

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes 2015/16

Scrutiny Committees
1. Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services
2. Neighbourhood Services and Public Protection
3. Regeneration, Planning & Countryside
4. Learning and LAESCYP (Local Authority Education Services for Children and Young People)
5. Social Services
<p>The Council has five Scrutiny committees, and each sets its own work programme to review policies, decisions and services of the Council and other organisations operating in the County Borough to ensure they meet the needs of local communities.</p> <p>The five Scrutiny Committees have agreed their Work Programmes and will be considering the items and issues as shown in this document at their meetings over the coming twelve months or so.</p> <p>Some key principles Councillors considered when they prepared the work programmes include: topics should add value and support corporate priorities; where appropriate involve partners, stakeholders and the public; allow some flexibility to enable topics to be included as they arise; seek improvement in service provision; and be achievable within available resources.</p> <p>There are many different ways you may wish to get involved in the work of scrutiny, including: suggesting a topic for scrutiny; providing information and evidence to inform a particular piece of review work - either written or in person; or attending a meeting to listen to discussion.</p> <p>For more information about overview and scrutiny, contact the Scrutiny Team: email scrutiny@merthyr.gov.uk or telephone 01685 725454.</p>

AUDIT COMMITTEE / DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE


Version 9th Sept 2015

										(Lay Person with voting rights on Audit Committee) Mr David Gibby N.B. Mr David Gibby is not a member of the Democratic Services Committee
Cllr Richard Thomas (Chair) (Independent)	Cllr Gareth Jones (VC) (Independent)	Cllr Tony Chaplin (Labour)	Cllr Margaret Davies (Labour)	Cllr Clive Jones (Labour)	Cllr Gareth Lewis (Labour)	Cllr Tom Lewis (Labour)	Cllr Brian Mansbridge (Labour)	Cllr Kate Moran (Labour)	Cllr Ray Thomas (Labour)	

CABINET

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES (x5)

There is also a “**Joint Scrutiny Committee**” - to be chaired by the Chair of the Gov, Perf, Bus Change and Corp Services Scrutiny Committee, and membership will comprise all members of the 5 Scrutiny committees as shown below.

Leader of the Council  Cllr Brendan Toomey (Chair)	Governance and Corporate Services  Cllr Phil Williams (Labour) V. C. (D.Leader)	Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services (4.30pm start)	 Cllr Tom Lewis (Chair) (Labour)	 Cllr David Isaac VC (Labour)	 Cllr Brent Carter (Labour)	 Cllr David Davies (Labour)	 Cllr Gareth Jones (Independent)	 Cllr Lisa Mytton (Independent)	 Cllr Darren Roberts (Labour)	 Cllr Leighton Smart (Independent)	 Cllr Bill Smith (Labour)	 Cllr Richard Thomas (Independent)	 Cllr Simon Williams (Labour)	Co-opted Members 1 x Vacant (Public – non voting) Mrs Alison Harris (Public – non voting) 1 x Vacant (Voluntary Sector – non voting)
	Neighbourhood Services and Public Protection  Cllr David Jones (Labour)	Neighbourhood Services and Public Protection (2.30pm start)	 Cllr Darren Roberts (Chair) (Labour)	 Cllr Leighton Smart (VC) (Independent)	 Cllr Howard Barrett (Independent)	 Cllr John McCarthy (Labour)	 Cllr Sian Slater (Labour)	 Cllr Bill Smith (Labour)	 Cllr Ray Thomas (Labour)	Co-opted Members Vacant Mr Robert Holdaway Mrs. Nicola Mahoney	Public – non voting Public – non voting Vol. Sector – non voting			
	Regeneration, Planning and Countryside  Cllr Chris Barry (Labour)	Regeneration, Planning and Countryside (2.30pm start)	 Cllr Gareth Jones (Chair) (Independent)	 Cllr Brent Carter VC (Labour)	 Cllr Howard Barrett (Independent)	 Cllr Paul Brown (Merthyr Indep)	 Cllr Ernie Galsworthy (Labour)	 Cllr Kate Moran (Labour)	 Cllr Michael O'Neill (Labour)	Co-opted Members Vacant Vacant Vacant	Public – non voting Public – non voting Vol. Sector – non voting			
	Learning  Cllr Harvey Jones (Labour)	Learning and LAESCYP (4.00pm start)	 Cllr Lisa Mytton (Chair) (Independent)	 Cllr Simon Williams VC (Labour)	 Cllr Margaret Davies (Labour)	 Cllr Gareth Lewis (Labour)	 Cllr Kate Moran (Labour)	 Cllr Sian Slater (Labour)	 Cllr Clive Tovey (Independent)	Co-opted Members Vacant Vacant Mr Alan Rees Mrs Teresa Bradley Mrs Maureen Harris Vacant Vacant	(Gov. Rep MTGA - non voting) (Public – non voting) (Public – non voting) (Voluntary Sector – non voting) (Diocesan Rep - voting) (Parent Gov - Sec./Special - voting) (Parent Gov – Primary - voting)			
	Social Services  Cllr Linda Matthews (Labour)	Social Services (3.00pm start)	 Cllr Bill Smith (Chair) (Labour)	 Cllr David Davies VC (Labour)	 Cllr Rhonda Braithwaite (Labour)	 Cllr Allan Jones (Independent)	 Cllr Tom Lewis (Labour)	 Cllr Brian Mansbridge (Labour)	 Cllr John McCarthy (Labour)	Co-opted Members Vacant Vacant Mr Brian Lewis	non voting non voting Vol. Sector – non voting			

PLANNING, REGULATORY & LICENSING COMMITTEE / STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

See [Constitution](#) for membership rules of “Licensing Sub Committee”; “Statutory Licensing Sub Committee”; and “Rights of Way Committee”

										
(Park Ward) Cllr Clive Jones Chair (Labour)	(Merthyr Vale Ward) Cllr Brian Mansbridge Vice Chair (Labour)	(Vaynor Ward) Cllr Howard Barrett (Independent)	(Cyfarthfa Ward) Cllr Tony Chaplin (Labour)	(Treharris Ward) Cllr Ernie Galsworthy (Labour)	(Plymouth Ward) Cllr Gareth Lewis (Labour)	(Town Ward) Cllr Sian Slater (Labour)	(Penydarren Ward) Cllr Allan Jones (Independent)	(Bedlinog Ward) Cllr Leighton Smart (Independent)	(Gurnos Ward) Cllr Bill Smith (Labour)	(Dowlais Ward) Cllr Simon Williams (Labour)

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

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Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

	19 th January 2016	1 st March 2016	12 th April 2016	24 th May 2016	Work Programme suggestions
Corporate Items	Corporate Risk Register (MT/ KOD/ Cllr Phil Williams) Budget & Performance (SJ/MT/ Cllr Phil Williams)	Local Service Board. The transition from LSB to Public Service Board (Chair of LSB, MT, SD/ Cllr Phil Williams)	Overview of Scrutiny (CK/Cllr PW) Corporate Developments update (incl self-evaluation and value for money) Cllr Phil Williams		Wales Audit Office Reports, AIR & Letters (GT, EC, LB, MT, Cllr Phil Williams) Dates to be agreed
Policy Review & Development					
Monitoring Reports / Briefing Reports	Review of HR Services - action plan update (LJ/ Cllr Phil Williams)	Performance and Challenge against x4 “Strategies on a Page” (GC/EC/LB/Cllr BT/Cllr PW)	Whistleblowing Policy (CK/Cllr PW)		
Performance Monitoring		Corporate Plan 2015/16 (Q3) (EMcW/ Cllr Phil Williams)			

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

Committee				
Governance, Performance, Business Change & Corporate Services				
Overarching Item	Officer & Cabinet Member	Timing	(Other)	Scrutiny Focus
Corporate Strategic Direction	Gareth Chapman/Ellis Cooper/Lorraine Buck/Cllr Brendan Toomey/ Cllr Phil Williams	15th Sep 2015		Scrutiny & Challenge : A report outlining the corporate strategic direction and identifying measures for success, desired outcomes and targets towards meeting the ambition of top performance, sustainability and good reputation.
Local Service Board; Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	Chair of LSB, MT, SD	15th Sep 2015		Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the requirements of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act: Overview of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and the role of partnerships to support local implementation.
Corporate Plan Challenge Process	Ellis Cooper/Lorraine Buck/Mark Thomas / Cllr Phil Williams	15 th Sep 2015	Ewan Mc Williams	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing (i) the outcomes of the SER process for services during 2014/15 (ii) what process will be used during 2015/16 to ensure robust corporate and service challenge (iii) how the SER process for 2014/15 has influenced the Corporate Plan and the corporate strategic direction (iv) progress towards embedding self-evaluation into corporate and service planning cycles
Annual Performance report and progress updates	Lorraine Buck/Mark Thomas	15 th September 2015		Scrutiny and Challenge: Statutory publication of Annual Performance Report and quarterly updates on performance. Each year the Council reviews its performance and evaluates progress made against the priorities set out in the corporate plan. A report is prepared that sets out how well the Authority is performing and what it can do to improve.
Review of HR Services	Lorraine Buck/ Lisa Jones/ Cllr Phil Williams	27 th Oct 2015	Carys Kennedy	Scrutiny & Challenge : Follow up to the Schools Scrutiny Committee scrutiny concerns about HR related issues with schools and progress on delivering the actions following the HR review in 2014 and in relation to the effectiveness and impact of school related issues

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2015/16

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Performance Strategy & Performance Board	Ewan McWilliams	27 th October 2015		Scrutiny & Challenge: A report and presentation which is to discuss the performance element of the organisational improvement strategy and to include the role of the Performance Board.
Corporate Strategic Direction	Gareth Chapman/Ellis Cooper/Lorraine Buck/Cllr Brendan Toomey/ Cllr Phil Williams	Late Oct 2015 & Mid Apr 2016	(Joint Committee)	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report on progress towards delivering the corporate strategic direction plan for two of the key themes of top performance, sustainability and good reputation in the first meeting and in the second meeting the remaining theme and a summary of progress for the whole plan
Corporate Business Change	Ellis Cooper / Cllr Phil Williams	8 th Dec 2015	Gary Thomas / Andrew Mogford	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the key elements of the business change strategy and programme and an evaluation of successful it is in achieving transformational and budgetary change whilst also supporting the delivery of the ambitions of top performance, sustainability and reputation
Local Service Board – Annual Report and Key Priorities	Ellis Cooper / Cllr Phil Williams/Lorraine Buck	8 th Dec 2015	Chair of LSB, MT, SD	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the role and record of the LSB in addressing key partnership priorities which represent significant challenges to public and voluntary sector organisations during the last 2 years
Local Service Board - Update on Performance Management of the Reviewed SIP	Ellis Cooper / Cllr Phil Williams/Lorraine Buck	8 th Dec 2015	Chair of LSB, MT, SD	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report providing an update on Performance Management of the Reviewed SIP: SIP review including performance management arrangements to monitor delivery of the SIP
Corporate Plan 2015/16 (Q2)	Ewan McWilliams / Cllr P Williams	8 th Dec 2015		Scrutiny & Challenge : Quarter 2 Corporate Plan & Outcome Agreement performance monitoring. Focus is to scrutinise progress and to highlight variations in performance
Review of HR Services	Dorothy Haines/ Lisa Jones/ Carys Kennedy / Cllr Phil Williams	8 th Dec 2015		Scrutiny & Challenge : Follow up to meeting on 27 th October 2015. Schools Scrutiny Committee have had concerns about HR related issues with schools and progress on delivering the actions following the HR review in 2014, and in relation to the effectiveness and impact of school related issues
Consultation on draft budget proposals 2015/16	Gareth Chapman/Steve Jones/Cllr	14 th Jan 2016	(Joint	Challenge & Overview : Referral from Cabinet for scrutiny to understand and then challenge proposed budget proposals for 2015/16 and beyond where appropriate

(Work programme Version November 2015)

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2015/16

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	P Williams/ Cllr Brendan Toomey		Committees)	
Corporate Risk Register	Mark Thomas/K. O'Donovan / Cllr P Williams	19 th January 2016		Challenge & Overview: To provide a report providing an overview of the Corporate Risk Register (to manage high level risks facing the organisation from a strategic and business risk perspective).
Budget & Performance	Steve Jones / Mark Thomas / Cllr P Williams	19 th January 2016		Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing progress on embedding value for money analysis in service self-evaluations and providing an indication about whether key council services are providing value for money
Review of HR Services – action plan update	Lorraine Buck/ Lisa Jones/ Cllr Phil Williams	19 th January 2016		Scrutiny & Challenge: Follow up to the Schools Scrutiny Committee scrutiny concerns about HR related issues with schools and progress on delivering the actions following the HR review in 2014 and in relation to the effectiveness and impact of school related issues. This follows on from the meeting on 27 th October 2015.
Corporate Plan 2015/16 (Q3)	Ewan Mc Williams / Cllr P Williams	1 st March 2016		Scrutiny & Challenge : Quarter 3 Corporate Plan & Outcome Agreement performance monitoring. Focus is to scrutinise progress and to highlight variations in performance
Local Service Board. The transition from LSB to Public Service Board	Chair of LSB, MT, SD / Cllr P Williams	1 st March 2016		Scrutiny & Challenge : Overview of the transition arrangements from LSBs to PSBs and overview of the requirements of PSBs
Performance and Challenge against “Strategies on a Page”	Gareth Chapman/Ellis Cooper/Lorraine Buck/Cllr Brendan Toomey/ Cllr	1 st March 2016		Scrutiny & Challenge: Performance against each of the “strategies on a page”. At 15 th September 2015 meeting the Deputy leader suggested that they return to provide further information on delivery against the strategies and how they are progressing.

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2015/16

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	Phil Williams			
Whistleblowing Policy	CK, Cllr P Williams	12 th April 2016		Challenge & Overview: As per WAO report - There is significant scope to improve the Council's whistleblowing policy, process, and training and to raise awareness of whistleblowing arrangements across the Council. The current whistleblowing arrangements, themes, trends and outcomes are not subject to member scrutiny and challenge" (<i>Source – WAO- Annual Improvement report and Corporate Assessment June 2015</i>)
Corporate Software Programme for recording / monitoring Performance.	Mark Thomas / Cllr P Williams	12 th April 2016		Challenge & Overview: At the June 2015 meeting MT advised that the Authority will be introducing a new software package to record and monitor performance. The committee has asked for an update on progress.
Overview of Scrutiny	CK, Cllr P Williams	12 th April 2016		Scrutiny & Overview: Annual report detailing the work, of the scrutiny committees, their behaviours and the responses to 2014/15 recommendations. This will include an evaluation against the Auditor General's report on Good Scrutiny Practice and an assessment of the impact of the committees and the chair's group
Corporate Developments update (incl self-evaluation and value for money)	Gareth Chapman/Ellis Cooper/Lorraine Buck/M Thomas/ Cllr Phil Williams	12 th April 2016		Information & Challenge : The work of the Governance Scrutiny Committee needs to be further enhanced monitoring the corporate developments being led by the Chief Executive and in particular in relation to self-evaluation and value for money (<i>Source – "A Review and Evaluation of Member Scrutiny 2013-14"</i>)
Wales Audit Office Reports, AIR & Letters	Gareth Chapman/Ellis Cooper/Lorraine Buck/M Thomas/ Cllr Phil Williams	Date to be agreed		Information & Challenge : The key elements of the Wales Audit Office reports and/or letters issued for 2014/15 and planning for improvement 2015/16.

Neighbourhood Services and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

	22 June 2015	27 July 2015	14 September 2015	26 October 2015	7 December 2015
Corporate Items	(Crime & Disorder Committee) Community Safety Awareness Raising (EC/SP/JP / Cllr Chris Barry)	Key Transformation Budget Projects 2014/15 (CLE + various, Cllr DJ) 1)	Waste Strategy (EC, CLE, VS & Cllr DJ)	Report on Fly-tipping Prosecutions. (Street Cleansing/Health/Legal) Cllr David Jones	Housing & Homelessness (SP, JP & RSLs)
Policy Review & Development					
Monitoring Reports / Briefing Reports	Energy Efficiency Awareness Raising (C. Evans / Cllr David Jones)		Highways – Progress towards transformation of the service. (CLE)	Update on Review of Community Safety Functions of MTCBC (JP/SP)	(Crime & Disorder Committee) Presentation by partner agencies re: DOMESTIC ABUSE & SEXUAL VIOLENCE (SP/JP & Partner Agencies)
Performance Monitoring	Corporate Plan 2014/15 (Q4)				

(Work programme Version November 2015)

Neighbourhood Services and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

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(Work programme Version November 2015)

Neighbourhood Services, Public Protection and Community Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

Meeting Date	Subject	Invitees	Theme	Scrutiny Focus
22 nd June 2015	Energy Efficiency	CLE & Cllr DJ	Sustainable Environment	Awareness Raising: A report and session to raise awareness of the committee in terms of the previous Carbon Trust report and the internal follow up report. The report will outline the risks, issues and challenges and how these could be addressed
	Community Safety (Crime & Disorder)	EC, SP, JP & CB	Public Protection	Awareness Raising : An update by key Council officers of the issues, risks and challenges in relation to community safety and the potential impact given the lack of an overarching strategy
	Corporate Plan Quarter 4 update	EMcW	Performance	Monitoring: An update performance report.
27 th July 2015	Key Transformation Budget Projects 2014/15	CLE + various, Cllr DJ	Budgets	Monitoring & Scrutiny : An update on key significant transformation budget projects for 2014/15 1) an update on Bereavement Services & Street Cleansing 2) an update on Grounds maintenance 3) Update on the Collaborative Change Programme in Waste Services
14 th September 2015	Waste Strategy	EC, CLE, VS & Cllr DJ	Sustainable Environment	Monitor, Scrutiny & Challenge : A report which provides a range of information as detailed below : (i) A performance update on waste landfill and recycling showing 4 year trends, comparisons with other Welsh authorities and progress against targets (ii) A brief update on the key elements of the waste strategy and plan and a progress report on the implementation of CCP and the new strategy for waste landfill and recycling (iii) Identification of the successes of, and challenges to, the strategy (iv) Identification of the negative consequences of the changes (eg increased littering and fly tipping) and the impact of reacting to these (eg enforcement) (v) Future changes or refinements to the strategy.

				The chair will be seeking to establish a task and finish group to monitor this theme more closely.
	Highways	CLE	Sustainable Environment	Monitoring & Scrutiny : A report detailing progress against the transformation of the service and the overall performance against local and national indicators
26th October 2015	Update on Review of Community Safety Function(s) of MTCBC	SP/JP	Public Protection	Monitoring & Scrutiny : An update following the presentation to Scrutiny on 22 nd June 2015 i.e. on the issues, risks and challenges in relation to community safety and the potential impact given the lack of an overarching strategy
	Report on Fly-tipping Prosecutions.	(Street Cleansing/Health/Legal) Cllr David Jones	Joint departments	Monitoring & Scrutiny : The Committee requests a report from the three parties (Street Cleansing/Health/Legal) on where are we in pursuing prosecutions.
7th December 2015	Housing & Homelessness	SP, JP & RSLs	Public Protection	Monitoring & Scrutiny : An update report on performance and progress on delivering the housing and homelessness action plan including a focus on supporting people and housing related support.
	(Crime and Disorder Committee) Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence	SP/JP & Partner Agencies	Community Safety	Scrutiny & Challenge : Bringing in representatives of the partnership and questioning them about their roles, responsibilities, and activities
14th January 2016 (Joint)	Budget Proposals 2015/16	LCJ, EC, GC, LB	Joint Scrutiny	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the budget proposals for 2015/16 and the implications for the 4 year medium term financial plan

18 th January 2016	PWC Transformation	EC and various	Budgets	Awareness Raising/Scrutiny : As a result of the PWC work, transformation proposals will emerge which need consideration
	Report on Fly-tipping Prosecutions.	(Street Cleansing/Health/Legal) Cllr David Jones	Joint departments	Monitoring & Scrutiny: Following up to 26 th October meeting. The Committee requests a report from the three parties (Street Cleansing/Health/Legal) on where are we in pursuing prosecutions. Invite RSL's to attend to discuss issues they are facing and how they are dealing with the problem.
	Highways	CLE	Sustainable Environment	Monitoring & Scrutiny: A report detailing progress against the transformation of the service and the overall performance against local and national indicators. This is a progress / further report following the 14 th September meeting when details of the transformation of the department were not discussed as it was still in work in progress.
	Trust	RM	Leisure	Monitoring & Scrutiny: A 6 monthly update on progress and performance in achieving the stated targets and outcomes for the Trust. This item will link with the Economic Growth item in terms of the Castle development
29 th February 2016	Energy Efficiency	EC, CLE & DJ	Sustainable Environment	Pre-Scrutiny or Scrutiny : Outline of the strategy and plan for energy efficiency
	(Crime and Disorder Committee) Substance Misuse	SP/JP & Partner Agencies	Community Safety	Scrutiny & Challenge: Bringing in representatives of the partnership and questioning them about their roles, responsibilities, and activities
11 th April 2016	Trust	RM	Leisure	Monitoring & Scrutiny : A 6 monthly update on progress and performance in achieving the stated targets and outcomes for the Trust
23 rd May 2016	Effectiveness Of Scrutiny & Audit Annual Report	Scrutiny & Audit Chairs	Joint Scrutiny	Monitoring, Evaluation & Review: A report outlining progress addressing the key recommendations made in 2015 and the impact on outcomes of the scrutiny committee process
Yet to be agreed	Highways	CLE	Sustainable Environment	Monitoring, Evaluation & Review: Communication Plan before it goes out to businesses. Agreed at 14 th September meeting.



Learning & LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(Please note that the Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

	15 June 2015	13 July 2015	7 September 2015	5 October 2015	2 November 2015
Corporate Items	Governing Bodies Annual report Heolgerrig & PenyDre Lessons Learned Report	Categorisation of Schools	Commissioning the Consortium Central South Consortium	Schools Attendance At Scrutiny Key Stages 1 to 3 Pupil Outcomes	LAESCYP Self-Evaluation in advance of the monitoring visit
Policy Review & Development					
Monitoring Reports / Briefing Reports / Performance	Schools & LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee: additional areas of responsibility	Overview of Early Years for 0 to 7 year olds Estyn monitoring update report	School Budgets and Formula	LAESCYP PIAP Progress & Impact Report Report from Recovery Board	

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Year	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Birth rate (per 1,000 live births)	14.5	13.5	12.5	11.5	10.5
Death rate (per 1,000 live births)	10.5	9.5	8.5	7.5	6.5
Population (millions)	1.2	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.4

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Learning & LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(Please note that the Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

Dates to be confirmed:-

Key Stages 4 Pupil Outcomes

DH & Cllr HJ

A report providing details of summary and school specific attainment performance in 2014/15, trends over time, progress towards meeting targets and comparisons across Wales of pupils at the end of Key Stages 4 (16 years). The report will identify key issues that need to be addressed

Early Years

Adult, MIA, Community Learning & Communities First LB, DH, Lead HOS & Cllr BC

Information & Overview : A brief outline of key LAESCYP and Education issues currently delivered by Social Regeneration and an opportunity to scope out how the new committee will address issues.

Corporate Plan Performance Updates

Quarterly reports on Corporate Plan & Outcome Agreement performance monitoring

Additional Learning Needs/Education Other Than At Schools Review

Following a review of current approaches to the delivery of services for pupils with additional learning needs/EOTAS, a report which identifies the current position and make proposals for future developments and identifies progress on addressing the key issues

Nursery Admissions

A report updating committee on progress towards reconfiguring the funding and delivery of nursery provision to meet statutory requirements and defining sufficiency

Home To Schools Transport

A report updating committee on progress towards reconfiguring the funding and delivery of HTST

Learning Support Assistant Review

A report detailing the outcomes of a review of the appropriateness of the current service level agreements with schools in relation to LSAs

Corporate Strategic Direction Plan (GC/BT/PW)

Learning & LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(Please note that the Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

Strategic Direction (LCJ, EC, GC, LB)

Effectiveness of Governors / Outcome of Governors Survey (as suggested at 15th June meeting)

Learning & LAESCYP Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2015/16 (23rd June 2015)

Meeting Date	Subject	Invitees	Theme	Scrutiny Focus
15 th June 2015	Governing Bodies Annual report	DH, GW & Cllr HJ	Schools	Scrutiny & Challenge : The LAESCYP self-evaluation review has identified the need to improve the effectiveness of Governing Bodies. The Governing Body annual report will be considered early in 2015/16 and then issues identified will be followed up to include (i) recruitment and retention (ii) training (iii) federation of governing bodies (iv) identifying and sharing effective practice
	Schools & LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee: additional areas of responsibility	LB, DH, Lead HOS & Cllr HJ	Wider LAESCYP Services	Information & Overview : A brief outline of key LAESCYP and Education issues currently delivered by Social Regeneration and an opportunity to scope out how the new committee will address issues. (Defining The Scope Of The Learning & LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee)
	Heolgerrig & Pen Y Dre Lessons Learned Report	Cllr HJ, GC, CK, LB, LJ	Pre Scrutiny & Follow Up Issues	Scrutiny & Challenge : Follow up to the Schools Scrutiny Committee meetings in 2014 to include an outline of progress on addressing concerns and delivering the action plan. The report will outline whether both the Human Resource processes are fit for purpose as well the effectiveness of Council-wide responses to potential and actual school-related HR issues.
13 th July 2015	Categorisation of Schools	Cllr HJ, DH	Schools	Scrutiny & Challenge : An evaluation of the impact of the new national categorisation process introduced for 2014/15 and the likely profile and trajectory of MTCBC schools for 2015/16
	Overview of Early Years for 0 to 7 year olds	Cllr HJ, DH, and lead officers	Wider LAESCYP Services	Information & Overview : An overview of Early Years provision for 0 to 7 year olds
	Estyn monitoring	Cllr HJ, LB, DH	LAESCYP Self Evaluation Framework	Information & Overview : Brief update of verbal feedback and consideration of the letter (if available) following Estyn's monitoring visit on PIAP R6 and R7 during summer term 2015 and actions to be addressed

Meeting Date	Subject	Invitees	Theme	Scrutiny Focus
7 th September 2015	Commissioning the consortium	Cllr HJ, LB, DH	Education Department & Consortium	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the current effectiveness and shortcomings of the consortium in relation to (i) Reports by Estyn and WAO (ii) the commissioned services for MTCBC and future challenges
	Central South Consortium	Cllr HJ, LB, DH & Consortium Leads	Education Department & Consortium	Scrutiny & Challenge : Scrutiny and challenge based upon the LA report and report by the CSC
	School Budgets and Formula	Cllr HJ, AL & Chair of School Forum	Schools	Information, Scrutiny & Challenge: An outline of school budgets in relation to (i) reserves (ii) licensed budget (iii) overspends (iv) risks (v) effectiveness of local authority monitoring and challenge processes. The report will also detail progress on the school funding formula
5 th October 2015	Schools Attendance At Scrutiny	Cllr HJ, DH, Head & Chair of Governors	Schools	Scrutiny & Challenge : Attendance by the headteacher and chair of governors of Gellifaelog Primary School. The meeting will involve a 15 minute presentation by the school focusing on the good features and the challenges that the school is facing. The Committee will also be asking the local authority officers how they identified what, if anything, was needed at the school and how the school responded. The Committee is also keen to understand how both the school and the local authority have made good progress together.
	Key Stages 1 to 3 Pupil Outcomes	Cllr HJ, DH	Pupil Outcomes	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report providing details of summary and school specific attainment performance in 2014/15, trends over time, progress towards meeting targets and comparisons across Wales of pupils at the end of Key Stages 1 (age 7 years), Key Stage 2 (age 11 years) and Key Stage 3 (14 years) to include national literacy and numeracy tests. The report will identify key issues that need to be addressed
	LAESCYP PIAP Progress & Impact Report	Cllr HJ, LB, DH, MT, SJ,	LAESCYP Framework Self Evaluation	Scrutiny & Challenge: A report detailing progress addressing all 8 recommendations of the Estyn LAESCYP inspection in November 2012 and the impact in terms of outputs and outcomes.
	Report from Recovery Board	Chair of recovery Board	Recovery Board	Information: The powers for Education have been removed from the Authority and placed with the Recovery Board. A report on the Recovery Boards input and actions.

Meeting Date	Subject	Invitees	Theme	Scrutiny Focus
2nd November 2015	LAESCYP Self Evaluation	Cllr HJ, GC, EC, LB, DH, Leader, Deputy Leader	LAESCYP Framework Self Evaluation	Scrutiny & Challenge: Scrutiny of the LAESCYP self-evaluation in advance of the monitoring visit.
	Strategy on a Page / Plan on a Page.	DH	Education department	Overview: - To introduce and discuss the Strategy on a Page / Plan on a Page.
30th November 2015	Additional Learning Needs Provision	Cllr HJ, DH, TW	Education department	Scrutiny & Challenge: An review of provision for pupils with Additional Learning Needs by LA and schools and the impact in terms of outputs and outcomes.
	Youth Support Services	Cllr HJ, DH, and lead officers	Wider LAESCYP Services	Scrutiny & Challenge: A report detailing progress addressing recommendation 7 of the Estyn LAESCYP inspection in November 2012 and the impact in terms of outputs and outcomes.
	Merthyr Youth forum / cabinet	LPL and members of the Merthyr youth forum / cabinet	Meeting with outside Organisation	Overview:- A presentation providing insight on how the Forum sees their role, achievements, how they perceive opportunities for the youth of Merthyr Tydfil etc.
	Chief officer – Learning attendance at Performance Board on 2 nd November.	Cllr HJ, DH	Self Evaluation	Scrutiny & Challenge: On 2 nd November the Chief officer - Learning was subject to scrutiny at a Performance Board meeting, which focusses on Organisational Development and Corporate Strategy, with a requirement that the Chief Officer produces a comprehensive self-evaluation in readiness for the PB meeting. The process involves a referral to the appropriate scrutiny committee of appropriate issues highlighted at the PB meeting.
14th January 2016 (Joint)	Consultation on draft budget proposals 2016/17	LB, DH, HOS (PEI), LCJ, Cllr LT & Cllr HJ	Corporate Performance	Challenge & Overview : Referral from Cabinet for scrutiny to understand and then challenge proposed budget proposals for 2015/16 and beyond where appropriate
25th January 2016	Secondary School Key	Cllr HJ, DH	Pupil Outcomes	Scrutiny & Challenge : Most comparative information for Key Stage 4 outcomes are published nationally by December each year and so this report will provide a

	Stage 4 Outcomes 2013/14			summary of overall outcomes by performance indicator for 2014/15 as well as schools, trends over time, comparisons with other local authorities and progress against targets. The report will identify key issues that need to be addressed
	Categorisation of Schools 2015/16	Cllr HJ, DH & CSC	Schools	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the categorisation of schools for 2015/16 and improvement progress over the last 2 years to include school inspection outcomes during 2014/15 and a summary of the current position for all schools
	School Service Level Agreements	Cllr HJ, AL	Pre Scrutiny & Follow Up Issues	Scrutiny & Challenge: Continuing the review of School SLAs and focusing on the effectiveness and impact of current SLAs, what needs to be addressed and how this is occurring.
Meeting Date	Subject	Invitees	Theme	Scrutiny Focus
22nd February 2016	NEETs	Lead HOS (PEI)	Pupil Outcomes	Scrutiny & Challenge: Comparative information for NEETs is normally published nationally by February as it is based upon Oct 1 st outcomes. This report will provide a summary of overall outcomes 2015 as well as trends over the last 4 years and comparisons with other local authorities and progress against targets. The report will identify key issues that need to be addressed and also detail the progress on addressing issues raised in the last report including key workers and engagement by other partners including Careers Wales.
	LAESCYP Services Self-Review	Cllr HJ, LB, DH, Lead HOS (PEI), LCJ	Corporate Strategic Direction	Scrutiny & Challenge : A focus on the entirety of LAESCYP services in terms of what services are delivered by the local authority, how effective this is, what challenges there are and how these will be addressed
21st March 2016	Vulnerable Pupils Attainment	DH, TW,SB & Cllr HJ	Pupil Outcomes	Scrutiny & Challenge: This report will provide a summary of overall outcomes by performance indicator, trends over time, comparisons with other local authorities where possible and progress against targets for pupils who are potentially vulnerable for 2014/15. This includes pupils with Special Educational Needs, Looked After, ethnic minorities etc. The report will also identify key issues that need to be addressed
	Annual Review Of Audit & Scrutiny	CK and Chairs Group	Effectiveness Of Scrutiny & Audit	Scrutiny & Overview : Annual report detailing the work, of the scrutiny committees, their behaviours and the responses to 2014/15 recommendations.
18th April 2016	Scrutiny Report follow up: "Learning for Life – Basic Skills"	DH	Report to Cabinet (follow up)	Scrutiny & Challenge: A joint scrutiny report was presented to Cabinet on 22 nd April 2015. "To provide a report from the investigation by the joint Task & Finish Group (Social Services & Social Regeneration and Schools Scrutiny Committees) about how best to focus on the effectiveness of the Single Integrated Plan Learning For Life priority in terms of basic skills development ". To follow up on report recommendations.

16th May 2016	To be confirmed			
To be confirmed (in addition to June 2015)	Adult, MIA, Community Learning & Communities First	LB, DH, Lead HOS & Cllr BC	Wider LAESCYP Services	Information & Overview : A brief outline of key LAESCYP and Education issues currently delivered by Social Regeneration and an opportunity to scope out how the new committee will address issues.
To be confirmed	Merthyr Youth Forum / Cabinet	DH/LPL	Wider LAESCYP Services	To meet with the Merthyr youth forum / cabinet, inviting them to give us an insight on how they see their role, achievements, how they perceive opportunities for the youth of Merthyr Tydfil etc.
To be confirmed	Corporate Plan Performance Updates	MT	Corporate Performance	Scrutiny & Challenge : Quarterly reports on Corporate Plan & Outcome Agreement performance monitoring
To be confirmed	Nursery Admissions	AL	Pre Scrutiny & Follow Up Issues	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report updating committee on progress towards reconfiguring the funding and delivery of nursery provision to meet statutory requirements and defining sufficiency
To be confirmed	Home To Schools Transport	AL	Pre Scrutiny & Follow Up Issues	Information & Overview : A report updating committee on progress towards reconfiguring the funding and delivery of HTST
To be confirmed	Learning Support Assistant Review		Pre Scrutiny & Follow Up Issues	Information & Overview : A report detailing the outcomes of a review of the appropriateness of the current service level agreements with schools in relation to LSAs
To be confirmed	Effectiveness of Governors	GW/DH	Wider LAESCYP Services	Information & Overview : To have sight of the Governors survey. How effective are Governors in the overall school improvement.

To be confirmed	Human Resources Department Restructuring.		Wider LAESCYP Services	Information & Overview : Impact of restructure on schools i.e. better service; school improvement
To be confirmed	School Budgets (Afon Taf High School)		School Budgets	Information & Overview: Meeting 7 th September 2015. Afon Taf High School overspent against its plan in year 1 by £60k and closed the financial year-end £342k in deficit. Internal audit are currently reviewing the current financial position of Afon Taf High School and the reasons for their large financial deficit. The committee has asked for sight of the report when it is available.
To be confirmed	Free School Meals (attainment)		Pupil Outcomes	Information & Overview : Meeting 7 th September 2015. Meeting with CSC. One of the areas for improvement “A sharper pace and urgency to focus on the achievement of children claiming free school meals in particular across the region, so that they achieve accelerated improvement against their peers”. Need to follow up on this at a future meeting with the CSC and the Chief Education Officer. What is the CSC doing to support this LEA?
To be confirmed	School Balances		School Budgets	Information & Overview: The committee requires a report on school balances with reference to the likely pressures on school balances in the coming financial years.
To be confirmed	Effectiveness of Capita 1 system		Pupil Outcomes	Information & Overview: The software system Capita One provides management information systems for local authorities to for example measure attendance, provide attainment figures (trends etc), safeguarding etc. An update on the effectiveness of the system is required.
To be confirmed	Additional Learning Needs		Pupil Outcomes	Information & Overview: The committee requires an update report on what the Authority and Schools are providing in relation to ALN across the County Borough.
To be confirmed	Absenteeism		Pupil Outcomes	Information & Overview: A report providing levels of school absenteeism, to include comparison with like schools and the development of any procedures to raise attendance. Top also meet with a member of the Absenteeism Group.
To be confirmed	Do schools receive Internal Audit Reports ? Do they discuss with the		Pupil Outcomes / Governance	Information & Overview: This suggestion emanated from the Audit Committee on 9 th November (Cllr’s Clive Jones / Kate Moran). Is there general access access to schools minutes and agenda’s

	Governing Bodies			
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Social Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

	16 June 2015	8th July 2015 SPECIAL	28 July 2015	8 Sept 2015	20 October 2015	1 December 2015
Corporate Items		Budget Outturn 2014/15 (LCJ, EC, GC, LB) JOINT MEETING (All Scrutiny Committees)	MTCBC Safeguarding Review (Rotherham) (NK) - This item will take 1 hour plus ACRF Annual Report on Social Services (LCJ, AL, MA, BC)	Budget & Transformation Projects 2014/15 (LCJ, MA, AL)	Communities First (SH) Safeguarding (AL)	Looked After Children Strategy Implementation (AL & Port. Member) CSSIW Annual Performance Evaluation for 2014-2015 (CSSIW)
Policy Review & Developmen t	Looked After Children Strategy Implementation (AL)				Older People Strategy (MA)	
Monitoring Reports / Briefing Reports	Social Services & Wellbeing Act (LCJ, AL, MA) CSSIW site visit - February 2015		De-registration of Park View and Glynderw (MA)	Looked After Children Strategy Implementation (AL & Port. Member)		De-registration of Park View and Glynderw (MA) Regional Adoption Collaborative (AL)

Social Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

	12 January 2016	14th Jan. 2016 SPECIAL	23 Feb 2016	5 April 2016	17 May 2016
Corporate Items	Cwmtaf Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report Cwmtaf Safeguarding Childrens Board Annual Report	Transformation; Budget Proposals 2016/17 (LCJ, EC, GC, LB) JOINT MEETING All Scrutiny Committees)		Looked After Children Strategy Implementation (AL & Port. Member)	
Policy Review & Developmen t					
Monitoring Reports / Briefing Reports	Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service (Jason O'Brien, Head of Cwm Taf Youth Offending Services at RCTCBC/ Annabel Lloyd)				
Performance Monitoring			Corporate Plan 2015/16 (Q3) (EMcW)		

Social Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

Dates to be confirmed for following items

Reviews For Looked After Children & Children On The Child Protection Register	AL	Children Services	Monitoring & Scrutiny : An annual report providing details of numbers of LAC and CPR and the impact of the review processes
Merthyr Tydfil Family Centre	AL	Family Service	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report on Children in Need and the Merthyr Tydfil Family Centre (was Thomas Town House).
Social Services & Wellbeing Act – Key Themes	LCJ, AL, MA		Information & Scrutiny : An outline of the significant key themes with the associated risks, issues, challenges and desired outcomes
Multiple Intervention Assistance (MIA)	SH	Prevention & Early Intervention	Scrutiny & Challenge : An annual report which details
Adult Day Services Reconfiguration	MA	Prevention & Early Intervention	Pre- Scrutiny : Adult Day Services are transferring from Social Regeneration to Social Services and will be reconfigured over the next 6 months. This report will detail the proposed approach to better support the prevention and early intervention agenda
The Impact Of Prevention & Early Intervention Programmes On Social Services	LCJ, SH	Prevention & Early Intervention	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report which details how PEI programmes are helping to reduce the pressure on social services in terms of referrals, re-referrals and acute/chronic individual and family issues
Corporate Strategic Direction Plan	GC/BT/P W	Corporate item	
Strategic Direction	(LCJ, EC, GC, LB)	Corporate item	

Social Services

Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

Meeting Date	Subject	Invitees	Theme	Scrutiny Focus
16 th June 2015	Looked After Children Strategy Implementation	AL &	Children Services	Monitoring, Scrutiny & Challenge : A quarterly update on progress implementing the LAC strategy and the associated risks, issues and challenges. The strategy is seeking a reduction in the number of LAC and CPR over the next few years
	Social Services & Wellbeing Act	LCJ, AL, MA, BC	Strategic Issues	Awareness Raising : A presentation detailing the key elements of the Social Services & Wellbeing Act to include an outline of the regional implementation plan with its 17 themes and MTCBC's lead on 3 of these
8 th July 2015 (Joint)	Budget Outturn 2014/15	LCJ, EC, GC, LB	Joint Scrutiny	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the outturn for the 2014/15 budget and the implications for the 4 year medium term financial plan
28 th July 2015	Annual Report	LCJ, AL, MA, BC	Social Services	Information & Scrutiny : The Director of Social Services annual statutory report to Welsh Government
	De-registration of Park View and Glynderw	MA	Adult Services	Monitoring & Scrutiny : 6 monthly updates on progress and impact from de-registering Park View and Glynderw and associated risks, issues, challenges and outcomes.
	MTCBC Safeguarding Review (Rotherham)	Nicola Kingham	Social Services	Information & Scrutiny : Self-Assessment with Scrutiny
8 th September 2015	Looked After Children Strategy Implementation	AL & Port. Member	Children Services	Monitoring, Scrutiny & Challenge : A quarterly update on progress implementing the LAC strategy and the associated risks, issues and challenges. The strategy is seeking a reduction in the number of LAC and CPR over the next few years
	Budget & Transformation Projects 2014/15	LCJ, MA, AL	Budgets	Scrutiny & Challenge : An update on progress towards meeting budget transformation requirements set for 2014/15

	Outcome Agreement report	EMcW		Scrutiny & Challenge : Summary of Performance3 against the Outcome Agreement with the Welsh Government (Information Report) (Annual Performance Report moved to 20 th October (EMcW) and Outcome report to be submitted instead (Advised 24/8)
20th October 2015	Older People Strategy	MA	Adult Services	Monitoring, Scrutiny & Challenge: An update on progress implementing the Older People strategy and the associated risks, issues and challenges. The strategy is seeking to improve joint commissioning and use of the Intermediate Care Fund.
	Communities First	Ian Benbow / R. Stokes	Prevention & Early Intervention	Scrutiny & Challenge: A report(s) on progress towards achieving improvements in outcomes in the 3 programmes across MTCBC. Each cluster to update.
	Safeguarding	Annabelle Lloyd	Social Services	Scrutiny & Challenge: Safeguarding Children Board report. "...both Council officers and elected members acknowledged that the quality of safeguarding performance challenge at Scrutiny needs to be improved " (Source – WAO- Annual Improvement report and Corporate Assessment June 2015)
1st December 2015	Looked After Children Strategy Implementation	AL & Port. Member	Children Services	Monitoring, Scrutiny & Challenge : A quarterly update on progress implementing the LAC strategy and the associated risks, issues and challenges. The strategy is seeking a reduction in the number of LAC and CPR over the next few years
	De-registration of Park View and Glynderw	MA	Adult Services	Monitoring & Scrutiny : 6 monthly updates on progress and impact from de-registering Park View and Glynderw and associated risks, issues, challenges and outcomes.
	Budget & Transformation Projects 2014/15	LCJ, MA, AL	Budgets	Scrutiny & Challenge : At the September meeting there was an update on progress towards meeting budget transformation requirements set for 2014/15. A further report is required, with more detail on those projects that are amber or red.
	Annual Performance Evaluation for 2014-2015	CSSIW	Social Services	Monitoring & Scrutiny: The CSSIW will be publishing the evaluation report on 30 October 2015 and wish to present it to this scrutiny committee before 31 December 2015 (email LCJ 10 th July)
	Regional Adoption	Annabelle	Children	Monitoring & Scrutiny: An update and some early performance

	Collaborative	Lloyd	Services	information in relation to our regional adoption collaborative
12th January 2016	Cwmtaf Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report	Nicola Kingham	Cllr LM	Scrutiny & Challenge : This is the Annual report 2014/15, which will have been to Cabinet in December 2015.
	Cwmtaf Safeguarding Childrens Board Annual Report	Nicola Kingham	Cllr LM	Scrutiny & Challenge : This is the Annual report 2014/15, which will have been to Cabinet in December 2015.
	Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service	Jason O'Brien, Head of Cwm Taf Youth Offending Services at RCTCBC/ Annabel Lloyd		Scrutiny & Challenge : An update on the continued development of Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service with a focus on the performance of the service and potential risks to future service delivery based financial challenges.
14th January 2016 (Joint)	Budget Proposals 2015/16	LCJ, EC, GC, LB	Joint Scrutiny	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the budget proposals for 2015/16 and the implications for the 4 year medium term financial plan
23rd February 2016	Corporate Plan 2015/16 (Q3)	EMcW	Performance	Scrutiny & Challenge
21st March 2016				
5th April 2016	Looked After Children Strategy Implementation	AL & Port. Member	Children Services	Monitoring, Scrutiny & Challenge : A quarterly update on progress implementing the LAC strategy and the associated risks, issues and challenges. The strategy is seeking a reduction in the number of LAC and CPR over the next few years
17th May 2016				
To be confirmed	Reviews For Looked After Children & Children On The Child Protection Register	AL	Children Services	Monitoring & Scrutiny : An annual report providing details of numbers of LAC and CPR and the impact of the review processes

To be confirmed	Merthyr Tydfil Family Centre	AL	Family Service	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report on Children in Need and the Merthyr Tydfil Family Centre (was Thomas Town House).
To be confirmed (several meetings)	Social Services & Wellbeing Act – Key Themes	LCJ, AL, MA		Information & Scrutiny : An outline of the significant key themes with the associated risks, issues, challenges and desired outcomes
To be confirmed	Multiple Intervention Assistance (MIA)	SH	Prevention & Early Intervention	Scrutiny & Challenge : An annual report which details
To be confirmed	Adult Day Services Reconfiguration	MA	Prevention & Early Intervention	Pre- Scrutiny : Adult Day Services are transferring from Social Regeneration to Social Services and will be reconfigured over the next 6 months. This report will detail the proposed approach to better support the prevention and early intervention agenda
To be confirmed	The Impact Of Prevention & Early Intervention Programmes On Social Services	LCJ, SH	Prevention & Early Intervention	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report which details how PEI programmes are helping to reduce the pressure on social services in terms of referrals, re-referrals and acute/chronic individual and family issues
To be confirmed	Corporate Strategic Direction Plan	GC/BT/P W	Joint Scrutiny	Scrutiny & Challenge: A report on developing and delivering the corporate strategic direction plan identifying progress towards achieving targets and desired outcomes, risks and issues.
To be confirmed	Strategic Direction	LCJ, EC, GC, LB	Joint Scrutiny	Scrutiny & Challenge :

Regeneration, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

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Regeneration, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015/16

(The Work Programme is reviewed at each meeting and as such is subject to change)

	14th Jan. 2016 SPECIAL	26th January 2016	8th March 2016	19th April 2016	31st May 2016
Corporate Items	Transformation; Budget Proposals 2016/17	Vibrant & Viable Places (AL, CL)	Destination Management Plan (AO, CL & CB)	Social Enterprise Developments (AO, CL & CB)	
Policy Review & Development	JOINT MEETING All Scrutiny Committees				
Monitoring Reports / Briefing Reports		Taxi licensing (Deferred) (SP/PL)	Housing Wales Act 2014 – 1 year on.		Effectiveness Of Scrutiny & Audit Annual Report

Regeneration, Planning & Countryside Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2015/16

Meeting Date	Subject	Invitees	Theme	Scrutiny Focus
22 nd September 2015	Housing Grants/DFG	(JP/SP)	Value for money	<p>Does the current approach to delivering DFG's provide value for money?</p> <p>Scrutiny & Challenge : A report providing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a more detailed analysis of performance over 4 years comparing the top and bottom performance with the performance of MTCBC and the Welsh average (ii) a view about whether the service provides value for money and (iii) whether the available funding can be used differently to address some of the challenges such as changing demography, the drive towards greater independence and the Independent Living Review 2014/15
	Local Development Plan (LDP) 2006 to 2021	(JJ/JW)	Planning	<p>The LDP was adopted by Council in 2011 and covers the period from 2006 to 2021.</p> <p>Information : A report providing an explanation of the LDP process:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) legislative requirements (ii) the purpose, its strategy and objectives (iii) the process required to develop it (iv) lessons learnt from the process leading up to the adoption of the current LDP
10 th November 2015	Housing Grants/DFG	(JP/SP)	Value for money	<p>Does the current approach to delivering DFG's provide value for money?</p> <p>Scrutiny & Challenge : A report providing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a more detailed analysis of performance over 4 years comparing the top and bottom performance with the performance of MTCBC and the Welsh average (ii) a view about whether the service provides value for money (how do you measure vfm re the different ongoing projects) and (iii) whether the available funding can be used differently to address

					<p>some of the challenges such as changing demography, the drive towards greater independence and the Independent Living Review 2014/15</p> <p>(iv) Re. the grants obtained what is the breakdown of overall scheme-costs as per</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dept Admin costs 2. Contractor costs 3. On site spend per unit. <p>(Please provide actual £ figure and as a % breakdown).</p> <p>(v) Mechanism / criteria for awarding contracts ie tendering process?</p> <p>(vi) Variations/virement once projects are underway?</p> <p>(vii) DFG items, how does the link with COTS operate in relation to identifying need, solutions and resolutions? What are the links made to risk assessments? Who does risk assessments for client and supply of equipment? How much input does any client have in the process?</p>
	This will be in the form of 1 combined report	Economic Growth Plan	AO, CL & CB	Economic Growth	Pre scrutiny. The Growth Plan being developed with a view to: increase employment; encourage business growth and investment; tackle social disadvantage. The plan will link to local strategic aims in advancing an area's economic well-being, and underpins cross-cutting approaches to tackle deprivation as a result of industrial decline. This is an opportunity for scrutiny to comment on the plan before it is submitted to Cabinet/Council.
		Community and Economic Regeneration	(AO)	Grants and sustainability	<p>What is the overarching strategy for community and economic growth and regeneration given the reduction in grants over the next 2 years</p> <p>Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the current strategy, key success factors and desired outcomes (ii) all current grant funded projects, how they support regeneration in MTCBC, their purpose, the amount and when the funding expires (iii) how remaining core funding and grants beyond 2017, can provide a sustainable strategy and programme for the next 5 to 10 years

	Taxi licensing (Deferred)	(SP/PL)	Licensing	<p>(i) Deregulation Act for taxi licensing (ii) Child sexual exploitation issues from Casey Report (Rotherham)</p> <p>Scrutiny & Challenge: A report which provides details about the risks and issues for the Council and the wider public of the Deregulation Act, how these are being addressed and how the potential for child sexual exploitation can be reduced in relation to use of taxi's and taxi procurement.</p>
15 th December 2015	Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).	(J.J/JW)	Planning	<p>Scrutiny & Challenge: The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that an AMR is produced and submitted to WG at the end of October each year. The AMR reports on the success (or not) of the LDP in delivering/implementing policies.</p>
	Local Development Plan (LDP) 2006 to 2021	(JJ/JW)	Planning	<p>The LDP was adopted by Council in 2011 and covers the period from 2006 to 2021.</p> <p>Information : A report providing an explanation of the LDP process:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. legislative requirements 2. the purpose, its strategy and objectives 3. the process required to develop it 4. lessons learnt from the process leading up to the adoption of the current LDP 5. How is LDP influencing overall achievement of MTCBC's 'vision'? 6. Which elements are on track and which are not (with reasons for the latter). 7. What criteria do you use to evaluate its success? ie. Targets? 8. How often is progress monitored? 9. How is this relayed to decision makers? 10. Can you provide statistical information on the 12 strategic objectives in the LDP? 11. Can you give a breakdown on the three types of policies – Borough, Area specific and topic based, What are they

				<p>and what are barriers to success and what are the successes to date?</p> <p>12. What are the perceived issues for the LDP during the revision period and beyond?</p>
	Housing Services Update	(JP/SP)	Wellbeing	<p>Is the housing renewals programme helping to improve the wellbeing of affected residents</p> <p>Scrutiny & Challenge : A report providing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a brief summary of the new allocations policy (ii) issues affecting homelessness services and strategic partnership working/development
14th January 2016 (Joint)	Budget Proposals 2015/16	LCJ, EC, GC, LB	Joint Scrutiny	Scrutiny & Challenge : A report detailing the budget proposals for 2015/16 and the implications for the 4 year medium term financial plan
26th January 2016	Vibrant & Viable Places	AO, CL	Economic Growth	<p>Scrutiny & Challenge : An update on the progress on delivery of the Vibrant and Viable Places Programme in Merthyr.</p> <p>The update will include detail on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - project development and delivery - risks affecting the project approaching the end of year 2 - sustainability of completed projects - value for money of current and additional projects - delivery partner and stakeholder relationships - future plans for VVP 2 and evidence of need - Linkages with internal departments to aide / support delivery <p>A further update will be provided on the LDP and how the revised LDP will enhance / affect current and future VVP Programme delivery.</p>

	Taxi licensing (Deferred from Nov meeting)	(SP/PL)	Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iii) Deregulation Act for taxi licensing (iv) Child sexual exploitation issues from Casey Report (Rotherham) <p>Scrutiny & Challenge: A report which provides details about the risks and issues for the Council and the wider public of the Deregulation Act, how these are being addressed and how the potential for child sexual exploitation can be reduced in relation to use of taxi's and taxi procurement.</p>
8 th March 2016	Destination Management Plan	(CL/RB)	Strategic Tourism	<p>How does the DMP need to be refocused especially to include heritage and outdoor activity development?</p> <p>Scrutiny& Challenge : A report detailing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) progress delivering the current DMP and the outputs and outcomes (ii) why and how the plan needs to be refocused to better focus on heritage and outdoor activity (iii) Trends in terms of visitors to MTCBC, the length of stay in the area and the focus of activity. (iv) Partnership collaboration & engagement e.g. Trust (Castle/Cyfarthfa Park)
	Housing Wales Act 2014 – 1 year on.	JP/SP	Wellbeing	<p>Scrutiny& Challenge:- a summary of the impact of the 2014 Act nearly 12 months from its enactment on service needs, performance and resources</p>
19 th April 2016	Social Enterprise Developments	AO, CL	Economic Growth	<p>Scrutiny & Challenge: A Presentation/report on the Social Enterprise Strategy detailing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The key aims/objectives of the strategy (ii) SEWCED Legacy – The continued impact of the Investment and how SEWCED funded organisations have developed since the programme ended. What their requirements are moving forward. (iii) An overview of the new EU programmes. Including funding, business support. How the LA can help access

				<p>support.</p> <p>(iv) The current role of the Local Authority in growing the sector – local and regional networks. Signposting, business reviews and identifying opportunities.</p> <p>(i) Health and Wellbeing act – An outline. Opportunities for Social Enterprises.</p>
To be confirmed	<p>Following the 10th November 2015 there are two referrals that the Chair will take to the next Governance meeting:-</p> <p>a) Issue around Internal Audit's review of DFG's. When last was an audit undertaken / when is one next expected.; and</p> <p>b) Discussion with the Chair of Social Services around the issues raised by JP on delays on the COT side.</p>			