Committee name: Scrutiny

Committee date: 15/01/2026

Report title: Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025-26

Portfolio:	Councillor Padda, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Justice
Report from:	Head of legal and governance
Wards:	All wards

OPEN PUBLIC ITEM

Purpose

To assist scrutiny committee members to review the scrutiny committee work programme 25/26.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that that the Scrutiny Committee reviews and agrees the proposed work programme for the 25/26.

Policy framework

The Council has five corporate priorities, which are:

- An open and modern Council.
- A prosperous Norwich.
- A fairer Norwich.
- A climate responsive Norwich.
- A future-proof Norwich.

This report meets the “open and modern council” corporate priority.

Report details

1. The Scrutiny Committee had an informal session on 5 June 2025 outlining the principles of good scrutiny and setting a work programme.

2. There are certain items that are considered by the Scrutiny Committee on a regular basis. These are the Committee work programme (each meeting of the Committee), Equality Information Report (December each year) and pre-scrutiny of the proposed budget (January-February each year).

3. Updates are also received from the Council's representatives on the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (NHOSC).

Consultation

4. Scrutiny committee members took part in an informal session and the work programme will be a standing item at each meeting of the scrutiny committee.

Implications

Financial and resources

5. Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the council's stated priorities, as set out in its community-led plan "We are Norwich" and budget.

6. There are no proposals in this report that would reduce or increase resources.

Legal

7. There are no specific legal implications of this report.

Statutory considerations

Consideration	**Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:**
Equality and diversity	None
Reducing Inequality Target Areas (RITAs)	None
Health, social and economic impact	None
Crime and disorder	None
Children and adults safeguarding	None
Environmental impact	None

Risk management

Risk	**Consequence**	**Controls required**
None		

Other options considered

8. There have been no other options considered for this report.

Reasons for the decision/recommendation

9. This report will allow scrutiny to review the work programme for scrutiny for 2024-25.

Background papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix A: Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Appendix B: Forward Agenda

Appendix C:

Contact officer:

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IN TRAN communication for all	If you would like this agenda in an alternative format, such as a larger or smaller font, audio or Braille, or in a different language, please contact the committee officer above.

Appendix A – Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2025/26

Topic	Purpose	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
5th June 2025			
Informal Work Programming Session			
19th June 2025			
Participatory Democracy Scope			
NCSL Business Plan		Cllr Harper, Cabinet Member for Finance and Major Projects	ELT / NCSL
Report from the Making Norwich a truly accessibly city Task and Finish Group	To summarise the discussions of the group and propose recommendations for both Cabinet and Scrutiny Committee.	Cllr Padda, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Justice	Executive Director of Communities and Housing
Work Programme	To review and update the committee's work programme.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
17th July 2025			
Provision for rough sleepers with a focus on health and wellbeing		Cllr Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing	Executive Director of Communities and Housing
Update from Cllr Jones	To receive an update from the Cabinet Member on homelessness and refugees.	Cllr Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing	Executive Director of Communities and Housing
Scrutiny Committee 2024-25 Annual Report	To review the work and progress that has been made by the Scrutiny Committee for the period 2024-25.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
Work Programme	To review and update the	N/A	Head of Legal and

	committee's work programme		Governance
18th September 2025			
HR Processes		Cllr Padda, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Justice	Executive Director of Resources
Updates from Norfolk Health Overview Select Committee	To receive updates from the Council's representatives on this body.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
Work Programme	To review and update the committee's work programme.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
16th October 2025			
Sport and Physical Activity Strategy Review	To consider the value of partnership working in sport and physical activity at a community and formal provision level.	Cllr Kidman, Cabinet Member for Culture and Wellbeing	Executive Director of Housing and Communities
Pre-Scrutiny Norwich City Hall Reimagined Cabinet Report	To provide an opportunity to pre-scrutinise the report going to Cabinet in November 2025.	Cllr Harper, Cabinet Member for Finance and Major Projects	Interim Executive Director of Major Projects
Lion Homes Information Bulletin	To provide an update on Lion Homes.	Cllr Harper, Cabinet Member for Finance and Major Projects	Chief Executive
Work Programme	To review and update the committee's work programme.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
27th November 2025			
Community Safety Partnership (Safer Norwich Board)	To report on the progress of the council's Community Safety service and Safer Norwich Board during 2024-25 and provide an update on priorities for 2025-26.	Cllr Jones, Cabinet Members for Housing	Executive Director of Housing and Communities
Good Neighbourhood Management Policy	To provide an update on the development of a Good	Cllr Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing	Executive Director of Housing and Communities

	Neighbourhood Management Policy.		
Updates from Norfolk Health Overview Select Committee	To receive updates from the Council's representatives on this body.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
Work Programme	To review and update the committee's work programme	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
18th December 2025			
Call In of IT Infrastructure Refresh Decision taken at the meeting of the Cabinet on 3 December 2025	To consider the call in request.	Cllr Padda, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Justice	Executive Director of Resources
Pre-Scrutiny of Anglia Square Business Plans	To pre-scrutinise the plans.	Cllr Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing	Executive Director of Major Projects
Equality Information Report	To consider the Equality Information Report.	Cllr Padda, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Justice	Strategy Manager and Strategy Officer (Equalities)
Update on HR Process Actions and Recommendations	To provide an update on the actions and recommendations from HR Processes.	Cllr Padda, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Justice	Executive Director of Resources
Work Programme	To review and update the committee's work programme.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
15th January 2026			
Housing Development at Mile Cross Depot Site		Cllr Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing	Executive Director of Communities and Housing
Revisions to the Home Options Policy	To provide an update on proposed changes to the Council's social housing allocations policy.	Cllr Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing	Executive Director of Communities and Housing
Work Programme	To review and update the committee's work programme.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance

5th February 2026			
Budget Scrutiny			
19th March 2026			
Anti-Social Parking			
Nutrient Neutrality			
Updates from Norfolk Health Overview Select Committee	To receive updates from the Council's representatives on this body.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance
Work Programme	To review and update the committee's work programme.	N/A	Head of Legal and Governance

TBC

Website Redesign and Customer Journeys

Information bulletin on ethical and sustainable management of cash balances and investments (as reviewed by Audit Committee and Treasury Management Committee)

Information bulletin on tenant-facing version of Good Neighbourhood Management Policy

Appendix B – Forward Agenda

Meeting	Date	Report	Purpose	Head of Service	Director	Portfolio Holder	Key Decision	Exempt?
Cabinet	14/01/2026	Anglia Square Investment Partnership business plans review and approval	To review and approve the Investment Partnership overarching business plan, as well as the detailed Plot B and C business plans	Neville Murton	Davina Howes	Harper	Yes	Yes (Para 3)
Cabinet	14/01/2026	Planning Enforcement Policy	Adoption of a planning enforcement policy	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	Yes	No
Cabinet	14/01/2026	Pavement Licensing	To request authority to go out to consultation on a revised pavement licensing policy and fees	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	No	No
Cabinet	14/01/2026	HMO Licensing Policy Revisions	To agree to adopt the new HMO Licensing Policy	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Jones	Yes	No
Cabinet	14/01/2026	HRA Compliance Contract	To consider the award of a long-term partnering contract	Tony Wiggins	Davina Howes	Jones	Yes	No
Cabinet	14/01/2026	HRA Compliance Contract - Exempt Appendix	To consider the exempt appendix to the report	Tony Wiggins	Davina Howes	Jones	No	Yes (Para 3)
Cabinet	14/01/2026	Equality Information Report	To consider the Equality Information Report 2026	Helen Chamberlin	Davina Howes	Padda	No	No
Cabinet	14/01/2026	Climate Responsive Norwich Programme 2025-2035	To adopt the Climate Responsive Norwich Programme 2025-2035		Nick Austin	Hampton	Yes	No
Cabinet	14/01/2026	Anglia Square - Acquisition of affordable housing in Block C	To consider the Council acquiring Block C of the Anglia Square development for Council housing	Mark Brown	Davina Howes	Jones	Yes	Yes (Para 3)

Cabinet	14/01/2026	Gambling Statement of Principles	To agree to consult on the draft Gambling Statement of Principles	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	No	No
Cabinet	14/01/2026	Outcome of the Scrutiny Call-In of the IT Infrastructure Refresh	To consider the outcome of the Call-in of the IT Infrastructure Refresh decision	Julia Medler	Emily Yule	Padda	No	No
Council	27/01/2026	Polling District Review	To agree the revised Polling Scheme	Jan Robinson	Emily Yule	Padda	No	No
Council	27/01/2026	Treasury Management Mid-Year Review Report - 2025-2026	This report sets out the Council's Treasury Management performance for the first six months of the financial year to 30 September 2025.	Robert Mayes	Isabel Brittain	Harper	No	No
Council	27/01/2026	Adjustments to the Capital programme 2025-2030	To seek approval to adjust the 2025-2030 Capital Programme	Mark Brown	Davina Howes	Jones	No	No
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Disposal of Assets (Housing) 1	To consider the disposal of land as detailed in the report	Tony Wiggins	Davina Howes	Jones	No	Yes (Para 3)
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Disposal of assets (Housing) 2	To consider the disposal of the asset as detailed in the report	Tony Wiggins	Davina Howes	Jones	No	Yes (Para 3)
Cabinet	11/02/2026	HRA Heating Servicing and Repairs Contract					Yes	Yes (Para 3)
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Disposal of Assets (Housing)	To consider the disposal outlined in the report.		Davina Howes	Jones	No	Yes (Para 3)
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Airport Surface Access Strategy	To endorse/adopt the Norwich Airport Surface Access Strategy	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	Yes	No
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy	To consider the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy		Davina Howes	Jones	No	No

Cabinet	11/02/2026	Home Options Allocation policy	To agree an update to the Home Options allocation policy		Davina Howes	Jones	No	No
Cabinet	11/02/2026	The Council's 2026-2027 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy	To recommend to Council the Council's 2026-2027 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy	Robert Mayes	Isabel Brittain	Harper	No	No
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Corporate Performance Report 2025-26 - Quarter 3	To consider the Corporate Performance Report for Quarter Three of 2025-2026	Helen Chamberlin	Davina Howes	Stonard	No	No
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Budget Monitoring Report 2025-2026 - Quarter Three	To provide an update on the Council's overall financial position at Quarter Three of 2025-2026	Robert Mayes	Isabel Brittain	Harper	No	No
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Corporate Risk Register 2025-2026 - Quarter Three	To provide an update to the Council's corporate risk register based on the position for Quarter Three	Robert Mayes	Isabel Brittain	Harper	No	No
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Corporate Risk Register 2025-2026 - Quarter Three - Exempt Appendix	To consider the exempt appendix to the report.	Robert Mayes	Isabel Brittain	Harper	No	Yes (Para 3)
Cabinet	11/02/2026	Greater Norwich Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan	To adopt the Greater Norwich Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Stonard	Yes	No
Cabinet	11/03/2026	Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy Supplementary Planning Document	To adopt the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy Supplementary Planning Document	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	No	No
Cabinet	11/03/2026	Greater Norwich Local Plan Policy 2	To adopt the Greater Norwich Local Plan Policy 2 Supplementary	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	No	No

		Supplementary Planning Document	Planning Document					
Cabinet	11/03/2026	Biodiversity Duty Reporting	To consider the reporting on the policies and actions that have been carried out to comply with the Council's Biodiversity Duty under the Environment Act 2021		Nick Austin	Hampton	No	No
Council	17/03/2026	Greater Norwich Local Plan Policy 2 Supplementary Planning Document	To adopt the Greater Norwich Local Plan Policy 2 Supplementary Planning Document	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	No	No
Council	17/03/2026	Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy Supplementary Planning Document	To adopt the Greater Norwich Green Infrastructure Strategy Supplementary Planning Document	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	No	No
Cabinet	TBC	Taxi and Private Hire vehicle conditions - VEHICLE conditions ONLY for consultation	To request authority to go out to consultation on revised conditions and standards (required to meet DfT enhanced standard and take into account new legislation)	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	No	No
Cabinet	TBC	Greater Norwich Local Plan Policy 5 (Affordable Housing) Supplementary Planning Document	To agree to go out to consultation on a Supplementary Planning Document on Policy 5 (Affordable Housing) of the Greater Norwich Local Plan	Sarah Ashurst	Nick Austin	Giles	No	No
Cabinet	TBC	Procurement of Retrofit Engagement Service	To seek delegated authority to procure a retrofit engagement service to support the delivery of retrofit grant schemes		Nick Austin	Hampton	Yes	No

Cabinet	TBC	Approval of award of a contract for Nutrient Neutrality Works	To consider the approval of an award of a contract for Nutrient Neutrality Works		Davina Howes	Jones	Yes	Yes (Para 3)