

Scrutiny Work Programme 25/26

Date:	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
11 June 2025	Food Waste Collection	<p>Members were provided with an update on Food Waste Collection as part of the Kerbside Waste Collection policy update. A further update will be provided to Commission in due course.</p> <p>Scrutiny also requests an update on the Electric Vehicles, following the information which was provided on 11th June.</p>	Paul Coates Ashley Hatfield	Scrutiny Commission	Complete (pending update on electric vehicle fleet)
<p>Thursday 10 July 2025</p> <p>Thursday 18 September 2025</p> <p>Thursday 13 November 2025 (previously 6 November)</p>	iPlan Workshop (Corporate Measures)	To examine areas of concern, trends and performance through iPlan – the Council’s Corporate Measures system.	Luke Clements	Working Group	<p>3 April 2025 – Members reviewed responses from SLT, reviewed current P1 Measures. Members also requested the attendance of the Planning & Strategic Growth Group Manager and the Principal Planning Policy Officer to discuss 5 Year Housing Land Supply Measures. Members received a demonstration on Business intelligence and AI and its uses at the Council.</p> <p>10 July 2025 – Members addressed 5 questions: 1) Should P1 measures be our statutory obligations and District Plan Objectives. 2) What are BDC Statutory Obligations, how are we measuring these? 3) How are we measuring District Plan Objectives 4) What are we measuring and why? What are we reviewing? What are we reporting? 5) Renaming workshop to</p>

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					<p>'Measuring Corporate Performance. Members requested a list of statutory objectives the Council collects/reports data on for the next meeting.</p> <p>18 September – The Performance and Information Service Manager presented a refined list of the statutory duties placed on local authorities. Cllr. Neil Wright requested further work on the list for the next meeting to enable a discussion of how to proceed with shaping the Councils performance reporting.</p> <p>13 November – the meeting was closed due to it being inquorate. Cllr Neil Wright requested that the purpose of the group be reviewed at the next Commissioners meeting on 20 November.</p> <p>20 November - Commissioners agreed that the Business Systems, Performance & Information Manager and the Executive Director be invited to the next Commissioners meeting in January to carry out a scoping exercise and review Corporate Performance.</p> <p>iPlan meetings currently being reviewed.</p>
Amended date: 24 November	Lightbulb	Scrutiny requests a breakdown of Blaby's contribution compared to other partner authorities.	Caroline Harbour	Task & Finish	Complete – pending the following actions arising from the meeting:

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(was previously 26 November)		Exploration of Lightbulb pilots and suggested outcome.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A brief initially for the Scrutiny Commissioners to understand how the new Renters Rights bill will impact Lightbulb and residents who rent. To also be rolled out to all Members • Update on the 2-year extension of the pilot schemes • Note– the concerns of the Officers employed in the pilot schemes for 12/24 months are receiving all entitlements ie pension and entitlements linked to length of service etc.
2 December	Capital Programme 26/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • examine delivery of capital programme • consider latest update 	All non-executive members are invited	Task and finish	Complete
TBC	Local Police	<p>Updates are not consistently provided from local police to ward members/parishes. Why?</p> <p>Examine the level of communication between local police with ward members/parish councils.</p> <p>Scrutiny wishes to consider how members receive updates on their local policing issues via the CSP, and to explore how it can encourage more information</p>	Caroline Harbour Rebecca Holcroft Carol Parker	Task & Finish	Update to be provided at Scrutiny Commissioners meeting on 12 January 2026.

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Date:	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
		sharing from the CSP specifically related to Blaby issues.			
14, 21, 28 January 2026	Consideration of the 2026/27 Budget Proposals	14 January – Budget context setting 21 January – Portfolio Holder sessions 28 January – 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 All non-executive Members	Scrutiny of the 25/26 Administration's Budget Proposals	
4 February 2026	Annual Complaints Report	This is reviewed annually by Scrutiny. Scrutiny wish to receive information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging themes • Trends over the last 5 years • Outcomes of complaints • Number of complaints related to calls received 	Luke Clements	Scrutiny Commission	
3 March 2026 6:30pm – Council Chamber	Joint Community Safety Partnership Overview & Scrutiny Committee	To consider the annual update from the Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership.	Scrutiny Members from both Blaby and HBBC	-	

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Date:	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
10 September 10 March 2026	Review of Member Champion roles	<p>Following the addition of 2 new member Champion roles at Annual Council, bringing the total number to 5 champions, Scrutiny wish to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value added • Priorities of champions <p>The process for creating new champion positions</p>	Leader of the Council Chief Executive	Scrutiny Commission	<p>10 September – it was agreed that a Task & Finish Group be created to enable Scrutiny to consider roles and responsibilities of each Champion, how they are held accountable, how they are appointed (e.g. on expertise and knowledge). The Task and Finish Group would also allow the Champions to share their ambitions, priorities and background on what's expected of them in their Member Champion roles.</p> <p>10 March 2026: That all Member Champions be invited to the meeting.</p>
25 March	HR – Phase 2	<p>This work will examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current days lost to sickness including a breakdown of how many lost to stress and mental health issues. • How are managers supported? • What support is provided to staff? • A timeline of when the next Workplace Health Needs Assessment or Staff Survey or similar is planned. <p>What consideration have been given to the possible impact on recruitment and retention of LGR</p>	TBC	Working Group	<p>Note from Officers: Would please like a later date request on this – early 2026 if possible. We are currently recruiting into new (approved) roles within the team and they will have a key part to play in this piece of work. We also have a key project looking at data extraction to support scrutiny of areas such as sickness absence which we would like to be in a position to share as part of this piece of work with Scrutiny Working Group</p>

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Date:	Item	Detail	Attendance required	Forum	Progress
<p>26th June 28th October 22 April 2026</p>	<p>Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution</p>	<p>2 July:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rationale behind the need to request additional establishment resource at cabinet less than 2 months after the budget was approved • To discuss the approach of other authorities and where the District Councils sit in relation to this • To discuss central government's response to the District Council proposal • What will be BDCs legacy after LGR? <p>22 April 2026: For Scrutiny to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A blueprint for implementation and an understanding as to what actions have been taken to date amongst councils to seek to share resources, work on alignment of policies and terms etc. 2. What type of learning and development is being provided for staff to ensure that they are prepared for the merger? 3. Examine the FAQ's that staff have put forward. 	<p>Directors</p>	<p>Working Group</p>	<p>28 October – All non-executive Members were invited to consider the draft proposal 'The Case for Three Unitary Councils in a Future Leicestershire & Rutland'.</p> <p>Members considered the draft proposal with Scrutiny Commission Members providing the final response for Cabinet to consider at their meeting on 20 November. Scrutiny Commission has also requested early involvement in the next stage of LGR and Devolution to ensure it can make a meaningful contribution to the development of future plans and implementation.</p>

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TBC	Review of Asset Disposal process	To gain an understanding of the decision-making processes of how council assets are disposed or sold.	Executive Directors and Group Manager for Assets	TBC	That an update on the procedure be brought to Scrutiny Commission
TBC	Car Park Strategy	To evaluate whether the strategies set out in the Car Parks Strategy are fit for purpose.	Caroline Harbour	Task & Finish	
Items removed from the Work Programme					
	Review of the use of external agencies and consultants	To explore cost and outcomes and if the value of these are evaluated	Directors	Scrutiny Commission	Commissioners reviewed the data provided and agreed that no further action was required.
	Communicating with residents	To explore the reintroduction of a paper communication to be sent to households, specifically with the goal of keeping residents informed on the progress of Local Government Reorganisation.			Response from Officers circulated at Commissioners meeting on 4 June. It was agreed that the item be removed given the evidence provided which demonstrated the lack of public appetite for a paper communication and the high cost of reintroduction.
	Biodiversity	What plan or policy is in place to maintain and improve the biodiversity within the district? Are developers delivering on their requirements? What is Blaby District Council doing to promote biodiversity?			Initial briefing note was provided to Commissioners which they felt sufficiently addressed their queries. It was agreed the briefing note would be shared with all members. The item has now been removed from the Work Programme.
	Inbound calls to Blaby District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of calls dropped after transfer to departments 			Commissioners were provided with a breakdown of customer satisfaction survey results which indicated a positive

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer satisfaction survey results • Statistics on the number of calls received, to which departments, number of complaints related to calls received 			resident experience. It was agreed this was not an area that Scrutiny could add further value and it was therefore removed from the Work Programme.
TBC	Temporary Accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To examine the management of temporary accommodation properties. How is the management company being resourced and how the Council is expecting to 'scale up' on the basis of bringing more properties on board. 	Portfolio Holder Sarah Pennelli Caroline Harbour, Ian Jones/John Crane	TBC	Deferred to 26/26 Work Programme

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Available Scrutiny Dates

Available Scrutiny Dates		Scrutiny Topic:	Scrutiny Commission Dates		Scrutiny Topic:
Date of meeting:	Report deadline		Date of Meeting	Report Deadline	
17 July	8 July, publish 9 July	n/a	11 June	2 June, publish 3 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Exec response to budget recommendations • Kerbside Collection Policy, Food Waste Collection and update on electric vehicles
16 October	7 October, publish 8 October	n/a	10 September	1 September, publish 2 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of the District • Review of Member Champion roles
NEW: 28 October	19 October, publish on 20 October	Consideration of draft LGR proposal	12 November	3 November, publish 4 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Health and Leisure • RIPA
29 October	20 October, publish 21 October	Cancelled	04 February 2026	26 January, publish 27 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Complaints Report •
13 November	4 November, publish 5 November	Cancelled	22 April	13 April, publish 14 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGR
24 November	13 November, publish 14 November	Lightbulb	17 June	8 June, publish 9 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2 December	21 November, publish 24 November	Capital Programme 26/27	9 September	28 August, publish 1 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
10 March	27 February, publish 2 March	New: Member Champions	4 November	26 October, publish 27 October	
25 March	16 March, publish 17 March	New: HR – Phase 2			
29 April	20 April, publish 21 April	New: Local Police			