

AGREED Scrutiny Work Programme 2024/25

Inquiry Panel (time-limited in-depth scrutiny – six months)	Working Groups (light-touch scrutiny / one-off meetings)	Performance Panels (ongoing in-depth performance / financial monitoring & challenge)	Issues for Scrutiny Programme Committee (overall work programme management; discussion of broad range of policy and service issues)
<p>1. Community Assets (to complete)</p> <p>2. Grants (Terms of Reference / Key Question to be agreed – but concerns about visibility of Grants as part of overall Council budget / desire to shine a light on significance of Grants, what they are, processes, and how well they are being used, etc.)</p> <p>Reserve / Alternate Topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substance Misuse (significant issue; inquiry could look into drug and alcohol abuse / link to physical and mental health issues; services that support and tackle this issue, opportunity to discuss remedies; concerns about increasing number of abuse related crime) 	<p>1. Empty Properties (enabling focussed questioning & discussion on what's being done to help bring back into use / repurpose; enforcement; given housing needs what steps are being taken to bring empty properties back into use, etc.)</p> <p>2. Public Engagement (enabling focussed questioning & discussion, examination / evaluation of existing approaches to public engagement and how we can improve so that we reach all parts of society; evaluation of Council's resident's survey etc.)</p> <p>3. Agile Working (enabling focussed questioning & discussion on evaluation of 'success' of agile working policy incl. working from home; how the council is managing its staff post pandemic; impact on Council performance / efficiency; implications on Council's accommodation strategy; impact on staff well-being / morale; permanence of situation / future direction, etc.)</p> <p>4. Tree Services (enabling focussed questioning & discussion on tree services, management and development;</p>	<p>1. Service Improvement, Regeneration & Finance (monthly)</p> <p>2. Education (monthly)</p> <p>3. Adult Services (every six weeks)</p> <p>4. Child & Family Services (every six weeks)</p> <p>5. Climate Change & Nature (every two months)</p> <p>Specific issues to cover within wider Panel work plans, where possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Improvement, Regeneration & Finance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performance Measurement & Management (Council's overall approach to performance management, standards / PIs / target setting; and measurement) - Recycling and Landfill (annual performance monitoring report) - Library Services (annual report on performance against library standards; discussion on service provision; usage; sustainability, etc.) - Planning Services (annual performance report) - Swansea Bay Strategy - Swansea Airport - Traffic Management (discussion on traffic calming schemes, issues regarding implementation time / cost, etc.) Education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post 16 Education (concern whether services are joined up; students falling through gaps between organisations and struggling post Covid; NEET partnership working) - Schools Attendance (incl. lateness) - Schools Admissions Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific annual reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate Safeguarding Delivery of Corporate Priority – Tackling Poverty & Enabling Communities (consider Poverty Truth Commission report being published) - Welsh Housing Quality Standard / More Homes Delivery Leader Q & A Session Other Cabinet Member Q & As (portfolio issues to pick up): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital Strategy / Transformation (incl. Oracle Fusion Project Post-implementation Review (achievements / improvements / benefits realised; issues, e.g. interface with other systems) - HR / Workforce Strategy (workforce transformation programme; resources to deliver; impact and difference being made from actions; workforce / recruitment challenges) - Homelessness - Streetscene Improvements

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<p>and anti-social behaviour, etc)</p> <p>Follow Up of Previous Inquiries:</p> <p>1. Anti-Social Behaviour</p>	<p>tree planting strategy; tree protection orders; tree inspection programme; role and responsibility of the Council and landowners; tree maintenance – capacity to look after the many trees the Council has planted; opportunities / spaces for rewilding / tree planting, ash dieback issue, etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Home Schooling - checks - School Meals Service (quality / sourcing) • Child & Family Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Services (examination of objectives, service provision, funding / resources, achievements, preventative work, areas for improvement that will enable more engagement with the youth; issues around recruitment / retention of Youth Workers) - Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (progress; access points; referral system; use of the NYTH/NEST assessment) • Climate Change & Nature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renewable Energy / Local Area Energy Plan - Planning Enforcement (clarity around powers to deal with rogue developers, when we can act, and what remedies are available) - Flood Risk Prevention & Management (wetter climate – what are our areas of focus and what are we doing to alleviate the risk of flooding; implications of TAN 15 Guidance) - Drainage Management (drain and gully maintenance programme; impact of more frequent / heaving rainfall; response to blocked drains) - Waste Strategy (arrangements, recycling system / processing / issues) - Electric Vehicle Charging Point Provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Services Board • Crime & Disorder (Community Safety) • Follow Up on Previous Working Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-production - Public Rights of Way - Customer Contact - Community Growing
<p>Joint / Regional Scrutiny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partneriaeth (Education / School Improvement – Joint Scrutiny Councillor Group) • City Deal (Development / Regeneration - Swansea Bay City Region Joint Scrutiny Committee) • South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (Land Use Planning; Regional Transport; Economic Well-being – Joint Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee) 			