

25 Scrutiny Work Programme 24/25

Timescale	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
5 June 2024	Private residential care home	<p>Are there powers available that the Council may use in order to influence the number and location of these facilities.</p> <p>Concern regarding the Change of Use decisions – Officer delegation/Factors and reasons for the Change of use. Intensification?</p> <p>Are licences granted from LCC on these homes? External Regulation?</p>	Jonathan Hodge – Planning & Strategic Growth Group Manager	Scrutiny Commissioners	Complete - Jonathan Hodge presented a briefing note – agreed that this would be circulated to BT/TA Members and added to Members SP Site. Also agreed no further action on this item.
6 June 2024	Active Travel Strategy and LCWIP	Review of the Strategy	Luke Raddon-Jackson Phill Turner	Task & Finish	Complete - Following the discussion, Members agreed that a further update be brought back to Scrutiny in 6 months. (Nov/Dec24)
17 July 2024 (previously 12 June)	Residents Survey Update	Members will receive a presentation on the results of the resident's survey	Karen Almond Julie Hutchinson	Scrutiny Commission	Complete
31 July 2024	HR Review	To continue and 'wrap-up' the commission's work on current HR provision at The Council.	1 st meeting members only	Task & Finish 2 meetings	31 st July – Members reviewed previous notes and completed a new scope for intended work. It was agreed that due to time lapsed from the last meeting, that data and trends were out of date, and requested up to date information from HR to be presented at the next meeting.

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					<p>1 October – Presentation from HR, Members agreed that the next meeting will seek evidence from Service Managers and People Managers on their experiences</p> <p>26 November – Members considered evidence from Service Managers who volunteered to provide information on their own experiences of recruitment and retention.</p> <p>Next Meetings: 11 February – for members to discuss key findings 25 March – for HR/Portfolio Holder to attend (TBC)</p>
11 September 2024	Corporate Parenting Responsibilities	Members will receive a presentation.	Caroline Harbour	Scrutiny Commission	Complete – slides to be circulated to Members
11 September 2024	State of the District	To provide the annual update on the state of the district and leader's annual statement.	Cllr Terry Richardson Julia Smith	Scrutiny Commission	Complete – Slides to be circulated to Members
11 September 2024	Homelessness & Social Housing	How many families/individuals have been impacted during this time (homelessness numbers)? Impact on the budget and the officers administering of the rise in homelessness and	Caroline Harbour Ian Jones	Scrutiny Commission	Complete – slides to be completed to Members.

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		<p>demand for social housing.</p> <p>Has it impacted on the resource needed?</p> <p>Will the team be able to continue absorbing the demand? Can we keep delivering our service?</p> <p>Other options, e.g. partnerships?</p>			
18 September (Brooks Room)	The Council's plans for historic contaminated land sites	<p>The scope of what we have, how big is the potential danger?</p> <p>Information on Contaminated Land owned by the Council as well as sites that consume the Council's time and effort (even if the Council does not have direct liability). What do we know so far about these sites? E.g. their location, are they being monitored?</p> <p>Update on the current strategy to be given.</p>	Caroline Harbour, Anna Farish and Declan Goodwin (Contaminated Land Officer)	Task and Finish	Complete – that an update on the desktop study to be brought back in 12 months.
18 September (Brooks Room)	Update on the Environmental Health, Environmental Services and Community Safety	Provide an update on the proposed changes to the policy including an appendix specifically on environmental crime.	Caroline Harbour and Phil Fasham	Task and Finish	Complete – update to be brought back to consider how the new FPN levels have been embedded. Scrutiny will also monitor on iPlan.

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	Enforcement and Compliance Policy Update on proposed changes to Environmental Crime Fixed Penalty Notices	Propose new FPN levels for environmental crime offences following a change in legislation.			
<p>Tuesday 2 July 2024 – cancelled</p> <p>Thursday 26 September 2024</p> <p>Thursday 7 November 2024</p> <p>Thursday 3 April 2025</p> <p>Thursday 10 July 2025</p> <p>Thursday 18 September 2025</p> <p>Thursday 6 November 2025</p>	iPlan Workshop (Corporate Measures)	To examine areas of concern, trends and poor performance through iPlan – the Council's Corporate Measures system.	Luke Clements	Working group	<p>21 November 2023 – Members were successful in logging into iPlan. Queries were raised on P1 Measures which have now been added onto a spreadsheet for senior officers to respond to. One of the key areas raised was that you could not easily find the underperforming areas.</p> <p>6 March 2024 – Members reviewed the responses from SLT from queries raised at the previous meeting. Members discussed and reviewed the current P1 Measures. Members reviewed evidence and delivery of the Blaby Corporate Plan Actions</p> <p>26 September 2024 – Members reviewed responses from SLT, reviewed current P1 Measures. Unfortunately, the work was incomplete, and the meeting had to end due to flooding at the Council Offices.</p> <p>7 November 2024 – Members noted a reluctance of officers to put targets and meaningful commentary on iPlan and considered whether a recommendation to Cabinet Executive would encourage services to prioritise iPlan.</p>

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					Next Meeting: 3 April 2025
15 October 2024	Blaby District Tourism Growth Plan 2025-2030	<p>BDC has appointed Business Tourism Solutions to review the current 2020-2025 Tourism Growth Plan and prepare a new Growth Plan for 2025-2030.</p> <p>The Growth Plan is being developed in consultation with the Council and Tourism Stakeholders and will provide a framework of action for the next five years. The plan will be closely aligned to and effectively integrate with the key existing tourism strategies across Leicestershire and will play a vital role in the delivery of the Blaby District Plan 2024-2028, Economic Development Framework, and Blaby Action Plan.</p> <p>There is a three-stage process to develop and deliver the new Tourism Growth Plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of Blaby District's position in the marketplace 2. Industry engagement and consultations 	Tracy Gaskin, Nadia Alam, Kirsty Beauchamp	Task and Finish	Complete – that an update be brought back to Scrutiny Commission in the future to consider a progress update.

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		<p>3. Development of tourism growth and action plan for 2025-2030</p> <p>As part of stage two of the project, a consultation with members to gain their valuable input has been factored in. During this Scrutiny Session BTS will present key findings from the progress review and gather views from members to feed into the final Tourism Growth Plan.</p>			
<p>New Date: 29 October</p> <p>(Previously 30 October 2024)</p>	New Food Waste Collection Scheme		Paul Coates	All Member Briefing	Complete - Following consultation with the Commissioners, an all-Member Briefing was held. It has been agreed that a further update be brought back to Members in September to input into plans.
<p>11 November 2024</p> <p>(previously 26 June)</p>	Net Zero by 2050 target	<p>Which projects are contributing to our target? What is the budget and are we thinking of dropping any projects?</p> <p>Is our target realistic? Can we do more to achieve it?</p> <p>Have we understood all potential challenges, what gaps are there?</p>	<p>Caroline Harbour Anna Farish</p> <p>Jill Stevenson (to potentially come to later meetings)</p>	Working Group	<p>Chaired by Cllr Tony Deakin.</p> <p>Complete – pending an update to the Commissioners on the progress of the new electric fleet.</p>

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		Potential area for exploration at a subsequent meeting: Our community leadership role e.g. supporting parish councils to implement their own net zero measures. Information on electrification of the fleet with a specific focus on ongoing budgetary requirements to be provided to Commissioners.			
13 November 2024	Quarter 2 Budget Review Revised Capital Programme Proposed Capital Programme	Early involvement in Budget setting to provide comment on proposals; understand possible risks and impacts on budget proposals	Finance Group Manager	Scrutiny Commission	Complete
13 November 2024	Regulation of Investigatory Powers	Consider the annual monitoring report (statutory requirement)	Gemma Dennis	Scrutiny Commission	Complete
TBC	Corporate Action Plan Updates (Half Year and year end report?)	Examine delivery against Blaby Plan vision and themes	Julia Smith or Executive Director	Scrutiny Commission	The Corporate Action Plan 2024-25 Mid-Year Progress Report was considered by Cabinet Executive at its Extraordinary meeting on 27 November.
12 February 2025	Gender Pay Gap	Annual reporting reviewed by Scrutiny	HR/Lisa Boland	Scrutiny Commission	
TBC	Annual Complaints Report	Reviewed annually	Luke Clements	Scrutiny Commission	

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15, 22, 29 January 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget context setting Portfolio Holder Sessions Draft Scrutiny response 	Consider financial picture in context of setting a balanced budget. Examine and respond to Portfolio Holder proposed draft budgets and funding priorities.	All SLT/Cabinet Executive	Scrutiny of the 25/26 Administration's Budget Proposals	Currently ongoing.
TBC	Lightbulb	<p>Scrutiny requests a breakdown of Blaby's contribution compared to other partner authorities.</p> <p>Exploration of Lightbulb pilots and suggested outcome.</p>	Caroline Harbour	Task & Finish	<p>TBC – this meeting was originally planned on 11 December, Officers requested that this be deferred.</p> <p>Seek alternative dates for this meeting.</p>
TBC	Footpaths and Cycle Routes.	<p>Is there a means by which the Council may enforce better interconnectivity between new and existing settlements through footpaths and cycle routes?</p> <p>Can section 106 be utilised to support/maintain the creation of footpaths and cycle routes?</p> <p>Members will also examine this when the Active Travel Strategy is</p>	<p>Jonathan Hodge – Planning</p> <p>Luke Raddon-Jackson/Phill Turner</p>	Task & Finish	Complete – pending a review of the Active Travel Strategy in 6 months.

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		considered by Scrutiny on the 6 June.			
TBC	Car Parks	Scrutiny requests early sight of the revised strategy/plan. Scrutiny to explore what residents want from car parks compared to our current offering.	Caroline Harbour Anna Farish	Working Group	Deferred to the 25/26 work programme following discussion with officers and agreement from Commissioners.
TBC	Local Police	Updates are not consistently provided from local police to ward members/parishes. Why? What can be done to improve the channels of communication between the two? Examine the level of communication between local police with ward members/parish councils.	Caroline Harbour Rebecca Holcroft	Scrutiny Commission	
TBC	Health and Leisure offering	How is the service responding to reduced funding? What is the proposed new offer?	Luke Raddon-Jackson	Scrutiny Commission	

Available Scrutiny Dates

Available Scrutiny Dates		Scrutiny Topic:	Scrutiny Commission Dates		Scrutiny Topic:
Date of meeting:	Report deadline		Date of Meeting	Report Deadline	
31 July (rearranged from 25 June)	22 July, publish 23 July	HR Scrutiny	17 July – NEW (previously 12 June)	8 July, publish 9 July	Residents Survey presentation
29 July 2024	18 July, publish 19 July	N/A	11 September	2 September, publish 3 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of the District • Homelessness • Corporate Parenting
1 October	20 September, publish 23 September	Recruitment and Retention – HR	13 November	4 November, publish 5 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RIPA • Finance reports (Q2 Budget, Capital Programme, Treasury Management)
15 October	3 October, publish 4 October	Tourism Growth Plan	12 February 2025	3 February, publish 4 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender Pay Gap • Budget report to Cabinet
29 October	N/A	Food Waste Collection Scheme	2 April	24 March, publish 25 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Travel Strategy Progress Review (TBC) • A Strategic Guide to Empty or Occupied Eyesore Premises-
11 November	31 October, publish 1 November	Net Zero by 2050	11 June	2 June, publish 3 June	
26 November	15 November, publish 18 November	Recruitment and Retention	10 September	1 September, publish 2 September	New – Health and Leisure introduction (TBC)
11 December	3 December, publish 4 December	Homelessness Strategy	12 November	3 November, publish 4 November	