



NORWICH City Council

Committee name: Scrutiny

Committee date: 20/03/2025

Report title: Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024-2025

Portfolio: Councillor Kendrick, Cabinet member for an open and modern council

Report from: Executive director of resources

Wards: All wards

OPEN PUBLIC ITEM

Purpose

To assist scrutiny committee members to review the scrutiny committee work programme 2024-25.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that that the Scrutiny Committee reviews its work programme.

Policy framework

The council has five corporate priorities, which are:

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

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

Report details

Developing a work programme for the scrutiny committee

1. The scrutiny committee had an informal session led by the executive director of resources outlining the principles of good scrutiny and setting a work programme.
2. At its meeting on 19 September 2024 the Scrutiny Committee agreed its work programme for 2024-25.
3. At the 10 October 2024 meeting the committee agreed the scope for the review of HR processes and agreed to form a Task and Finish Group on “Making Norwich a truly accessible city”.
4. Due to Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation the Political Group Leaders agreed that the Scrutiny Committee would consider the Council’s response to the Government’s Consultation on Devolution in Norfolk and Suffolk at the meeting on 20 March 2025.
5. An additional meeting will therefore be held on 24 April 2025 to consider the items originally scheduled for 20 March 2025.
6. These items are:
 - a. Parks and Green Spaces Strategy
 - b. The report from the Making Norwich a Truly Accessible City Task and Finish Group
 - c. An update on the Communicating with the Council item
7. The review of HR Processes is being delayed as there is currently a review being undertaken. In its place it is suggested that the meeting would consider the Good Employment Charter and the HR Processes with the agreed key lines of enquiry could be scheduled for the next Civic Year.

Recurring items

8. There are certain items that are considered by the scrutiny on a regular basis. These are the scrutiny committee work programme (each meeting of the scrutiny committee), Equality Information Report (December), and pre-scrutiny of the proposed budget (January).
9. Updates are also received from the council’s representatives on the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (NHOSC).

Consultation

10. 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

11. 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 Corporate Plan 2024-29 and budget.

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

Legal

13. 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
Health, social and economic impact	None
Crime and disorder	None
Children and adults safeguarding	None
Environmental impact	

Risk management

Risk	Consequence	Controls required
None		

Other options considered

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

Reasons for the decision/recommendation

15. 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

Contact officer:

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Norwich City Council

Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024-25

Topic	Purpose	Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
20 March 2025			
The Council's response to the Government consultation on Devolution in Norfolk and Suffolk	To consider the Council's response to the Government consultation on Devolution in Norfolk and Suffolk	Cllr Stonard – Leader of the Council	Chief Executive
Updates from the Norfolk Health Overview & Scrutiny 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
24 April 2025			
Parks and Open Spaces Strategy	To review the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy	Cllr Hampton – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for a Climate Responsive Norwich	Executive Director of Communities and Housing
Good Employment Charter	To consider the Good Employment Charter	Cllr Kendrick – Cabinet Member for An Open and Modern Council	Executive Director of Resources
Report from the Making Norwich a truly accessible city Task and Finish Group	To receive the report from the Making Norwich a truly accessible city Task and Finish Group	Cllr Giles – Cabinet Member for A Fairer Norwich	Executive Director of Communities and Housing
Update on Communicating with the Council	To consider the update on Communicating with the Council	Cllr Stonard – Leader of the Council	Executive Director of Communities and Housing Executive Director of Resources
Work Programme	To review and update the committee's work programme	n/a	Head of Legal and Governance

Items to be scheduled / carried forward:

HR Processes

Debate not Hate

NCSL Business Plan