

Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023/24

Month	Item/Topic	Aims and Objectives	Scrutiny Method	Lead Officer	Cabinet Member / Other Witnesses	Additional Information and Outcome*
14 July	Customer Service Programme Task and Finish Group	The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the December and supplementary January report on the actions of the Co-ordinating Overview & Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group, established following the Customer Service Programme update report to Co-ordinating Overview & Scrutiny Committee in September 2022.	Committee meeting – single item	Wendy X Griffiths, AD Customer Services and Business Support	None	Following the meeting in July, it's intended that issues in relation to Customer Services would be passed over to the respective OSC i.e. Waste Management and Bereavement Services to Neighbourhoods OSC; Highways to Sustainability and Transport OSC; and Housing Repairs to Homes OSC.
14 July	Updating the Scrutiny Framework	To consider the updated framework, to agree for further consultation on the draft with the Leader and Deputy Leader and to ask the Scrutiny Office to review and update the various scrutiny procedure notes.	Committee meeting – single item	Christian Scade, Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services		
14 July	West Midlands Deeper Devolution Deal	To provide an overview of the West Midlands Deeper Devolution Deal, with a focus on its implementation and next steps.	Committee meeting – single item (pre-decision scrutiny)	Richard Brooks, Director Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships	Deputy Leader (TBC)	This pre-decision scrutiny item provides an opportunity for the OSC to provide comments before Cabinet meets in September.
14 July	Cost of Living – scoping	To set up, and confirm terms of reference, for a Task and Finish	Task and Finish Group (scoping)	Richard Brooks, Director Strategy,	TBC	

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		Group to learn lessons from the cost of living programme and to consider whether they have wider application across other council initiatives.		Equalities and Partnerships		
15 September	Implication of Equal Pay and Medium-Term Financial Plan Update	To update the Committee on the implications of the equal pay announcement and the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update and consider the implications for the Committee's work programme	Committee meeting – single item	TBC	TBC	Following July's OSC a workshop to assist with work in this area, facilitated by Ian Fifield, took place on 26 July 2023. Following this, further discussions will be required to help develop a timetable and action plan for scrutiny activity over the autumn period.
13 October	Scrutiny of Delivery of 2023/24 Budget Savings and Update on Council's Response to Section 114 Notice and Financial Recovery Plan	To enable ongoing scrutiny of the delivery of existing 2023/24 savings. This agenda item also provides an opportunity for the Committee to consider the following and implications for the Committee's work programme: (a) The report considered at City Council on 25 September on the Council's Response to the Section 114 Notice and Financial Recovery Plan. (b) The announcement made by the Secretary of State for the	Committee meeting – single item	TBC	TBC	To assist with the task above the Scrutiny Team are in the process of contacting other authorities with similar experiences. Feedback on themes identified will be provided at the meeting.

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		Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in the House of Commons on 19 September and (c) the Section 5 Notice and supplementary Section 114 Notice issued on 21 September.				
13 October	Cost of Living – Reporting back	To consider the findings and recommendations from the Cost of Living Programme Task & Finish Group, which will be established by the Co-ordinating OSC in July.	Task and Finish Group (reporting back / agreeing recommendations)	Richard Brooks, Director Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships	TBC	
15 December	Mutually Agreed Resignation Scheme (MARS)	Purpose: To provide an overview of the MARS scheme, and update on implementation and next steps.	Committee meeting – single item	Katy Fox, Director of People Services	TBC	This was initially raised as an item for the Finance and Resources OSC as HR is within the remit of this Committee. However, due to full agenda for the November meeting it has been agreed by the Chairs that the report will go to the December meeting of Co-ordinating OSC as all the OSC Chairs are members of this committee and can consider the implications of this work for their

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						committee's work programme.
15 December	Homes for Ukraine	A response is required from the Cabinet Member for Social Justice, Community Safety and Equalities and from the Chief Executive concerning recommendations made, in April 2023, following work carried out by the Task & Finish Group on the Homes for Ukraine Scheme	Committee meeting – single item (monitoring previous recommendations)	Richard Brooks, Director Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships	Cabinet Member for Social Justice, Community Safety and Equalities Chief Executive	The final report from the Task & Finish Group on the Homes for Ukraine Scheme was published in April. This can be found on CMIS via CMIS > Report while the minutes from this meeting can be found via CMIS > Minutes
15 December	The Elections Act	To consider lessons learned from other local authorities who held elections in May and to consider what measures might be needed for future elections in Birmingham.	Committee meeting – single item	Robert Connelly, AD for Legal and Governance	TBC	At the July OSC it was suggested neighbourhood referendums could also be explored in terms of how the requirement of voter ID impacted these elections, particularly given the demographics of the areas. This would give an opportunity for the Committee to learn from elections within the Council as well as those from other authorities.
19 April	Cost of Living – Monitoring Recommendations	A response is required from the Deputy Leader concerning recommendations made, in October 2023, following work	Committee meeting – single item (monitoring previous recommendations)	Richard Brooks, Director Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships	Deputy Leader	

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		carried out by the Task & Finish Group on the Cost of Living.				

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

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. 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
Birmingham Museums Trust and B:Music	To consider the challenges faced by the cultural sector, including the Birmingham Museum Trust (BMT), and B:Music	TBC	This was suggested in July and the Chair agreed to discuss this with Cllr Deakin concerning options for scrutiny to add value
Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business	To consider an update / monitor the implementation of actions in relation to Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business	TBC	TBC
Scrutiny of Emergency 2023-22 Budget	To consider engagement of O&S Committees in the Emergency 2023-22 Budget that will be put to a City Council meeting before the end of October.	TBC	
Heritage and Cultural Assets	On 7 November 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.	TBC	TBC

Scrutiny Method Options: Committee meeting - single item, Committee meeting - single theme, Committee meeting – standing item, Task and Finish Group (outline number of meetings), On location, Other - (describe).