

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes 2017/18

Scrutiny Committees

1. Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services
2. Learning and LAESCYP (Local Authority Education Services for Children and Young People)
3. Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside
4. Regeneration and Public Protection
5. Social Services

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.

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.

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.

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.

For more information about overview and scrutiny, contact the Scrutiny Team: email scrutiny@merthyr.gov.uk or telephone 01685 725454.

Please note that the work programmes are subject to change at each meeting.

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

Date / Timing	Overarching Item	Officer & Cabinet Member	Scrutiny Focus
11 th July 2017	Develop the Work Programme for 2017/18		
5 th September 2017	Draft Annual Governance Statement	Gary Evans (Audit Manager)	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To provide scrutiny with the opportunity to challenge and contribute to the Draft Annual Governance Statement document before it gets reported to full council
	Transformation & Efficiency Programme	Ellis Cooper / Andrew Mogford / Steve Jones	Scrutiny & Challenge:- A baseline position of the Transformation & Efficiency Programme, from which the Committee can decide how it wishes to proceed.
	Human Resources	Cllr Andrew Barry / Fran Donnelly	Scrutiny & Challenge:- WAO Report - Improvement Assessment 2015-16: Review of the Council's Human Resources Function . 1) Contrast and compare the WAO proposals for improvement in the report. 2) Comment on the single points of dependency across the Authority – how much of a risk is this in terms of capacity and capability of the Authority (workforce planning). 3) An update on corporate sickness absence statistics over the last 3 years.
24 th October 2017	Performance – Wellbeing Objective Working Life (WL1)	Alyn Owen / Cllr Geraint Thomas / Ewan McWilliams/ Maria Purnell	Scrutiny & Challenge:- Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on each wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Recommendations made by external regulators (WAO, CSSIW, ESTYN, WG Commissioners etc).	Wales Audit Office: Local Authority Funding of Third Sector Services Issued January 2017 (Across Wales Report)	Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor:- R2 Poor performance management arrangements are weakening accountability and limiting effective scrutiny of third sector activity and performance. To strengthen oversight of the third sector, we recommend that elected members scrutinise the review checklist completed by officers, and regularly challenge performance by officers and the local authority in addressing gaps and weaknesses.

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

28 th November 2017	Performance – Wellbeing Objective Working Life (WL2)	Alyn Owen / Cllr Geraint Thomas / Ewan McWilliams/ Maria Purnell	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on each wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Transformation & Efficiency Programme	Ellis Cooper / Andrew Mogford / Steve Jones	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To be determined
9 th January 2018	Recommendations made by external regulators (WAO, CSSIW, ESTYN, WG Commissioners etc.).	Internal Audit Dept and other Officers / Portfolio Member	Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor:- (Task & Finish Group – how we would get about getting them actioned) - The Internal Audit Service are / have conducted an exercise to follow up on recommendations made by external regulators to identify:- That any recommendations etc. have been included on the respective AAP record; that the AAP record has been kept up-to-date; that external regulatory reports and recommendations have been reported to Corporate Management Team along with the planned action/action taken to date to implement the recommendations etc; following presentation to Corporate Management Team the external regulatory reports and managements action plan/action taken to date has been reported to the Council's Audit Committee. The Committee wants assurance that whatever system has been put into place that it is robust enough to ensure that any recommendations have been addressed.
	To be determined	To be determined	Scrutiny & Challenge:-
13 th February 2018	Performance – Wellbeing Objective Best Start (BS1)	Dorothy Haines / Cllr Lisa Myton / Ewan McWilliams/ Ann-Marie McCafferty	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on each wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

	To be determined	To be determined	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To be determined
27 th March 2018	Performance – Wellbeing Objective Best Start (BS2)	Dorothy Haines / Cllr Lisa Myton / Ewan McWilliams/ Ann-Marie McCafferty	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on each wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Transformation & Efficiency Programme	Ellis Cooper / Andrew Mogford / Steve Jones	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To be determined
			Scrutiny & Challenge:- To be determined
For consideration.	Recommendations made by external regulators (WAO, CSSIW, ESTYN, WG Commissioners etc.).	Wales Audit Office: Good Governance when Determining Significant Changes 2016-17	Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor:- The Council's governance arrangements could be strengthened by introducing greater transparency through: 1) Publishing a Cabinet forward work programme that includes details of forthcoming service change proposals to be determined. 2) Ensuring that scrutiny committees have the opportunity to determine if they wish to scrutinise proposed service changes, including allowing for sufficient time in decision making processes to enable meaningful consideration of proposals.
	Recommendations made by external regulators (WAO, CSSIW, ESTYN, WG Commissioners etc.).	Financial resilience of local authorities in Wales 2015-16 (August 2016)	Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor R5 Local authorities should ensure that savings plans are sufficiently detailed to ensure that members are clear as to what the plans are intended to deliver and that the delivery of those plans can be scrutinised appropriately throughout the year.
	Emergency Planning	Rob Gough / Cllr Andrew Barry	Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor: - The committee wants to know what plans are in place to minimise the impact of any disaster on the community and environment and manage the return to normality.

Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

	Cabinet Forward Work Programme	Cllr A Barry	Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor: - Cabinet does not currently prepare a work programme. The Committee to consider recommending to Cabinet that it produces same.
	Recommendations made by external regulators (WAO, CSSIW, ESTYN, WG Commissioners etc.).	Annual Improvement Report 2015-16 Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	<p>Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor: -</p> <p>R2 The MTFP should identify the major financial risks and key assumptions and senior officers and councillors should subject them to effective scrutiny and challenge before adopting the plan.</p> <p>R4 Councils should review the adequacy of the financial assurance arrangements that underpin the delivery of annual savings plans, including the level of scrutiny and challenge provided by councillors.</p>
	Learning & LAESCYP Performance Board	(Glynis Estabanez).	<p>Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor: -</p> <p>Follow up to Learning & LAESCYP Performance Board 5 areas for improvement were identified –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Parental Engagement (Lead Officer Sarah Bowen); WBO2 2) More Able and Talented Pupils (Dorothy Haines); Improved – report Sept 3) Governance & Governing Bodies (Dorothy Haines); WBO2 4) Collaboration (Dorothy Haines); 4 DEC SER 5) Corporate Support Services (Glynis Estabanez). – REPORTED TO Governance Scrutiny Committee.

Learning and LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

Committee	Learning and LAESCYP		
Date / Timing	Overarching Item	Officer & Cabinet Member	(Other) Scrutiny Focus
17 th July 2017	Preparation of Work programme		
4 th September 2017	Wellbeing Objective Best Start (BS1) Children get the best start to life	Cllr Lisa Mytton / D Haines / Chris Hole / John Sellwood / Annabelle Lloyd	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Estyn Self Evaluation	Cllr Lisa Mytton / D Haines	Scrutiny & Challenge:- KQ 1.1 Standards including GCSE results and attendance KQ 2.2 Support for Additional Learning Needs Scrutiny role includes challenging the judgements made.
23 rd October 2017	Wellbeing Objective Best Start (BS2) Children and young people are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals	Cllr Lisa Mytton / D Haines / A Lloyd / S Bowen / J Sellwood / Chris Hole	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives
	Central South Consortium	Mike Glavin (Managing Director of Central South Consortium)	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To meet with Mike Glavin (Managing Director of Central South Consortium) FOCUS - IMPACT of work in CSC business plan CSC on the region and on MTCBC and outcome of Estyn inspection

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Learning and LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

	Central South Consortium	D Haines	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Committee to receive a report from the Chief Officer to accompany any information received from the Consortium
	Estyn Self Evaluation	Cllr Lisa Mytton / D Haines	Scrutiny & Challenge:- KQ 2.1 Support for School Improvement. Scrutiny role includes challenging the judgements made. Scrutiny role includes challenging the judgements made.
4 th December 2017	Wellbeing Objective Best Start (BS1) Children get the best start to life	Cllr Lisa Mytton / D Haines / A Lloyd / C Hole / J Sellwood	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Estyn Self Evaluation	Cllr Lisa Mytton / D Haines	Scrutiny & Challenge:- KQ 3.1 Impact of Leadership KQ 3.2 Improving Quality Scrutiny role includes challenging the judgements made.
	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)	Cllr Lisa Mytton / D Haines	Scrutiny & Challenge:- Local authorities are under a duty to prepare a plan explaining how it will improve the planning of Welsh-medium education, and improve standards, together with its targets for improvement and progress reports. To debate and challenge.
15 th January 2018	Wellbeing Objective Best Start (BS2) Children and young people are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals	Cllr Lisa Mytton / Chief Education Officer / A Lloyd / S Bowen / J Sellwood / Chris Hole	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Estyn Self Evaluation	Cllr Lisa Mytton / Chief Officer - Learning	Scrutiny & Challenge:- KQ 1.2 Wellbeing KQ 2.3 Promoting Social Inclusion and Well Being Scrutiny role includes challenging the judgements made.

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Learning and LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

	Categorisation of schools	Cllr Lisa Mytton / Chief Officer – Learning	Scrutiny & Challenge:- In January 2015, the Welsh Government introduced a new categorisation system that considered each school’s standards alongside the school’s capacity to improve so as to understand the level of support the school needed. To receive a report detailing the latest categorisation of schools and improvement progress.
19 th February 2018	Wellbeing Objective Best Start (BS1) Children get the best start to life	Cllr Lisa Mytton / Chief Officer – Learning / A Lloyd / C Hole / J Sellwood	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Central South Consortium	Mike Glavin (Managing Director of Central South Consortium)	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To meet with Mike Glavin (Managing Director of Central South Consortium). The Focus (see 23 rd October 2017) is yet to be decided by the Committee.
	School Organisation	Cllr Lisa Mytton / Chief Officer - Learning	Scrutiny & Challenge:- School organisation including nursery, child care, federations, 21st century schools programme etc
	Estyn Self Evaluation	Cllr Lisa Mytton / Chief Officer - Learning	Scrutiny & Challenge:- KQ 2.4 Access and school places KQ 3.3 Partnership Working KQ 3.4 Resource Management Scrutiny role includes challenging the judgements made.
16 th April 2018	Wellbeing Objective Best Start (BS2) Children and young people are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals	Cllr Lisa Mytton / Chief Education Officer / A Lloyd /S Bowen / J Sellwood / Chris Hole	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council’s performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Learning and LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

	Estyn Self Evaluation	Cllr Lisa Mytton / Chief Officer - Learning	Scrutiny & Challenge:- SER Over view <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KQ 1 Outcomes • KQ 2 Provision • KQ 3 Leadership <p>This will be summary of the previous self-evaluation reports brought to scrutiny for overall judgement. Scrutiny needs to challenge the judgements made.</p>
For future consideration			
To be confirmed	Possible focus for a task and finish group	Committee wishes to engage with the secondary schools and the college as the County Borough is losing pupils to RCT; and about a borough wide learning together initiative. This follows information received at Chair attendance at Service Challenge Sessions (Self Evaluation)	
To be confirmed	Possible focus for a task and finish group	School Attendance and Absenteeism. Wellbeing Objective 2. This may be a focus of the Committee following the announcement of the exam results.	
To be confirmed	Visit to School in County Borough School visit to Scrutiny	As ongoing liaison / meetings with schools. Schools yet to be confirmed	

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Learning and LAESCYP Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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



WALES AUDIT OFFICE
SWYDDFA ARCHWILLO CŴMWRU

A report on the quality of local authority education services for children and young people

In

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Civic Centre
Castle Street
Merthyr Tydfil
CF27 8AN

November 2012

by

Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

Recommendations

- R1 Secure better outcomes for learners at all key stages and analyse and use performance data to identify and address underperformance
- R2 Strengthen the level of challenge to schools and use the full powers available to the authority to improve leadership and management in underperforming schools
- R3 Devise and apply better strategies to reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training and build upon existing strategies to reduce the number excluded from school and improve pupil attendance rates, especially in primary schools
- R4 Develop a robust self-evaluation framework for the work of the local authority's education services and introduce appropriate and challenging performance targets that drive improvement
- R5 Develop a more rigorous scrutiny framework, supported by data analysis, to challenge the education services
- R6 Ensure that data on the needs and attainment of all pupils with additional learning needs, and of vulnerable groups, is used at a strategic level to identify specific issues and trends that inform service planning
- R7 Evaluate the impact of Youth Support Services in order to adjust the provision and rebalance resource allocation where necessary
- R8 Develop and implement systems to judge whether initiatives and services have a positive impact on children and young people and offer good value for money

Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

Date / Timing	Overarching Item	Officer & Cabinet Member	Scrutiny Focus
24 th July 2017	Preparation of Annual Work Programme		
11 th September 2017	Sports pitches / facilities in the County Borough	Cherylee Evans / Rob Barnett / Portfolio Member	Scrutiny & Challenge: - Referral from Cllr Tony Rogers. There are approximately 8 sports pitches / facilities across the county borough that have fallen into disrepair. Are fees too high? Costs of grass cutting repairs no longer being borne by the Council? Not enough people playing sport? What are the reasons for this and what is being done about it?
	Grounds maintenance, Parks and Open Spaces	Cherylee Evans / Rob Barnett / Portfolio Member	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The committee has been informed that as the council cannot sustain the level of service provided in the past, it must look at innovative ways with which to provide the service. The use of volunteers and community groups will become ever more important and we must work with these groups to help them help themselves. A progress report is required.
	Wellbeing Objective Environmental Wellbeing (EW1) Item Withdrawn	Portfolio Member / Cherylee Evans & appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
30 th October 2017	Wellbeing Objective Environmental Wellbeing (EW2)	Portfolio Member / Alyn Owen & appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Recycling / landfill Published & Verified Data	Portfolio Member / Cherylee Evans / Paul Davies / Steve Thomas	Scrutiny & Challenge:- By 2025 at least 70% of municipal waste is to be recycled and the remaining (residual) 30% is to be dealt with by high efficiency Energy from Waste plant. The Recycling / Landfill performance data will have been published in August. The main focus of the Authority is to build on recent successes and continue to improve performance to enable us to exceed the Welsh Government statutory target. A report to scrutiny providing details of the figures, showing trends, comparisons with other Welsh authorities and progress against targets.
	The Welsh Public Library Standards	Jane Selwood (Leisure Trust)	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To ratify the Welsh Public Library Standards return. The Library Service will be reporting on the performance of the service over the last year (first year

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

	return		as Trust). There will be a selection of items and information for the committee to consider. This is an annual item.
11 th December 2017	Wellbeing Objective Environmental Wellbeing (EW1)	Portfolio Member / Cherylee Evans & appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Performance of Leisure Trust	Chief Executive / Chairman / Merthyr Trust	Scrutiny & Challenge:- A 6 monthly update of progress and performance in achieving the stated targets and outcomes for the Trust.
	Energy Efficiency	Portfolio Member / Cherylee Evans / Mick Campbell	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Authority as a whole spends approximately £2.6M on utility bills per annum. The Carbon Management Plan has a project list which has identified that a significant reduction in energy use can be made and a 5 year programme of cost effective measures would deliver annual savings of circa £500,000 and 1196 tonnes of CO2 at a total cost of circa £1.3M. An update on the recommendations of the Carbon Management Review in 2015 to include progress on the Draft Carbon Management Plan.
22 nd January 2018	Wellbeing Objective Environmental Wellbeing EW(2)	Portfolio Member / Alyn Owen & appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Fly-tipping / Litter / Street Cleansing	Portfolio Member / Cherylee Evans / Paul Jones / Gemma Rough	Scrutiny & Challenge:- There has been a 7% increase in reported fly-tipping incidents, the percentage cleared within 5 working days has improved to 100% in 2016/17 (95 % in 2015/16). The first quarter of 2017/18 indicates a rise in reported complaints (505) with an increase of 43 complaints compared to the first quarter in 2016/17 (462). An update to include details of prosecutions and the work of the Environmental Enforcement Officers, who were expected to be have commenced work early August 2017. Behavioural change - A school education programme is being developed and all schools will be engaged with during the campaign that will operate between September 2017 and March 2018. An update on this project is also to be included.

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

26 th February 2018	Wellbeing Objective Environmental Wellbeing (EW1)	Cllr Howard Barrett / Cherylee Evans & appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Highways and Street Lighting	Cllr Howard Barrett / Cherylee Evans / Darren Chaffe	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Highways Department is now based at the Abercynon Depot with RCT Highways Services and they are working closely together on delivering an efficient Highways & Street Lighting Service to ensure the best outcomes for users. An update on how this collaborative working is progressing in terms of service efficiencies and improved delivery.
9 th April 2018	Wellbeing Objective Environmental Wellbeing (EW2)	Cllr Howard Barrett / Alyn Owen & appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Recycling / landfill Performance Data	Portfolio Member / Cherylee Evans / Paul Davies / Steve Thomas	Scrutiny & Challenge: - Follow up to October 2017 meeting. A report to scrutiny providing details of the figures (unverified), showing trends, comparisons with other Welsh authorities and progress against targets.
Additional items to consider for Work			

Regeneration and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

Committee	Regeneration, Planning and Countryside		
Date / Timing	Overarching Item	Officer & Cabinet Member	Scrutiny Focus
18 th July 2017	Preparation of Work Programme		
12 th Sept. 2017	Wellbeing Objective Working Life (WL1)	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Economic Growth Strategy and Partnership	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee to receive a report on the journey to date in relation to the Economic Growth Strategy and Partnership. Key priorities will be highlighted from within the Action Plan as well as the forward plan for delivery.
24 th October 2017	Wellbeing Objective Working Life (WL2)	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Environmental Health	Steve Peters / Sue Gow / Portfolio Member	Scrutiny & Challenge:- – A report providing detail - how does the work of the department contribute to Public Health and Wellbeing?
	Destination Development	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on the Destination Management Plan and the key developments being delivered through the Plan.

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Regeneration and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

5 th December 2017	Wellbeing Objective Working Life (WL1)	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Continued Development of the Town Centre	Steve Peters / Portfolio Member / Alyn Owen	Scrutiny & Challenge:- –i.e. public protection and community safety. Need to look at different uses for town centre e.g. leisure usage and night time economy e.g. places to eat. Need to address homelessness and law and order issues. There needs to be co-ordinated work e.g. how does the night time economy interact with licencing and trading standards regulations?
16 th January 2018	Wellbeing Objective Working Life (WL2)	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Department budgets. (Home to School Transport)	Steve Peters / Portfolio Member	Scrutiny & Challenge: - Post 16 transport is discretionary. The Transport section is responsible for procurement of services ensuring value for money. Education is responsible for the policy. The Transport section has identified support to learners that takes them outside the County Borough and a review of the policy may identify savings and support the College. To receive a briefing report.
	Enterprise and Business Support	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on the developments associated with Enterprise and Business Support including the Orbit Business Centre, the support available for Town Centre Businesses and the Social Enterprise Strategy.
20 th February 2018	Wellbeing Objective Working Life (WL1)	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Regeneration and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

	As Crime and Disorder Committee. Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership - Community Safety Update	Steve Peters / Police (Chief Super Sally Burke / colleagues from RCTCBC / SWPCC Office	Scrutiny & Challenge:- 1. An update on current issues and an overview of current projects and programmes being delivered by the Cwm Taf Community Safety Partnership. 2. In addition changes in higher level policing structure impacts on Community Safety Partnership. How does this affect policing in Merthyr Tydfil? How does this tie in with homelessness and anti-social behaviour. Scrutiny may wish to be kept abreast on progress and challenge and influence the processes.
	Economic Growth Strategy and Partnership	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee to receive a report on the inward investment opportunities associated with the Economic Growth Strategy and Partnership including the developments and recruitment solutions at both General Dynamics and Trago Mills.
3 rd April 2018	Wellbeing Objective Working Life (WL2)	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Destination Development	Cllr Geraint Thomas / Alyn Owen and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on the Cyfarthfa Heritage Area linked to the Destination Management Plan delivery and the relationship with the Leisure Trust in ensuring the product is effectively managed as an ongoing result of the significant investment in the Heritage Area.
Additional items to consider for Work programme			

Social Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

Committee			
Date / Timing	Overarching Item	Officer & Cabinet Member	Scrutiny Focus
25 th July 2017	Welsh Community Care Information System (WCCIS)	Lisa Curtis Jones / Anne Powell	Scrutiny & Challenge:- A new computer system is being introduced in Wales to help health and social care professionals work together to provide care closer to people's homes. It gives community nurses, mental health teams, social workers and therapists the digital tools they need to work better together. The committee to receive an update on the system and how it is being imbedded at MTCBC.
	Children's Services Strategy Update	Annabelle Lloyd	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Head of Children's Services will provide an update on the strategies applicable to Children's Social Services
	CSSIW Annual Letter	Lisa Curtis Jones	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To advise members of CSSIW Annual letter. The CSSIW undertake an annual evaluation and review of Local Authority social services and provide overall judgements on key areas of progress and areas for improvement.
	Develop the Annual Scrutiny Work Programme	Full Committee	The Committee to develop work programme for 2017/18.
19 th September 2017	Wellbeing Objective Living Well (LW1) Item withdrawn	Cllr David Hughes, Lisa Curtis Jones and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Social Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

	Annual Report (ACRF)	LCJ, AL, MA, LM	Scrutiny & Challenge:- Annual Council Reporting Framework. The Director of Social Services annual statutory report to Welsh Government
	Adult Services Strategy Update	Mark Anderton	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Head of Adult Services will provide an update on the strategies applicable to Children's Social Services
	Merthyr Tydfil Youth Offending Team (YOT)	LCJ, AL, Jason O'Brien (RCTCBC)	Scrutiny & Challenge:- To discuss the CSSIW Inspection report. The YOT is a multi-agency team which is made up of members of the Police, Probation, Health, Education, Substance Misuse and Social Services, as well as others specific to the team. The YOT deals with young people between the ages of 10 and 18 who are involved in the criminal justice system, and those who are just on the periphery of becoming involved in the system.
31 st October 2017	Wellbeing Objective Living Well (LW2)	Cllr David Hughes, Lisa Curtis Jones and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Looked After Children Strategy Update	Annabel Lloyd/ Cllr David Hughes	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
	CTSAB/CTSCB Annual Reports	Nicola Kingham and officers and Cllr David Hughes	Scrutiny & Challenge:- These separate reports summarises the work undertaken by the CTSCB and the CTSAB to achieve its objectives during the year. They also summarise the areas

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Social Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

			of development identified.
12 th December 2017	Wellbeing Objective Living Well (LW3)	Cllr David Hughes, Lisa Curtis Jones and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Regional Adoption Annual Report	AL/ Angela Harris & Rachel Evans (Vale of Glamorgan	Monitoring & Scrutiny: An update and some early performance information in relation to our regional adoption collaborative
	Communities First	Lisa Curtis Jones	Scrutiny & Challenge: - Communities First is a community focussed tackling poverty programme, which is being phased out by March 2018. An update is required on outstanding projects and how the Authority and Partners are winding up the programme.
	Community Zone	Lisa Curtis Jones	Scrutiny & Challenge:- Community Zones is a place based approach focussing support to improve outcomes for residents with the greatest challenges. The Committee requires an update i.e. how the zones are progressing; what challenges are being faced; and what performance indicators have been developed.
23 rd January 2018	Wellbeing Objective Living Well (LW1)	Cllr David Hughes, Lisa Curtis Jones and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Social Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

			taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Cwm Taff Integrated Family Support Team Annual report.	AL/ Goulding, Jay (RCT)	Scrutiny & Challenge:- An Annual Report on progress within the Cwm Taf IFST and the wider implementation.
27 th February 2018	Wellbeing Objective Living Well (LW2)	Cllr David Hughes, Lisa Curtis Jones and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	Budget update	Stacey Evans/LCJ/Cllr Hughes	Scrutiny & Challenge: - Update on budget and looking at areas that may overspend.
10 th April 2018	Wellbeing Objective Living Well (LW3)	Cllr David Hughes, Lisa Curtis Jones and appropriate Officers	Scrutiny & Challenge:- The Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on a wellbeing objective. The scrutiny report will outline the context, current position and provide the most up to date performance and project information to enable the Scrutiny Committee to discuss and challenge on the steps taken to meet our wellbeing objectives.
	CTSAB/CTSCB Annual Plans	Nicola Kingham	Scrutiny & Challenge:- These separate reports summarises the work undertaken by the CTSCB and the CTSAB to achieve its objectives. They also summarise the areas of development identified.

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Social Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Descriptors 2017/18

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

For consideration on work programme - To be confirmed	Refugee Settlement in Merthyr Tydfil	SP/LCJ To be confirmed	Syrian refugee settlement programme. The Committee has learned of a family that had settled in Merthyr Tydfil as part of the programme but due to issues with the property that was allocated to them (private rented), the family eventually left Merthyr Tydfil to resettle in London. The committee wish to set up a T&F Group to review matters to see what lessons were learned and would the Authority take the same approach in future. (see email SP 21/4/17)
	Recommendations made by external regulators (WAO, CSSIW, ESTYN, WG Commissioners etc.).	Review of Corporate Safeguarding Arrangements in Welsh Councils (July 2015) and included in MTCBC Annual Improvement report 2015/16 (July 2016)	Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor: R6 Improve accountability for corporate safeguarding by regularly reporting safeguarding issues and assurances to scrutiny committee(s) against a balanced and council-wide set of performance information covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • benchmarking and comparisons with others; • conclusions of internal and external audit/inspection reviews; • service-based performance data; • key personnel data such as safeguarding training, and DBS recruitment checks; and • the performance of contractors and commissioned services on compliance with council safeguarding responsibilities.
	Community Zone	Chris Hole	Scrutiny, Challenge and Monitor: A Children's Zone is a place based approach, bringing together different organisations to improve outcomes for children and young people. The aim is that through a shared strategic vision, long-term sustainable reductions are achieved in the inequalities experienced by children in disadvantaged communities when compared to those in more socially advantaged areas.

As per the WAO scrutiny forward work programmes should: provide a clear rationale for topic selection; be more outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.