

Report to Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board

23 June 2021

Subject:	Scrutiny Boards Work Programme 2021-22
Director:	Surjit Tour, Director of Law & Governance and Monitoring Officer
Contact Officer:	Suky Suthi-Nagra, Democratic Services Manager

1 Recommendations







- 1.1 That consideration be given to the work programme for 2021-22 for the Scrutiny Boards as proposed by each Board.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board contains within its terms of reference responsibility for approving an overview and scrutiny work programme. Attached to this report at Appendix 1 are the work programmes proposed by the Scrutiny Boards for consideration by the Management Board.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

		Effective scrutiny arrangements support the delivery of all corporate objectives
		
		

4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Boards were established by Council at its annual meeting on 25 May 2021. The Boards have held initial meetings to discuss their proposals for work programmes. This report draws together the proposed programmes into an annual overview and scrutiny work programme for consideration by the Scrutiny Management Board.
- 4.2 The Scrutiny page on the Council's website includes an online form that invites the public to send their suggestions, or suggest a topic, of what they would like the scrutiny boards to look into. This is available all year and advises the public that all suggestions will be passed on to members for consideration.
- 4.3 To assist members in this, the Sandwell Scrutiny Prioritisation Tool helped Boards to determine priorities for each topic and provided members with a structured method of creating a focussed work programme.

5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 If the Scrutiny Board does not determine a work programme, the opportunity to review policies and services will not be realised meaning that improvements, savings and income generation possibilities may be missed.



6 Implications

Resources:	<p>The Scrutiny function is directly supported by the Council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer and Democratic Services Officers within the Council's Law and Governance directorate. Additional technical expertise and evidence on specific matters will be provided by officers within the various directorates of the authority.</p> <p>The strategic resource implications of the topics selected for scrutiny will be identified and reported to members on a case by case basis.</p>
Legal and Governance:	<p>Local Government Act 2000 states that Councils operating executive arrangements must also make provision for the appointment of overview and scrutiny committees.</p> <p>Further powers relating to overview and scrutiny are set out in the Police and Justice Act 2006, the Localism Act 2011, the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012.</p>
Risk:	<p>Any risks identified of scrutiny work programme items will be reported to members on a case by case basis.</p>
Equality:	<p>There are no equality implications arising from this report.</p>
Health and Wellbeing:	<p>There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.</p>
Social Value	<p>There are no social value implications arising from this report.</p>

7. Appendices

Appendix 1 - proposed work programmes as submitted by the Scrutiny Boards.

