - Transforming our Economy and Infrastructure</li> <li>Committee will be following up on Bus Services Working Group during 2023/24</li> <li>Issue reported in the media</li> </ul>
Other issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee should consider key documents such as Annual Governance Statement and Risk Registers to inform Scrutiny priorities</li> </ul>	Committee	