



**CORPORATE RESOURCES & GOVERNANCE
SCRUTINY & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2024 AT 10.00 AM
CIVIC CENTRE, RIDLEY STREET, REDCAR, TS10 1TD**

CONTACT

Jennifer White

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Tuesday, 26 November 2024

CIRCULATION

Councillors G Nightingale (Chair), V Rider (Vice-Chair), T Gray, N Bendelow, P Chaney, R Clark, B Clarke, C Curr, I Hart, C Morgan, P Thomson, J McCue, L White, P Salvin and M Fairley

Councillors (Cabinet Members - for information)

All Members of the Council (for information)

Managing Director (Head of Paid Service)

The Press [except for Confidential item(s)]

A G E N D A

	<u>Pages</u>
1. Apologies for Absence.	
2. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2024 and note the attendance matrix	3 - 10
3. Declarations of Interest.	

Pre-Decision Scrutiny - Relevant Cabinet Reports

Would Members please refer to their copy of the Cabinet papers for the meeting (these papers will follow)

4. Budget Proposals 2025/26
5. Council Tax Base 2025/26
6. Fees and Charges 2025/26
7. Quarter 2 Financial Report

Monitoring and Oversight

8. Q2 reports - six monthly Directorate specific performance report

Items for Information

- | | | |
|-----|--|---------|
| 9. | Motion Tracker. | 11 - 20 |
| 10. | Work Programme 2024/25 | 21 - 26 |
| 11. | Outside Bodies Update | 27 - 31 |
| 12. | Action List | 32 - 33 |
| 13. | Any items the Chair certifies as urgent. | |

Wednesday, 23 October 2024

CORPORATE RESOURCES & GOVERNANCE SCRUTINY & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Corporate Resources & Governance Scrutiny & Improvement Committee was held on Wednesday, 23 October 2024 at the Civic Centre, Ridley Street, Redcar, TS10 1TD.

PRESENT Councillor G Nightingale (Chair)
Councillors V Rider (Vice-Chair), T Gray,
N Bendelow, P Chaney, R Clark, B Clarke,
C Curr, I Hart, C Morgan, P Thomson, J McCue
and L White.

OFFICIALS A Pearson, M Lyth, P Winstanley, S Newton and
V Smith.

IN ATTENDANCE Councillor C Massey.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Salvin and
M Fairley.

91 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11
SEPTEMBER 2024 AND NOTE THE ATTENDANCE MATRIX**

RESOLVED that the minute of the Corporate Resources & Governance
Scrutiny & Improvement Committee on 11 September 2024 be confirmed
and signed by the Chair as a correct record, and the attendance matrix be
noted.

92 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

93 **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023-24 AND LOCAL CODE
OF GOVERNANCE**

The Governance Manager presented the Annual Governance statement
23/24 and the Local Code of Governance which was due to be considered
by Cabinet on the 29 October 2024, before being approved by the
Governance Committee on 25 November 2024.

As part of the ensuing discussion the following was noted.

- Members requested further information regarding the processes
being developed to further support the five-year planning cycle. An
Officer replied that the processes were referring to the current work

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taking place through Budget Task and Finish Group and the Transformation Program.

Resolved that the information in the report be noted

94 **OUTSIDE BODIES AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS 2024/25**

The Governance Manager presented a report which confirmed appointments to outside bodies and community organisations for 2024/25 which was due to be considered by Cabinet on the 29 October 2024. The report advised that appointments to outside bodies were made annually, with many made at the Council AGM. However, due to the nature of their activities some of these appointments were made through Cabinet. This report therefore set out the appointments to be made through Cabinet

Resolved that the information in this report be noted.

95 **VOLUNTEER STRATEGY**

The Assistant Director for Corporate Services presented the new Volunteer Strategy which sets out a series of high-level objectives that would support the council in delivering its corporate plan priorities, in particular the need to maintain a strong and sustainable council. This report was due to be considered by Cabinet on 29 October 2024.

As part of the ensuing discussion the following questions and comments were made:

- How would the authority monitor the outcomes of the strategy? An Officer advised that there were a range of actions within the strategy to monitor the progress, including working with volunteer groups, enhancing volunteering opportunities in the council, supporting community groups and encouraging the uptake of volunteering.
- How would the strategy help with the recruitment of younger volunteers? An Officer advised that groups who required new members could contact the council, and the authority could help in several ways.
- Members commented that Health and Safety regulations may discourage people from taking up Volunteering. Officers advised

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that the safety of volunteers was very important and extra training was available. The Council would also ensure that correct PPE was used when required.

RESOLVED that the information in the report be noted.

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COMMERCIAL STRATEGY

The Governance Director and the Corporate Procurement Manager presented the Commercial Strategy. The strategy sets out the approach the council would take in managing its commercial and procurement activities to meet its legal and statutory duties in accordance with the Public Sector Procurement Regulations, alongside meeting Council priorities and demonstrating value for money for residents and business across the Borough. This report was due to be considered by Cabinet on 29 October 2024.

As part of the ensuing discussion the following questions and comments were made:

- Further details on the new e-procurement system. Officers advised that previously the authority used the Proactis system for procurement. This was a good system, but it was nationally focused. The new system would focus on local suppliers meeting local needs and would meet more of the authorities' requirements. The authority was currently promoting the new system to local suppliers and offering 1-1 support on getting them signed up.
- A member enquired about the size of the procurement team. Officers advised that there are 7 members of staff in the procurement team.
- How would the commercial strategy success be assessed? Officers advised that there were several key indicators in the strategy that would be used to measure performance.
- A Member commented on the Bakehouse Square development in Guisborough, that the authority paid a company for work that has been incorrectly carried out and needs to be done again. Would this new strategy prevent this? Officers responded that this was more of a contract management issue than a procurement issue and would be raised at the Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee.

RESOLVED that the information in the report be noted.

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97 **ASSET STRATEGY**

The Assistant Director for Environment Sustainability and Culture presented the Asset Strategy. The strategy focused on land and property assets. With the emphasis being on building maintenance, safety and encouraging efficient working practices. This report was due to be considered by Cabinet on 29 October 2024.

As part of the ensuing discussion the following questions and comments were raised.

- How does the asset strategy relate to the previous asset strategy? An Officer advised that this strategy replaced the old strategy, it was simpler and more user friendly.
- Issues relating to the asset strategy would be transparent through existing reporting processes, such as through the process of delegated decision making, etc.
- A Member asked who was on the Asset Strategy Board? An Officer advised that the Asset Strategy Board was an internal board that met every 4 weeks to review progress with the Asset Strategy.
- The Chair requested a report on the use of the Councils' assets be submitted to a future meeting.

RESOLVED:

1. That the information in the report be noted
2. That a report on all of the Councils assets be submitted to a future meeting.

98 **BUDGET TASK AND FINISH GROUP- UPDATE FROM THE
CHAIR/DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

The Director of Finance presented an update on the work being undertaken by members as part of the recent Budget Task & Finish Panels and the all-member budget conferences.

Members were reminded that the Panels were initially arranged thematically, around four areas, but were eventually amalgamated into one group at which all four themes were considered.

RESOLVED that the information in the report be noted.

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99 **MOTION TRACKER.**

The Governance Manager referred Members to the updated motion tracker- **NOTED**

100 **WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24**

The Governance Manager presented a report which provided an update on progress of 2024/25 work programme for the Corporate Resources & Governance Scrutiny & Improvement Committee.

During the ensuing discussion a Member asked for an update on the timeframe for the revision of the “Get me Home Safely” campaign.

RESOLVED:

1. That the information in the report be noted
2. That an update on the timeframe for the revision of the “Get me Home Safely” campaign be submitted for a future meeting

101 **OUTSIDE BODIES UPDATE**

The Chair invited updates from Members who had attended meetings of Outside Bodies that were relevant to the Corporate Resources and Governance Scrutiny & Improvement Committee;

- A Member commented that it would be useful if Members who had attended meetings of Outside Bodies relevant to this Committee provide the meeting with a short briefing note.
- A Member advised of the success of the recent visit from the Town Twinning Authority, Troisdorf.
- A Member gave an update on the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee including:
 1. The independent review had been pushed back.
 2. An update on the integration of transport (Road and Rail).
 3. An update on the Sub-Committee of education and skills, mainly looking at breaking barriers to opportunity.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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102 **ACTION LIST**

At this point in the meeting the Committee agreed to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting, with reference to Item 7 on the action list.

Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the following item contains exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the local Government act 1972 (as amended)

Members discussed the meeting with ward Members regarding the Cat Nab Car Park Veritau Report- **NOTED**

103 **ANY ITEMS THE CHAIR CERTIFIES AS URGENT.**

No urgent items were considered.

Corporate Resources Scrutiny Committee

ATTENDANCE RECORD - 2024/25

Surname	First name	05.06.24	17.07.24	11/09/24	23/10/24							Total Meetings Attended / total possible
Chaney	Peter	✓	✓	✓	✓							
White	Linda	✓	✓	Apols	✓							
Clark	Robert	Apols	✓	Apols	Apols							
Bendelow	Neil	✓	✓	Apols	✓							
McCue	John	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Curr	Carolyn	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Rider	Vera	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Pugh	Curt	✓	Apols	Apols	n/a							
Nightingale	Glyn	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Hart	Ian	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Morgan	Carole	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Thomson	Philip	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Gray	Tim	Apols	Apols	Apols	Apols							
Clarke	Bill	✓	Apols	✓	✓							
Salvin	Paul	n/a	n/a	n/a	Apols							
Fairley	Marian	n/a	n/a	n/a	Apols							
Substitutes												

Key	
✓	Attended
RA	Apologies Submitted (replacement attended)
Apols	Apologies Submitted (no replacement)
X	Did Not Attend (no apologies received)
C	Cancelled Meeting
n/a	Not a Member

Reason for Absence (NB Full details may not be provided for reasons of confidentiality)	
1	Personal Commitment
2	Work Commitment
3	Illness/Medical
4	Conflicting Council Commitment
5	Other
6	Civic Duties

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

Date Of Meeting	Motion / action	Lead Officer	Decision	Action Update
14.11.24	<p>RESOLVED that on the successful motion of Councillor Thomson and duly seconded by Councillor Smith that:</p> <p>“In 2022 an independent study of traffic and parking in Saltburn was conducted by WSP/Capita on behalf of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council at the cost of £50,000.</p> <p>This was entitled The Saltburn Transportation Masterplan.</p> <p>The Council published the study and invited comment from Saltburn residents.</p> <p>This Council resolves that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposals in the Capita Report and the response from Saltburn residents now be given due attention and a report detailing the relevant considerations along with detailed proposals and recommendations for implementation be brought to Cabinet for discussion and decision making and that this be done at the earliest date, but within three months.” 	BA	The motion was agreed	Action update requested from Directorate

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

<p>14.11.24</p>	<p>RESOLVED that on the successful motion of Councillor Thomson and duly seconded by Councillor Hannaway that:</p> <p>In response to a Full Council motion in 2022 the Council has issued the following;</p> <p>“MARSKE, NEW MARSKE AND SALTBURN (WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) CONSOLIDATION ORDER 2003 (AMENDMENT) ORDER NO 1 2024.”</p> <p>The order would prevent the parking of motor caravans in sections of Glenside and along Marine Parade between 8pm and 8am daily (Appendix 2a & 2b).</p> <p>A motor caravan would be defined as means a motor vehicle which is constructed or adapted for the carriage of passengers and their effects, and which contains, as permanently installed equipment, the facilities which are reasonably necessary for enabling the vehicle to provide mobile living accommodation for its users “(Motorhome Definition from Motor Vehicles (Type Approval) (Great Britain) Regulations 1984)”.</p> <p>In accordance with standard practice residents were invited to register objections and a decision based on responses was made under delegated powers based on the response of a ‘significant majority’ of Saltburn residents objecting and a petition received.</p>		<p>The motion was agreed</p>	<p>Action update requested from Directorate</p>
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BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

	<p>A press release advising of the Council’s decision not to implement the proposed Order advised the decision was based on resident response and the submission of a petition.</p> <p>The Council resolves that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given that the advertising of the Order only invited objections, and the petition did not qualify as a relevant document in accordance with the Council Constitution, it is requested that given the protocol for advertising and requesting response to TRO responses and guidance for evaluating responses is not at all clear, it is requested that Council agrees to review the protocol for TRO promotion and response evaluation, and to do so within six months.” 			
<p>3.10.24</p>	<p>RESOLVED that on the successful motion of Councillor Morgan and duly seconded by Councillor Curr that:</p> <p>“The Council notes the recent announcement by the Labour Government to end universal winter fuel payments and restrict eligibility to only those in receipt of Pension Credits and other benefits.</p> <p>Though many feel that universal Winter Fuel Payments are not necessary, this council is deeply concerned that</p>	<p>JS/PW</p>	<p>The motion was agreed</p>	<p>Managing Director sent letters to Chancellor and local MPs. Response received from Minister for Pensions (attached)</p> <p>Communications campaign includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Press release issued Information on Council website: Council encourages eligible

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

many pensioners on lower and middle incomes will now not receive the payments. Across England and Wales the number of people eligible for winter fuel payments will fall by 10 million (from 11.4 million to only 1.5 million).

In Redcar & Cleveland, the number of pensioners affected by the change in eligibility criteria is 25,297. That means 85.5% of pensioners currently eligible for winter fuel payments will no longer be able to claim the payment from this winter onwards.

Council believes that the Labour Government has set the threshold at which pensioners do not qualify for Winter Fuel Payments far too low. Only those receiving a pension of less than £218.15 a week (or £332.95 a week for couples) are eligible for pension credits. This is significantly lower than the living wage rate.

Council is also concerned by the low take up of pension credit with only 63% of those eligible nationwide receiving them - and over 880,000 pensioners not doing so. Council recognises the role we have to play to increase awareness of benefits such as Pension Credit to ensure people are aware of the support they are entitled to.

Council further notes that the Energy Price Cap is due to rise by 10% in October, which combined by the removal of Winter Fuel Payments will push thousands of local pensioners into fuel poverty.

Council resolves to:

residents to claim Pension Credit | Redcar and Cleveland and shared through social media channels

- Paid-for posts on Facebook
- Article in Council magazine
- It is on page two of the magazine
- Poster shared with community groups put up in our public buildings

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

	<p>Instruct the Managing Director to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer calling for the policy on linking Winter Fuel Payments to Pension Credit receipt to be immediately paused and introduce a new threshold to determine eligibility for Winter Fuel Payments. Council further requests the Managing Director write to all MPs covering Redcar & Cleveland asking them to give their formal support to halting the changes to the Winter Fuel Payment eligibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Request all group leaders within Redcar & Cleveland sign a joint letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer calling for the new Winter Fuel Payment policy to be suspended and reviewed. •Redcar & Cleveland Council to urgently commence a significant awareness campaign to maximise uptake of pension credits. This will include use of council noticeboards, social media, promotion in local press and also targeted letters to those who may be eligible.” 			
<p>30.3.23</p>	<p>RESOLVED that on the successful motion of Councillor Brown and duly seconded by Councillor Richardson that:</p> <p>“Get Me Home Safely” Campaign</p> <p>Unite the Union is running the ‘Get Me Home Safely’ campaign to ensure safe home transport is widely available for night-time economy and shift workers who</p>	<p>BA</p>	<p>The motion was agreed</p>	<p>“The Licensing Act 2003 prescribes the process for approving premises licences and does not allow the authority to impose blanket requirements. If there are no representations during the consultation phase of an application, the licensing authority is required to grant the</p>

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

	<p>often struggle to find and pay for transport home after midnight.</p> <p>In support of such workers within our Borough:</p> <p>This Council notes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift work is widespread in many industries, particularly hospitality, as well as health and care workers, retail, cleaning, security, and porter staff and can often entail late-night working. • Many workers, especially women, are increasingly worried about their safety travelling to and from work at night. <p>This Council believes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While employers may feel their duty of care to staff ends when an employee finishes a shift, they also need to take into consideration journeys home, especially during unsocial hours. • The weakness of enforcement of the law against sexual assault, including up-skirting, on public transport is appalling and only 2% of victims go on to report sexual harassment on public transport. 			<p>licence as applied for. Where representations are received, applications are referred to licensing committee for consideration where the committee has discretion when it comes to licence conditions. However, during the next policy revision, the team will look to include advice to applicants on the provision of late-night transportation (or information on late-night transportation) which the applicant may put forward as a step they intend to take to promote the public safety licensing objective.”</p> <p>11.9.24 update: The Review of the policy is due in 2025.</p> <p>4.12.24 update: At meeting on 23.10.24 - Members requested an update on the timeframe for the revision of the “Get me Home Safely” campaign and asked specifically if it was possible to make it a condition of licencing that businesses have to provide female staff with taxis home late at night?</p> <p>The service area has advised that it is not possible to mandate but applicants</p>
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BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unite the union’s ‘Get Me Home Safely’ campaign, which calls on employers to take all reasonable steps to ensure workers are able to get home safely for work at night, is greatly needed and should be supported. • Greater numbers of trained staff and stronger enforcement of the law against sexual assault and harassment on public transport are urgently needed. <p>This Council resolves that it will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate and consider adopting, as part of its licensing procedures, arrangements which will ensure the process for approving late licenses will encourage or require the provision of free transport home for night shift employees after public transport services have stopped. This would significantly benefit the safety and wellbeing of hospitality workers particularly women who often cannot afford, or access safe transport options late at night and benefit our community. • Publicly call for improvement to late night and off-peak transport service provision and investigate the potential to bid for and use the Government’s 			<p style="color: red;">could be asked to voluntarily make a commitment to ensure staff are able to get home safely. A specific date for the policy revision cannot be provided at this stage.</p>
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BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS – MOTIONS/ACTION TRACKER

	Safety of Women at Night Fund to provide extra night services, as well as work with employers to use the fund for supplementary taxi travel.			
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Department
for Work &
Pensions

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Tothill Street
LONDON
SW1H 9DA

ministers@dwp.gov.uk



HM Treasury

HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Mr John Sampson
Managing Director
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Resources Directorate,
Redcar & Cleveland House
Kirkleatham Street
Redcar
TS10 1RT

Your ref: JSEG10102024

Our ref: MC2024/82256

19 November 2024

Dear Mr Sampson,

Thank you for your letter of 10 October to the Chancellor of the Exchequer about the decision to restrict Winter Fuel Payment eligibility. I am replying as the Minister for Pensions.

In face of the substantial pressures faced by the public finances this year and next, the Government has had to make hard choices, including targeting the Winter Fuel Payment, to bring the public finances back under control. This decision means that the Winter Fuel Payment will be targeted to low-income pensioners who need it.

Despite this very difficult decision, we are determined to protect the poorest pensioners and target support to those in greatest need. Winter Fuel Payments will continue to be paid to pensioner households with someone receiving Pension Credit or certain other income-related benefits. They will continue to be worth £200 for eligible households, or £300 for eligible households with someone aged over 80.

The Government wants those eligible for Pension Credit but not currently claiming it to receive the benefits they are entitled to, including the Winter Fuel Payment. As part of this, we have started a new drive to increase take-up of Pension Credit, which is currently far too low - with a third of eligible pensioners not claiming. We know there are low-income pensioners who are not claiming Pension Credit, and we really urge those people to apply.

Claims for Pension Credit can be made online at: www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim. The service is available to use 24/7, and provides those who may struggle to make their claim alone, the flexibility to have a friend or family to support them when making their claim, at a time that is most convenient to them. Pension Credit claims can also be made through the Freephone telephone number 0800 99 1234, and there is an option to complete a paper application form.

The Government is absolutely committed to pensioners and giving them the dignity and security they deserve in retirement. That is why through our commitment to protect the Triple Lock, over 12 million pensioners will benefit. Over the course of this parliament, the yearly amount of the basic State Pension is forecast to increase by around £1,500. Protecting the Triple Lock even in the current economic climate shows our steadfast commitment to pensioners.

The Warm Home Discount scheme provides eligible low-income households across Great Britain with a £150 rebate on their electricity bill. This winter, we expect over three million households, including over one million pensioners, to benefit under the scheme.

At the Autumn Budget 2024, the Chancellor announced that £1 billion, including Barnett impact, will be invested to extend the Household Support Fund in England by a full year until 31 March 2026, on top of the six months already announced, and to maintain Discretionary Housing Payments in England and Wales. This will help struggling households facing the greatest financial hardship.

We are supporting consumers through our Warm Homes Plan which will transform homes across the country by making them cleaner and cheaper to run. The Warm Homes Plan will offer grants and low interest loans to support investment in insulation, low carbon heating and other home improvements to cut bills.

Our other steps include cutting waiting times in the NHS which will help many pensioners currently waiting in pain and discomfort for treatment, and delivering the economic stability which is so crucial for pensioners.

Given the substantial pressures faced by the public finances this year and next, the Government has had to make hard choices to bring the public finances back under control.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Reynolds'.

Emma Reynolds MP

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Minister for Pensions



Briefing Note

Scrutiny Work Programme 2024/25

To: Corporate Resources and Governance
Scrutiny and Improvement Committee

From: Governance Manager

Date: December 2024

Ref:

1 What is the purpose of this report?

1.1 To provide an update on scrutiny's work programme 2024/25.

2 What is the background to this report?

2.1 The LGA and Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) advise that robust work programming is an essential part of a successful scrutiny process.

2.2 Scrutiny and Improvement Committees are an important part of the Council's overall political management arrangements and provide an opportunity for non-executive Members to maintain an overview of progress against delivery of corporate strategy, to be involved in policy development and improvement work, and to hold decisions makers to account. With carefully planned work, coupled with the experience and insights elected members have of their local communities, scrutiny can play a valuable and effective role in making sure services are as efficient and effective as they can be.

2.3 The work of Scrutiny and Improvement Committees generally falls into the following broad categories:

Policy and Strategy Development

Scrutiny provides opportunities to examine matters in more depth, to inform policy and strategy development and to drive service improvement. These topics should be clearly aligned to the Council's corporate priorities and strategic plans. It is likely that much of this work could be progressed through the scheduled Committee meetings, perhaps spreading the work over 2-3 meetings where the subject matter warrants it. For particular 'in-depth' review work, there may be the opportunity to undertake some of this work outside of the committee cycle via task and finish panels. These would be supported by Democratic Service Officers where resources allow.

Pre-Decision Scrutiny

In addition to policy and strategy development and review, Scrutiny Committees will undertake 'pre-decision' scrutiny by considering Cabinet reports that are listed for the current cycle.

Performance Monitoring/Overview

Committees also have the opportunity to examine a mix of annual reports and performance monitoring documents in their role as 'critical friends'

2.4 Work programmes do need to include some degree of flexibility throughout the year so that they are able to respond to emerging issues and the business needs of the Council. It is good practice to routinely monitor progress against the work programme, therefore, the work programme will remain a standing item on agendas to allow Members to monitor upcoming items and make suggestions for the future topics.

Approach to agreeing work programme for 2024-25

2.5 Members' views were sought on potential areas of focus for Scrutiny work. New suggestions were collated with previously identified topics, considered by the Chair and Vice Chair of each committee together with the relevant Director and Cabinet Members and agreed through Committees in July. A simple flow prioritising the suggestions using a simple flow chart technique. This flow chart is attached as an appendix for information and also to serve as a guide for prioritising any new or emerging work programme topics in year.

2.6 The results of this exercise have been translated into a workplan for each committee showing how each topic relates to the various categories of scrutiny work as described in para 2.3 above. Section headings have also been added to the agendas to reflect these broad categories and assist in the management of the meeting.

2.7 Current scrutiny task and finish panel work includes:

- Flood Management Strategy (work paused pending Government guidance on flood strategies. Interim report and recommendations being drafted)
- Waste Management Strategy (preparatory work taking place with service area)
- Support for carers and guardians of families going through transitions (jointly commissioned by Children and Families and Adults Well-being and Health Scrutiny & Improvement Committee)

2.8 In addition to this, Members are involved in other broader Council task and finish work such as:

- Collaborative Working Group looking at Crustacean Deaths
- Litter bin provision Task and Finish Group

2.9 These demands, on both Members and Officers, have been taken account of when prioritising and setting indicative timeframes around scrutiny work, and will be a consideration in relation to any additional proposed policy and strategy development work which is likely to require more in-depth consideration and a greater time commitment.

2.10 Corporate Resources and Governance Scrutiny & Improvement Committee work programme for 2024/25 is attached in appendix B.

2.11 The recent Budget task and finish work culminated in a Budget Conference for all Members and identified a number of areas considered worthy of further exploration or monitoring to support ongoing budget and transformation work (set out below). Democratic Services Officers are liaising with Directors, Assistant Directors and Scrutiny Chairs/Vice Chairs to programme work in appropriate timeframes.

Climate and Environment

- Asset Management: Return on Investment, commercial rents/leases v subsidised, business case development, Parking charges review to address deficit (may also be considered by Corporate Resources and Governance Scrutiny and Improvement Committee)
- Car Parking and Enforcement
- Waste Management: opportunities to explore through Scrutiny & Improvement Committees or the Task and Finish Group that is currently being scoped.

Children and Families

- Delivery of Children and Families Action Plan
- Milestones and targets to be developed and monitored, particularly in relation to in-house service provision of Children's residential care
- How to shape services to support Children and Families (for example, Healthy Community Co-ordinators)

Corporate Resources and Governance

- Performance Management Framework: further development of key metrics that link Corporate Plan and the MTFP and role of Scrutiny and Improvement Committees in relation to performance monitoring and management.
- Fees and Charges: consider in detail, default position full cost recovery / dialogue with government re statutory fees (each Scrutiny & Improvement Committee to look at Fees and Charges relevant to their remit)
- Digital Strategy - opportunities to deliver efficiencies with service areas

2.12 To assist with the efficient management of the work programme, it is suggested that each Committee to spends a short time, as part of this item, giving some thought to the key lines of enquiry or information requirements for upcoming items, enabling Officers to prepare information to meet those requirements and facilitate effective scrutiny.

3.0 Conclusions & Recommendations

3.1 Members are asked to:

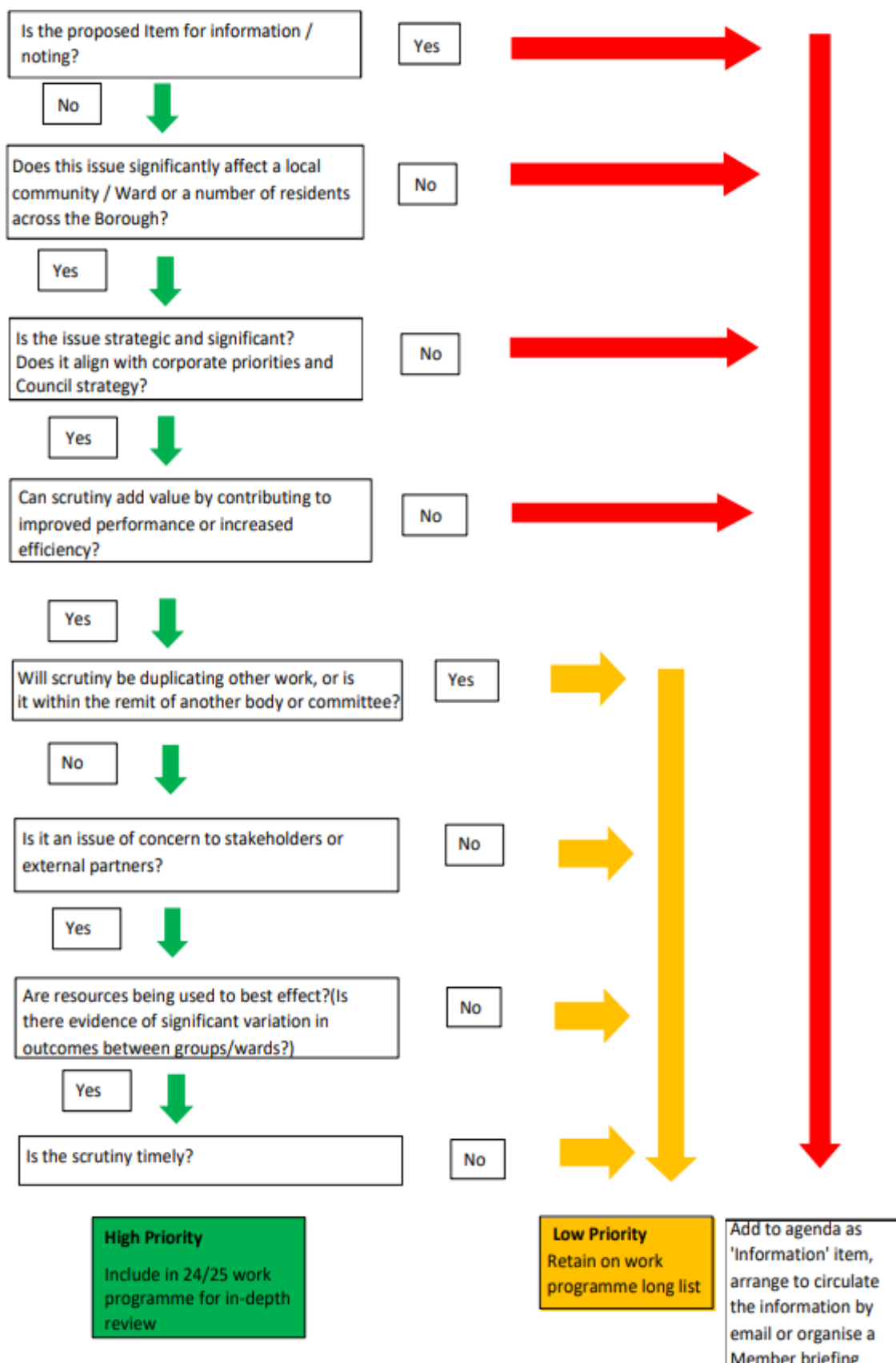
1. Note the approach to planning the timeframes for progressing the matters raised through the Budget Task and Finish work.
2. Note the work programmes for 2024/25 for their relevant Scrutiny and Improvement Committee.
3. Consider the key lines of enquiry or information requirements for upcoming topics.

4.0 Appendices

Appendix A – Prioritisation flow chart.

Appendix B – Proposed Scrutiny & Improvement Committee work programme.

Flow Chart for Prioritisation of Scrutiny Review Topics



Appendix B

Meeting date	Report	Officer/Lead	Scrutiny role
04 December 2024	Q2 reports - six monthly directorate specific performance report	Head of Strategic Performance, Policy and Improvement	Monitoring and Oversight
	Q2 Finance Update	Director of Finance	Pre-decision Scrutiny
	Budget Proposals 2025/26	Director of Finance	Pre-decision Scrutiny
	Council Tax Base 2025/26	Director of Finance	Pre-decision Scrutiny
	Fees and Charges 2025/26	Director of Finance	Pre-decision Scrutiny
	Motion Tracker	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Work Programme	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Outside Bodies Updates	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
05 February 2025	Q3 reports - six monthly Corporate Plan/Strategy delivery update report	Head of Strategic Performance, Policy and Improvement	Monitoring and Oversight
	Pay Policy Statement	Governance Director	Pre-decision Scrutiny
	Local Funding Formula for Schools	Finance Director	Pre-decision Scrutiny
	Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26	Finance Director	Pre-decision Scrutiny
	Motion Tracker	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Work Programme	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Outside Bodies Updates	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
12 March 2025	Motion Tracker	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Work Programme	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Outside Bodies Updates	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
23 April 2025	Motion Tracker	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Work Programme	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Outside Bodies Updates	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
04 June 2025	Q4 reports - six monthly directorate specific performance report	Head of Strategic Performance, Policy and Improvement	Monitoring and Oversight
	Motion Tracker	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Work Programme	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items
	Outside Bodies Updates	scrutiny officer/chair	Information Items



Briefing Note

Outside Bodies and Joint Arrangements Update

To: All Scrutiny & Improvement Committees

Date: December 2024

From: Governance Manager

Ref:

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To assist Members in reporting back on their work with Outside Bodies or other joint committees, identifying the Scrutiny & Improvement Committees most closely aligned with the activity of those various bodies.

2.0 Summary

- 2.1 Each Scrutiny & Improvement Committees includes a standing item on its agenda inviting feedback from representatives on Outside Bodies or other joint committees.
- 2.2 The attached table suggests which Committee is most closely aligned to each body and also provides a link to the organisation's website (where available) to enable Members to view information about the Outside Body or joint committee, its work and meeting documentation, where this is publicly available.
- 2.3 The information provided is intended to serve as a helpful guide only and shouldn't prevent members sharing updates on their work in other forums where appropriate.

3.0 Conclusions/recommendations

- 3.1 Members representing the authority on other bodies are requested to provide updates to the relevant Scrutiny & Improvement Committee as appropriate.

4.0 Further information sources

- 4.1 None

Outside Bodies / Scrutiny & Improvement Committees

Name of Body	Current Council Representatives	Website (Where available)
Adults, Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny and Improvement Committee		
Merchant Navy Welfare Board - Port Welfare Committee	Peter Chaney	https://www.mnwb.org/
Sir William Turners' Hospital	Mary Ovens Alec Brown	https://sirwilliamturner.org.uk/schools/sir-william-turner-s-almshouses
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust – Council of Governors	Lisa Robson	https://www.tewv.nhs.uk/
Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee	Ceri Cawley Steven Crane Steve Kay	Committee details - Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee Redcar and Cleveland (moderngov.co.uk)
South Tees Joint Health Scrutiny Committee	Jade Lavan Janine Craven Julie Hart Kendra Evans Steve Kay	Committee details - South Tees Joint Health Scrutiny Committee Redcar and Cleveland (moderngov.co.uk)
Live Well South Tees Board	Alec Brown Ursula Earl Bill Suthers Lisa Robson Jade Lavan	Committee details - Live Well South Tees Board Redcar and Cleveland (moderngov.co.uk)
River Tees Port Health Authority	Jonny Neal Peter Grogan Ian Hart Wayne Davies Carrie Richardson	Browse meetings - River Tees Port Health Authority Redcar and Cleveland (moderngov.co.uk)

Children & Families Scrutiny and Improvement Committee		
Redcar and Cleveland Domestic Abuse Partnership	Ursula Earl	https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/community-safety/domestic-abuse/what-is-domestic-abuse
Redcar and Cleveland Schools Forum	Bill Suthers	https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-forum
South Tees Youth Justice Board	Debbie Powlay	https://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/children-families-and-safeguarding/south-tees-youth-justice-service
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education	Marian Fairley Craig Hannaway Jade Lavan Linda White	https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/religious-education
Corporate Resources & Governance Scrutiny and Improvement Committee		
Association of North East Councils Leaders and Elected Mayors Group	Alec Brown	
Association of North East Councils Resources Task & Finish Group	Christopher Massey	
Local Government Association General Assembly	Alec Brown	https://www.local.gov.uk/
North East Regional Employers Organisation	Craig Hannaway Christopher Massey Jonny Neal	https://www.nereo.gov.uk/
Redcar and Cleveland Citizens Advice Bureau - Management Committee	Marian Fairley	https://www.citizensadvisedrc.org.uk/
Redcar and Cleveland Twinning Association Management Group	Neil Bendelow (Mayor)	http://www.redcarandclevelandtwinningassociation.org.uk/
Tees Valley Leaders and Mayors	Alec Brown Carrie Richardson	

Teesside International Airport Board	Christopher Massey	https://www.teessideinternational.com/about-us/teesside-international-airport-ltd/
Teesside Pension Board	Christopher Massey	https://www.teespen.org.uk/
Teesside Pension Fund Panel	Marian Fairley	https://www.teespen.org.uk/
Tees Valley Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee	Peter Grogan	Meetings - About (teesvalley-ca.gov.uk)
Growth Scrutiny and Improvement Committee		
Industrial Communities Alliance	Tim Gray Lynn Pallister	https://industrialcommunitiesalliance.org.uk/
Northern Housing Consortium	Adam Brook	https://www.northern-consortium.org.uk/
Historic England	Carrie Richardson	https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/technical-advice/information-management/hers/?gclid=EAlaIQobCh
Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Margaret O'Donoghue Craig Hannaway Glyn Nightingale	Meetings - About (teesvalley-ca.gov.uk)
Tees Valley Combined Authority	Alec Brown	Meetings - About (teesvalley-ca.gov.uk)
Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Committee	Carl Quartermain	Meetings - About (teesvalley-ca.gov.uk)
Tees Valley Combined Authority Education, Employment and Skills Partnership Board	Lynn Pallister	Meetings - About (teesvalley-ca.gov.uk)
Climate & Environment Scrutiny and Improvement Committee		
Association of North East Councils - North East Culture Partnership	Alec Brown	
Hartlepool Power Station Local Community Liaison Council	Izzy Attwood	https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/power-stations/hartlepool
Industry Nature Conservation Association	Carrie Richardson	http://www.inca.uk.com/

Land of Iron (formerly Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum)	Linda White	https://landofiron.org.uk/
North East Migration Partnership Members Forum	Adam Brook	https://www.nemp.org.uk/
North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority	Ceri Cawley	https://www.ne-ifca.gov.uk/
North York Moors Local Access Forum	John McCue	https://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/about-us/rights-of-way/local-access-forum
North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum Executive (awaiting information on replacement body)	Izzy Attwood Carrie Richardson Philip Thomson	https://coastalforum.wordpress.com/
Northumbria Regional Flood and Coastal Defence Committee	Carl Quartermain	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency
PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London)	Carl Quartermain	https://www.patrol-uk.info/
Teesside Heritage Trust Ltd	Marian Fairley	https://teesheritage.org.uk/
Cleveland Police and Crime Panel	Peter Chaney Chris Jones Graham Cutler	Committee details - Cleveland Police and Crime Panel Redcar and Cleveland (moderngov.co.uk)
Emergency Planning Committee	Adam Brook	
Joint Archives Committee	Carrie Richardson	Teesside Archives Middlesbrough Council
North York Moors National Park Authority	John McCue Curt Pugh	North York Moors National Park NYMNP

Corporate Resources Scrutiny & Improvement Committee – Action list

Actions from 17.07.24 meeting		
A Letter from the Corporate Resources & Governance Scrutiny & Improvement Committee be sent to Government to request a review of how business rates are collected and for further information regarding legislation providing the authority for Council's to auction off unused commercial properties.	PW	

Actions from 11.9.24 meeting		
Delegated Decisions to be reviewed at each Scrutiny Committee	SN	This is catered for as part of the item to review relevant Cabinet reports.
Further discussion to take place between Saltburn Ward Councillors and Officers on the Cat Nab issue, outwith the Committee.	SN	Two briefing sessions have taken place with ward Councillors and a confidential update report was provided to Committee on 31.10 24.

Actions from 23.10.24 meeting		
Members requested that a report on the Council's assets be submitted to a future meeting.	PW	To be programmed.

<p>Members requested an update on the timeframe for the revision of the “Get me Home Safely” campaign be submitted for a future meeting. Specifically “Can we make it a condition of licencing that businesses have to provide female staff with taxis home late at night?”</p>	<p>BA</p>	<p>Advice from the Directorate is that this cannot be mandated, but applicants can be voluntarily asked to make a commitment to ensure staff are able to get home safely.</p>
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