

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

ECONOMY, SKILLS AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY 2024 AT 10:00 HOURS
IN COMMITTEE ROOM 6, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE,
BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB

A G E N D A

1 **NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST**

The Chair to advise/meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Public-I microsite ([please click this link](#)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 **APOLOGIES**

To receive any apologies.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Members are reminded they must declare all relevant pecuniary and other registerable interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting.

If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared a Member must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless they have been granted a dispensation.

If other registerable interests are declared a Member may speak on the matter only if members of the public are allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless they have been granted a dispensation.

If it is a 'sensitive interest', Members do not have to disclose the nature of the interest, just that they have an interest.

Information on the Local Government Association's Model Councillor Code of Conduct is set out via <http://bit.ly/3WtGQnN>. This includes, at Appendix 1, an interests flowchart which provides a simple guide to declaring interests at meetings.

4 **MEMBERSHIP OF ECONOMY, SKILLS AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

To note any new appointments to the Committee.

3 - 8

5 **MINUTES**

To confirm the minutes from the meeting held on 12th June 2024.

9 - 10

6 **ECONOMY, SKILLS & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER**

To review and note the actions from previous Economy, Skills & Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting(s).

11 - 14

7 **ASSET DISPOSAL PROGRAMME UPDATE**

To receive the second quarterly update on the asset disposal programme.

Philip Nell, Strategic Director, Place, Prosperity and Sustainability and Ian Chaplin, Head of Investment Property Management will be in attendance.

15 - 32

8 **ECONOMY, SKILLS AND CULTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

To note and agree issues for the Committee's work programme.

9 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is 4 September.

10 **REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

To consider any request for call in/councillor call for action/petitions (if received).

11 **OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chair are matters of urgency.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**ECONOMY, SKILLS AND CULTURE O&S COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2024 at 1000 hours in Committee Room 6, Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham

Present:

Councillors Katherine Iroh (Chair)

Councillors Jon Hunt, Meirion Jenkins, Shafique Shah and Lisa Trickett

Also Present:

James Betjemaan, Head of Curzon and Enterprise Zone Development

Kathryn James, Assistant Director, Investment and Valuation

Jane Smith, Enterprise Zone Programme Manager

Yasmin Sulaman, Programme Champion

Amelia Wiltshire, Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Baseema Begum, Scrutiny Officer

NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

1. The Chair, Councillor Iroh, advised those present that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast and that Members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

APOLOGIES

2. Apologies were received from Cllr Morrall.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. There were no declarations of interest submitted.

MEMBERSHIP OF ECONOMY, SKILLS & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4. The Committee's membership for the 2024-25 municipal year was noted.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

5. Cllr Trickett was proposed and agreed as Deputy Chair for the 2024-25 municipal year.

ECONOMY, SKILLS & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND WORK PROGRAMME 2024/25

6. The Chair gave an overview of the Committee's remit and the items listed on the work programme and asked Members for their thoughts on other items that could be added. Cllr Iroh explained that the focus of the Committee's work this year was to continue to support the Council's Improvement and Recovery plan.

A discussion was held with Members and the following points were made: -

- A separate private briefing will follow July's Committee meeting on budget savings relevant to the Committee's remit. The Committee previously looked at these savings in April with officers and Cabinet Members in attendance. Members may wish to consider a smaller number of the proposed savings and the impact of these on residents and communities.
- Two saving targets have been incorporated into the Committee's remit following the changes to the Council's Constitution. These relate to BMusic and Birmingham Museum Trust and heritage and cultural assets and will be added to the list of savings for consideration in July.
- In relation to saving 106 'Service re-design and restructure' within the Place, Prosperity and Sustainability directorate, concerns were raised about the levels of savings being proposed and the impact of this on the ability to deliver on the economy and skills pathway. In particular ensuring that there was adequate staffing capacity and capability within the Council without having to resource external expertise at additional cost.
- Consideration should be given to the city's economic and industrial strategies and proposals to secure growth for the city and all of its communities. A particular emphasis was put on ensuring that strategies are co-ordinated to deliver growth for all areas of the city and ensure that the Council's commitment to achieving net zero carbon for example was being embedded as part of this.

MINUTES

7. In response to seeking clarification from the Monitoring Officer on the potential conflict of the disposal of assets strategy with the Council's Planning Framework it was confirmed by the Overview and Scrutiny Manager that the Monitoring Officer was confirmed to attend the July meeting to explain this in detail. Further points as listed on the Action Tracker in relation to attendance by the Commissioner and the role of Planning were being followed up.

RESOLVED: -

- i) That the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

ACTION TRACKER

8. RESOLVED: -

- i) That the action tracker be noted.

SCRUTINY OF THE INTEGRATION OF GREATER BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (GBSLEP) FUNCTIONS INTO BCC

9. The Chair welcomed James Betjemaan, Head of Curzon and Enterprise Zone Development; Jane Smith, Enterprise Zone Programme Manager and Yasmin Sulaman, Programme Champion who were in attendance for this item.

The Head of Curzon and Enterprise Zone Development highlighted some key points from the report explaining that Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) were introduced in 2011. As part of a review undertaken in 2022 and in line with the wider Levelling Up agenda LEPs were amalgamated into local authorities or combined authorities. A list of LEP functions that were transferred into the Council was listed in the report, and this included the TUPE of staff, transfer of functions and data. In November 2023, the Growth Hub Delivery team that provide support to businesses in the city were transferred over to the Council. This team works with the West Midlands Combined Authority in an arrangement to deliver business support for Birmingham and Solihull.

Members then held a discussion, and the following were among the points raised: -

- The Enterprise Zone and Legacy Programmes Partnership Board subsumed the role of the Programme Delivery Board and includes 3 private sector members (one of who is Chair). Representatives of the Council are the Deputy Leader and the Strategic Director for Place, Prosperity and Sustainability directorate. Solihull Council are also included as a representative of the wider legacy LEP geography.
- The role of the Enterprise Zone and Legacy Programmes Partnership Board is to oversee the Enterprise Zone and the legacy funded programmes such as the Local Growth Fund. The remit of the board and its Terms of Reference were approved by Cabinet earlier this year.
- Whilst all of the funding has been spent there was still the need to continue monitoring and analysing the performance data. Equally, funding agreements also require close monitoring, and the Council has a system in place to do this with reports produced on the performance of all projects.

- There was also some recycled funding for some of the projects within some programmes and it will be the decision of the new board on where and how this will be used.
- In terms of the surplus generated from the Enterprise Zone further information on the plan can be provided. It was clarified that the baseline set in 2011 was set on what the business rate income was and that any surplus on those 39 sites was kept by the Enterprise Zone and reinvested in economic development.
- Members were assured that all projects put forward to the Board were put through a rigorous risk management framework. This robust process known as the 'Green Book' methodology safeguards the development of sound business cases. It covers project delivery, costs, the economic and strategic cases and cost-benefit ratio as well as value-for-money. Additionally, a risk strategy for each project is independently appraised and challenged prior to a case being presented for investment to the Board. For approved contracts, all conditions are quarterly monitored.
- Members were concerned that enterprise zones ringfencing surpluses especially such as the one in the city centre created an anomaly where it was seen to reap more benefits from public funds than other areas and could be seen as perpetuating inequality. It was added that there was a lack of trickle-down effect where other parts of the city did not benefit from this investment or see growth. It was felt that this was counter-productive and was reflected by the high unemployment figures in the city in comparison with the region and country.
- A sum of £1.9m from the transfer of the LEP functions into the Council is yet to be concluded however it was going through the necessary legal processes for clearance. The Board will be responsible in overseeing how this sum is used effectively.
- It was confirmed that Commissioners are looking at the issue of business rate retention as part of the Council's Improvement and Recovery Plan and was noted as part of the budget review.
- The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) is leading on a Place-Based Strategy (PBS), and this covers how the region will take forward economic development. All relevant local authorities are responsible for producing their own PBS. It is anticipated that these will be consolidated into the regional PBS by the WMCA and that this will inform the single funding settlement subject to the Election.
- Members highlighted that a PBS needed to understand the local economic and housing needs of Birmingham and how the impact of a regional PBS would affect any settlement for the city based on its needs. Additionally, there was some concern about Member input and ensuring that representation from the city was actively involved in the regional PBS.

RESOLVED: -

- i) That the report be noted.

- ii) That the Head of European and International Affairs is requested to provide the Committee with information relating to funding post UKSPF in March 2025 for the Growth Hub.
- iii) A map of the areas covered by the enterprise zones will be provided for the September meeting.

SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND SCRUTINY WORK

- 10. Future meeting dates were noted. Diary invitations for these meetings have been sent to Members.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 11. The next meeting will be held on 10 July.

REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)

- 12. There were no requests for Call In received.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

- 13. There were no items of urgent business to consider.

The meeting ended at 10:45 hours.

Chair's signature:

**ECONOMY, SKILLS & CULTURE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER**

Minute No. / Date	Agenda Item	Outstanding Actions	Comments
17 th April 2024	Asset Disposal Programme Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Request Commissioners attend the Committee to understand the role of the Commissioners on achieving best value from asset sales. b) Request the view from the City Solicitor on the role of the Commissioners in the asset sales programme. c) Request dates/times and contents of meetings between Commissioners, the West Midlands Mayor and the buyers. d) Seek assurance on the independence of the local planning authority on the asset disposal programme. 	<p>In progress:</p> <p>Scrutiny Office have submitted a request to the Commissioner’s Office. In light of the scheduling commitments for July, the Chair deferred this item to September. Pending response from Commissioners Office. City Solicitor had been confirmed for July and will be rearranged to new date. Planning to be invited too.</p>
12 June Minute No: 9	Scrutiny of the integration of Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) functions into BCC	That the Head of European and International Affairs is requested to provide the Committee with information relating to funding post UKSPF in March 2025.	In progress: information requested.
12 June Minute No:9	Scrutiny of the integration of Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) functions into BCC	A map of the areas covered by the enterprise zones will be provided for the September meeting.	Officers to provide with papers for the September meeting.

Birmingham City Council

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

10 July 2024



Title:	ASSET DISPOSAL PROGRAMME UPDATE
Lead Cabinet Portfolio:	Councillor Sharon Thompson, Deputy Leader of the Council
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:	Economy Skills and Culture Committee
Report Author:	Kathryn James, Assistant Director - Investment and Valuation kathryn.james@birmingham.gov.uk David Harris, Assistant Director – Corporate Landlord david.harris@birmingham.gov.uk
Authorised by:	Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability
Is this a Key Decision?	No
If this is a Key Decision, is this decision listed on the Forward Plan?	Not Applicable
Reason(s) why not included on the Forward Plan:	Not Applicable
Is this a Late Report?	No
Reason(s) why Late:	Not Applicable
Is this decision eligible for 'call in?'	Yes
If not eligible, please provide reason(s):	If yes, list reason(s).

Wards: All

Does this report contain exempt or confidential information?

Yes

Exempt Information

Appendices 1 is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following Paragraphs of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Has this decision been included on the Notification of Intention to consider Matters in Private? Yes

Reasons why not included on the Notification:

If yes, list reason(s). If no, insert 'Not Applicable'. Commercially confidential information

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an update to the Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the current progress of the Asset Disposals Programme.

This report contains details of the sales completed by 18 June 2024, properties under offer and provides a highlight of new assets which will be marketed imminently. This report will be shared with the monthly Cabinet Committee Property (CCP), which will next meet on 25th July 2024.

2 COMMISSIONERS' REVIEW

- 2.1 This section will be completed by the Commissioners and is mandatory for all reports.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

That Economy Skills and Culture O & S Committee:

- 3.1 Notes the assets disposed of between 1 January 2024 to 18 June 2024.
- 3.2 Notes current progress in the disposals of assets where authority has been approved; and
- 3.3 Notes the status of the pipeline of future assets being brought forward for disposal in the coming months.

4 KEY INFORMATION

Context

- 4.1 The disposal of assets is an integral part of the Council's Improvement Recovery Plan (IRP).
- 4.2 To provide oversight on the delivery of the Asset Disposals Programme and the rationalisation of the property portfolio and enable the Council to focus on its core activities and services.
- 4.3 Agreement to the recommendations in this report will contribute to the reduction in the Council's future financial commitments, general disposal receipts at the earliest opportunity and reduce the Council's borrowing.
- 4.4 The disposal strategy supports the priority of the new Corporate Plan for 'a Council that lives within its means, balances the budget and delivers best value for taxpayers and service users'.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 Appendix 1 (exempt) sets out the risk management implications.

Legal

- 5.1 A local authority has a statutory duty under section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 when disposing of an interest in land to obtain the best consideration reasonably obtainable. It is for the authority to demonstrate that it has achieved best consideration; if best consideration is not obtained, Secretary of State approval is required.

Equalities

Equality Impact Assessments (EIA's) have been carried out for all individual and groups of assets, disposed of as part of the Asset Disposals Programme. This has been in accordance with BCC Governance arrangements and Equality Act 2010. To date the respective assets have been sold via solus negotiation, auction and or open market tender. For each transaction the respective EIA's have identified no adverse impacts on the protected characteristics within the Equality Act 2010.

6 APPENDICES

- 6.1 Appendix 1 (exempt): Update on Asset Sales, additional financial implications and risk management implications

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 There are no background papers.

Birmingham City Council.

Report to Economy, Skills and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee

10 July 2024



Title:	ECONOMY, SKILLS AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
Lead Cabinet Portfolio:	Not Applicable
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:	Not Applicable
Report Author:	Amelia Wiltshire, Overview and Scrutiny Manager Legal and Governance 0121 303 9844 amelia.wiltshire@birmingham.gov.uk
Authorised by:	Christian Scade, Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services Legal and Governance
Is this a Key Decision?	Not Applicable
If this is a Key Decision, is this decision listed on the Forward Plan?	Not Applicable
Reason(s) why not included on the Forward Plan:	Not Applicable
Is this a Late Report?	No
Reason(s) why Late:	Not Applicable
Is this decision eligible for 'call in?'	Not Applicable
If not eligible, please provide reason(s):	Not Applicable

Has this decision been included on the Notification of Intention to consider Matters in Private? Not Applicable

Reasons why not included on the Notification: Not Applicable

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable the Economy, Skills and Culture Overview and Scrutiny (OSC) Committee to agree key issues to be considered by the Committee during 2024/25 and the scrutiny methods that will be used to undertake this work.
- 1.2 A key aspect of the work of all Overview and Scrutiny Committee's will be the continued focus on the delivery of savings agreed in the 24/25 Council budget and the relevant programmes within the Council's Improvement and Recovery Plan (IRP) where the Committee can add value.

2 COMMISSIONERS' REVIEW

- 2.1 No comments were received by the Commissioners for this report.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- 3.1 Agrees the work programme outlined in Appendix A.
- 3.2 Notes, subject to further input from the Chair and Deputy Chair outside of the meeting, its proposed work programme will be submitted to Corporate and Finance Overview and Scrutiny Committee to enable work to be planned and co-ordinated throughout the year.

4 KEY INFORMATION

Context

- 4.1 The Statutory Guidance for Overview and Scrutiny Committees [Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils, combined authorities and combined county authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/124444/Overview_and_scrutiny_statutory_guidance_for_councils_combined_authorities_and_combined_county_authorities_-_GOV.UK_(www.gov.uk).pdf) was updated in April 2024 and re-affirms the role of overview and scrutiny in holding an authority's decision-makers to account remains fundamentally important to the functioning of local democracy.
- 4.2 Effective Overview and Scrutiny should:
 - provide constructive 'critical friend' challenge
 - amplify the voices and concerns of the public
 - be led by independent people who take responsibility for their role
 - drive improvement in public services and strategic decision-making
- 4.3 The Council's Constitution Part B 11 sets out the procedures and functions of Overview and Scrutiny Committees:
[Constitution Part B Roles Functions and Rules of Procedure March 2024 AF \(1\).pdf](#)

- 4.4 The terms of reference for the Economy, Skills and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee are:
- 4.4.1 To fulfil the functions of an Overview as they relate to any policies, services and activities concerning regeneration and infrastructure projects, Council assets, economic growth, employment, skills, arts, culture, heritage, tourism, partnership with Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), major sporting events and events development. This includes:
 - 4.4.2 Major physical regeneration and infrastructure projects in the city
 - 4.4.3 Oversight of Council-owned land and property strategy and facilities, assets, amenities and services including markets
 - 4.4.4 Promotion of the city and inward investment
 - 4.4.5 Economic growth and jobs
 - 4.4.6 Partnership with Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)
 - 4.4.7 Major sporting events and events development
 - 4.4.8 Skills expansion for key growth sectors along with lifelong learning for post 14 skills and lifelong learning
 - 4.4.9 Access to employment and delivery of local employment plans
 - 4.4.10 Arts, culture and tourism
 - 4.4.11 Museums
 - 4.4.12 Promotion of the city's heritage and investment in the city.
- 4.5 The work programme of all Overview and Scrutiny Committees will align to the priorities within the Council's Improvement and Recovery Plan (IRP).

Economy, Skills and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024/25

- 4.6 The work programme for 2024/25 will develop during the year and a Task and Finish Group has been established that will consider what information members will need to identify further issues.
- 4.7 Appendix A sets out the issues previously agreed by the Committee. It also sets out further information in the 'menu of items for consideration' of additional items the Committee may wish to explore. All topics should relate to some or all of the following:
- Programmes from the Council's Improvement and Recovery Plan within the Committee's terms of reference
 - Scrutiny of the implications of savings agreed in the Council's budget including equality and equity issues arising from the budget
 - Safe and effective delivery of key services supporting vulnerable people

- Monitoring recommendations from previous Scrutiny Inquiries and Task and Finish Group work
- Critical performance issues emerging by exception (this will be defined through work with the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny)

4.8 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny is providing support to the Council which includes developing a framework which will enable the work of Overview and Scrutiny Committee’s to add value to the Council’s improvement journey.

4.9 When considering the issues to be included in the work programme members are also asked to agree the Scrutiny method that will be used. This can include:

- **Committee meeting single item**, or items, on a public committee agenda: this fits more closely the “overview” aspect of the Scrutiny function and has limited opportunity for effective scrutiny.
- **Committee meeting single theme** at a public committee meeting: This has the capacity to enhance the previous option by taking evidence from a number of witnesses.
- **Task and Finish Group in day**: provided that these are properly focused, they ensure Councillors can swiftly reach conclusions and make recommendations and are effective even for complex topics. The work of a Task and Finish Group will be agreed by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Task and Finish Group meeting is not public. The outcome of the Task and Finish Group will be reported to a public committee meeting.
- **Multiple Task and Finish Group meetings**: to consider an issue in depth over four or six meetings spread over a limited number of months.
- **Site Visit**: Members visit services or organisations to inform the work of the Committee.
- **Inquiry Evidence Gathering**: Evidence for Scrutiny Inquiries may take place at public committee meetings, Task and Finish Groups or Site Visits
- **Briefings**: for members to be updated on specific issues.

4.10 The Council’s latest Forward Plan: [July 2024 Forward Plan \(cmis.uk.com\)](https://cmis.uk.com) assist Members in identifying future topics. The following reports are of particular relevance to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy & Skills			
Reference Item	Title	Date Proposed	First Published
012971/2024	Aston Hall Renovation Works – Museum Estate and Development Grant Submission	23 Jul 2024	17 May 2024
012717/2024	Update on Relocation for Control Centre to Enable the Decommissioning of Lancaster	23 Jul 2024	25 Mar 2024

	Circus		
012806/2024	Smithfield Birmingham Application for Enterprise Zone Funding	23 Jul 2024	15 Apr 2024
012121/2024	Perry Barr Residential Scheme - Disposal of Plots 2, 3, 4 & 5	25 Jul 2024	06 Nov 2023
012296/2024	Revision of terms of Head Lease for 10 Gough Street, Birmingham	25 Jul 2024	15 Jan 2024
012745/2024	Disposal of Land at Peddimore Estate, Minworth	25 Jul 2024	25 Mar 2024
012966/2024	Perry Barr Residential Scheme - Disposal of Plots 6, 7 & 8 report	25 Jul 2024	15 May 2024
013125/2024	Letting of West Car Park, NEC	25 Jul 2024	24 Jun 2024
013126/2024	Industrial Ground Rent Sales Programme	25 Jul 2024	24 Jun 2024
013136/2024	Perry Barr Residential Scheme - Disposal of Plot 9 report	25 Jul 2024	28 Jun 2024
012094/2024	Highbury Hall and Grounds Refurbishment and Renovation Project	03 Sep 2024	13 Nov 2023
009483/2022	Disposal of Surplus Properties	12 Sep 2024	01 Dec 2022
012640/2024	Proposed Sale of Surplus Freehold Property Assets by Public Auction	12 Sep 2024	04 Mar 2024
012761/2024	Arena Central	12 Sep 2024	08 Apr 2024
012970/2024	Selection of Developer/Bid for the former Tower Ballroom Site	12 Sep 2024	17 May 2024
012997/2024	Arden Cross Ltd Development Agreement, Business Plan and Budget for Q3 and Q4 24/25	12 Sep 2024	24 May 2024
013026/2024	The Brasshouse, Sheepcote Street Birmingham B16 8AE	12 Sep 2024	10 Jun 2024
012862/2024	Smithfield: Authority to Make CPO	15 Oct 2024	03 May 2024
013137/2024	East Birmingham North Solihull - Programme Update	15 Oct 2024	28 Jun 2024
012260/2024	NEC Masterplan and Property Strategy	24 Oct 2024	01 Dec 2023
009087/2021	Martineau Galleries Outline Business Case	10 Dec 2024	29 Jun 2021
Cabinet Member for Finance			
Reference Item	Title	Date Proposed	First Published

012487/2024	Sale of Moilliett Street Park	28 Nov 2024	23 Jan 2024
Leader			
Reference Item	Title	Date Proposed	First Published
012822/2024	Provisional Financial Outturn 2023/24	23 Jul 2024	19 Apr 2024
012592/2024	Section 151 Officer Update on the Financial Position of the Council – March 2024	19 Mar 2024	19 Feb 2024
Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism			
Reference Item	Title	Date Proposed	First Published
012972/2024	Outline Business Case: Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery National Lottery Heritage Fund Proposal	03 Sep 2024	17 May 2024

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 The Council's Governance and Stabilisation Plan identified the need to strengthen the working relationships between the Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Chair of the Audit Committee to lead and direct the function. This will include the development of a Memorandum of Understanding that will include the respective roles of Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Audit in relation to the Council's management of risk.

6 IMPACT AND IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 6.1 There are no immediate financial implications from this report as the Committee has been asked to review the implications and impact of the budget savings on the services within the terms of reference, not to challenge or change the financial delivery of the savings themselves. An update report on the performance of the council in delivering the financial savings will instead be taken to the Corporate and Finance Overview and Scrutiny Committee in July 2024.

Legal

- 6.2 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in the report.

Equalities

- 6.3 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

6.4 The protected characteristics and groups outlined in the Equality Act are Age; Disability; Gender Reassignment; Marriage and Civil Partnership; Pregnancy and Maternity; Race; Religion and Belief; Sex, and Sexual Orientation.

6.5 The Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them during work programme development, the scoping of work, evidence gathering and making recommendations. This should include considering: How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share a relevant protected characteristic; Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate; Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Birmingham; Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people are being realised.

6.6 The Committee should ensure that equalities comments, and any recommendations, are based on evidence. This should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

People Services

6.7 There are no staffing implications resulting from the recommendations in this report.

Climate Change, Nature and Net Zero

6.8 Overview and Scrutiny Committee's will consider the climate change, nature and Net Zero issues relevant to the work programme items.

Corporate Parenting

6.9 Overview and Scrutiny Committee's will consider the corporate parenting responsibilities and opportunities relevant to the work programme.

7 APPENDICES

7.1 Appendix A: Economy, Skills and Culture OSC Work Programme June 24

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 [Governance Review of Birmingham City Council by Centre for Governance and Scrutiny: Cabinet 12 December 2023](#)

8.2 [Improvement and Recovery Plan: Cabinet 4 April 2024](#)

Economy, Skills and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024 / 25

Month	Item/Topic Link with Corporate Priorities	Aims and Objectives	Scrutiny Method	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer	Other Witnesses	Additional Information and Outcome*
June 24	Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) transfer of functions to Birmingham City Council	To scrutinise the integration of the LEP functions into Birmingham City Council including administration of the legacy funds	Committee Meeting single item: Agenda item, 12 June 24 Deadline for reports: 28 May 24 Venue: Council House, Committee Room 6	Cllr Sharon Thompson, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy & Skills Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	James Betjemann, Head of Enterprise Zones and Curzon Delivery Jane Smith, Enterprise Zone Programme Manager Yasmin Suleman, Programme Champion	This item was identified in 23-24 and has been carried forward.
June 24	Work Programme Report IRP Programme: Deliver Savings and Balance the Budget Governance Stabilisation Plan Priority: Scrutiny will play an active part in the 24/25 Budget development process.	Agree the Committee's work programme including identification of issues to consider at future meetings regarding impact of delivery of savings based on previous scrutiny of budget and savings delivery.	Committee Meeting single item: Agenda item, 12 June 24 Deadline for reports: 28 May 24 Venue: Council House, Committee Room 6	Christian Scade, Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services	Amelia Wiltshire, Overview and Scrutiny Manager	This is a standard item for all future Committee meetings.

June 24	Asset Disposals IRP Programme: Deliver Savings and Balance the Budget	Consider proposed decision. Make recommendations to the Executive for consideration when making their decision.	Pre Decision Scrutiny: Informal meeting	Cllr Sharon Thompson, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy & Skills Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	Kathryn James, Assistant Director Investment and Valuations	This item was identified in 23-24 and has been carried forward. There are two asset disposals scheduled for pre decision scrutiny in June: Land at Peddimore, Sutton Coldfield and Woodcock Street Council Offices. They are scheduled for Cabinet Committee – Property on 26 June. It is intended that these two proposed decisions will be considered following the OSC meeting on 12 June. Update: Land at Peddimore was deferred to July.
July 24	Asset Disposals IRP Programme: Deliver Savings and Balance the Budget	Consider proposed decision. Make recommendations to the Executive for consideration when making their decision.	Pre Decision Scrutiny: Informal meeting	Cllr Sharon Thompson, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy & Skills Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	Kathryn James, Assistant Director Investment and Valuations	This item was identified in 23-24 and has been carried forward. There are two asset disposals scheduled for pre decision scrutiny in July: Land at Peddimore and Perry Barr Residential Scheme. (Peddimore did not take place in June as originally scheduled). Both reports are scheduled for Cabinet Committee – Property on 25 July.
July 24	Asset Disposal Programme Update	Provide an update to the Committee on progress to date	Committee Meeting single	Cllr Sharon Thompson, Deputy Leader and	Kathryn James, Assistant Director	This item was agreed as a standard quarterly item in

	IRP Programme: Deliver Savings and Balance the Budget		item: Agenda item, 10 July 24 Deadline for reports: 24 June 24 Venue: Council House, Committee Room 6	Cabinet Member for Economy & Skills Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	Investment and Valuations	23-24. The first report came to the OSC in April 24.
July 24	Overview of Savings within Committees Terms of Reference IRP Programme: Deliver Savings and Balance the Budget Governance Stabilisation Plan Priority: Scrutiny will play an active part in the 24/25 Budget development process.	Consider the impact from delivery of savings	Task and Finish Group	Cllr Sharon Thompson, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy & Skills Cllr Saima Suleman, Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability Chris Jordan, Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods Azhar Rafiq, Interim Finance Business Partner – Place, Prosperity and Sustainability Carl Tomlinson, Interim Finance Business Partner – City Operations	Savings to be considered at the July meeting will be agreed by the Committee in June. Future items on Budget Savings and Financial Recovery are to be scheduled.
September 24	Local Enterprise Zones and Business Rates Maximisation	Consider how Birmingham can maximise the income opportunities through	Committee Meeting single	Deputy Leader, Councillor Sharon Thompson	James Betjemann, Head of Enterprise	This item has been carried forward from 23-24.

		these zones to drive wider economic benefits for the city.	item: Agenda item, 4 September 24 Deadline for reports: 19 August 24 Venue: Council House, Committee Room 6	Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	Zones and Curzon Delivery Jane Smith, Enterprise Zone Programme Manager	
September 24	Inquiry: Council owned assets	Review progress on recommendations in inquiry	Committee meeting – single item	TBC	TBC	Council agreed the recommendations for this inquiry in March 22. A subsequent report on progress towards recommendations was agreed by Finance and Resources committee in November. Two recommendations remain outstanding.
September 24	Inquiry: Employment and Skills for Young People	Review progress on recommendations in inquiry	Committee meeting – single item	TBC	TBC	This inquiry reported to Council in April 23. A subsequent report on progress towards recommendations was agreed by the Economy and Skills OSC on 11 October 2023.
October 24	Asset Disposal Programme Update	Provide an update to the Committee on progress to date	Committee Meeting single	Deputy Leader, Councillor Sharon Thompson	Kathryn James, Assistant Director	This item was agreed as a standard quarterly item in 23-24. The first report came

	IRP Programme: Deliver Savings and Balance the Budget		<p>item: Agenda item, 16 October 24</p> <p>Deadline for reports: 30 September 24</p> <p>Venue: Council House, Committee Room 6</p>	Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	Investment and Valuations	to the OSC in April 24 followed by July 24.
November 24	To be confirmed					
January 25	<p>Asset Disposal Programme Update</p> <p>IRP Programme: Deliver Savings and Balance the Budget</p>	Provide an update to the Committee on progress to date	<p>Committee Meeting single item: Agenda item, 8 January 25</p> <p>Deadline for reports: 18 December 24</p> <p>Venue: Council House, Committee Room 6</p>	<p>Deputy Leader, Councillor Sharon Thompson</p> <p>Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability</p>	Kathryn James, Assistant Director Investment and Valuations	This item was agreed as a standard quarterly item in 23-24. The first report came to the OSC in April 24, followed by July and October 24.
February 25	To be confirmed					
April 25	Asset Disposal Programme Update	Provide an update to the Committee on progress to date	<p>Committee Meeting single item: Agenda item, 2 April 25</p>	Deputy Leader, Councillor Sharon Thompson	Kathryn James, Assistant Director Investment and Valuations	This item was agreed as a standard quarterly item in 23-24. The first report came to the OSC in April 24,

	IRP Programme: Deliver Savings and Balance the Budget		Deadline for reports: 17 April 25 Venue: Council House, Committee Room 6	Philip Nell, Strategic Director Place, Prosperity and Sustainability		followed by July, October and January.
May 25	To be confirmed					

Menu of Issues for Consideration

The following items had been identified as potential topics for future consideration. This approach enables the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to remain flexible and respond in a timely manner to emerging issues.

This is a live work programme work programme. New items may be added, or items removed during the course of the year. Proposed aims and objectives as well as scrutiny methodology may also be subject to change.

Item/ Topic	Proposed Aims and Objectives	Proposed Scrutiny Method	Additional Information
Achieving Best Value in Asset Disposal Programme: Role of Commissioner and independence of Planning Authority	Understand the role of the Commissioners in achieving best value from assets sales, and seek assurances on independence of Planning Authority	Committee meeting – single item	Raised at April OSC: Initially programmed for July. Deferred due other scheduled commitments to future meeting.
Community Assets Disposal	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Raised by Cllr Trickett following email to all Members: In development. An initial meeting has taken place to explore with an officer. Further discussions to take place to enable the Committee to add value.
Economy and Industrial strategy	To be confirmed	To be proposed	Raised at June OSC: In development

Heritage and Cultural Assets	Assess the current 'health' of our arts, heritage and cultural assets, their risk of disposal and strategies to protect their provision in the short, mid and long term.	Committee meeting – themed	On 7 November 2023 Full Council agreed to develop a work programme for Scrutiny to review the policy plans of the “Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism” portfolio to assess the current 'health' of our arts, heritage and cultural assets, their risk of disposal and strategies to protect their provision in the short-, mid- and long-term. This item will consider the specific challenges faced by the Birmingham Museum Trust (BMT), and B:Music.

*Outcome: This will be populated once the item/topic has been completed. It will identify the added value and impact.

Scrutiny Method Options:

Committee meeting - single item

Committee meeting - single theme

Task and Finish Group

Inquiry Evidence Gathering

Site Visit

Briefing

Pre Decision Scrutiny

Corporate Priorities, Performance and Outcomes

Corporate Priorities 2022 – 26:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Support inclusive economic growth | 11 Increase affordable, safe, green housing |
| 2 Tackle unemployment | 12 Tackle homelessness |
| 3 Attract inward investment and infrastructure | 13 Tackle health inequalities |
| 4 Maximise the benefits of the Commonwealth Games | 14 Encourage and enable physical activity and healthy living |
| 5 Tackle poverty and inequalities | 15 Champion mental health |
| 6 Empower citizens and enable citizen voice | 16 Improve outcomes for adults with disabilities and older people |
| 7 Promote and champion diversity, civic pride and culture | 17 Improve street cleanliness |
| 8 Support and enable all children and young people to thrive | 18 Improve air quality |
| 9 Make the city safer | 19 Continue on the Route to Zero |
| 10 Protect and safeguard vulnerable citizens | 20 Be a City of Nature |
| | 21 Delivering a Bold Best in Class Council |