Blaby District Council Scrutiny Commission

Date of Meeting 20 September 2023

Title of Report Proposed 2023-24 Scrutiny Work Programme
Report Author Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer

1. What is this report about?

1.1 To consider the proposed Scrutiny Work Programme for 2023-24.

2. Recommendation(s) to Scrutiny Commission

- 2.1 That Scrutiny approves the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2023-24 (to follow).
- 2.3 That the Scrutiny Work Programme be communicated to all Councillors, Senior Officers and Parish and Town Councils.

3. Reason for Decision(s) Recommended

3.1 As set out in the Council's Constitution, Part 4, Section 5, paragraph 7, it is the responsibility of the Scrutiny Commission to set and agree its work programme for the next municipal year.

4. Matters to consider

4.1 Setting the Scrutiny work programme is an important part of the scrutiny process and as a member led function it is for Scrutiny itself to determine and managing its work programme.

Scrutiny work covers in depth review, policy development, issues of public concern as well as holding the executive to account and monitoring implementation of scrutiny recommendations.

A well planned work programme provides a clear picture to the public and partners of key scrutiny topics and activity over the coming year. It is a working document that is subject to change – Members may add, remove and defer items as necessary.

In developing the work programme there is a commitment to getting out into the community and increasing public involvement in addition to engaging with Local Councils.

4.2 Appendix A (to follow) sets out the culmination of work identified at a Work Programme development session on the 5 September 2023, which was supported by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS). Forward Plan and pre-decision scrutiny and the Call-In of Cabinet Executive decision items may be added to the work programme as and when identified (subject to consideration of current work progress and resources).

The work programme will be a standing item on the Scrutiny Commission agenda for Members to review regularly.

4.3 Proposal

Scrutiny Commission members are asked to consider and approve the 2023-24 Scrutiny Work Programme (to follow).

4.4 Relevant Consultations

Local Councils, non-executive members, Officers and public were invited to submit suggestions. No suggestions were received from the public. Parish and Town Councils have been consulted and asked to nominate topics for review. Any topics received will be brought to the next Commission meeting.

4.5 Significant Issues

As set out at paragraph 3.1 it is a constitutional requirement for the Scrutiny Commission to set a programme of work.

5. What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?

5.1 Financial and efficiency implications will be assessed as review work is scoped.

6. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

6.1 Risks will be assessed as part of each scrutiny review.

7. Other options considered

7.1 No other options have been considered for reasons set out at 3.1.

8. Other significant issues

8.1 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities, and Climate Local and there are no areas of concern.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix A - Proposed Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2023-24.

10. Background paper(s)

None

11. Report author's contact details

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