



Resources O&S Committee: Work Programme 2022/23

Chair	Councillor Akhlaq Ahmed
Deputy Chair	Councillor Bushra Bi
Committee Members:	Councillors Meirion Jenkins, Rashad Mahmood, Hendrina Quinnen, Sybil Spence, Paul Tilsley and Ken Wood
Committee Support:	Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager: Fiona Bottrill (07395 884487) Scrutiny Officer: Jayne Bowles (303 4810) Committee Manager: Mandeep Marwaha (303 5950)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The remit of the Resources O&S Committee is 'to fulfil the functions of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee as they relate to any policies, services and activities concerning finance (including strategic finance, budget setting and financial monitoring); revenues and benefits; treasury management; council land use and property assets; human resources; contracting, commissioning and commercialisation'.
- 1.2 This report provides details of the proposed scrutiny work programme for 2022/23.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Committee considers its work programme, attached at Appendix 1, and considers whether any amendments are required.

3 Background

- 3.1 *"Scrutiny is based on the principle that someone who makes a decision...should not be the only one to review or challenge it. Overview is founded on the belief that an open, inclusive, member-led approach to policy review...results in better policies in the long run."* (Jessica Crowe, former Executive Director, Centre for Governance and Scrutiny).
- 3.2 Developing an effective work programme is the bedrock of an effective scrutiny function. Done well, it can help lay the foundations for targeted, inclusive and timely work on issues of local importance, where scrutiny can add value. Done poorly, scrutiny can end up wasting time and resources on issues where the impact of any scrutiny work done is likely to be minimal.
- 3.3 As a result, the careful selection and prioritisation of work is essential if the scrutiny function is to be successful, add value and retain credibility.



4 Work Programme

- 4.1 Appendix 1 sets out the future work programme for this Committee. This provides information on the aims and objectives, together with lead officers and witnesses, for each item. The attached work programme also includes items to be programmed where dates are still to be confirmed, and any outstanding items including the tracking of previous recommendations.
- 4.2 The following two issues have been recommended by Co-ordinating O&S Committee for this committee to consider and have been added to the list of items to be scheduled in Appendix 1:
- Cost of Living Crisis – financial implications for the Council;
 - Diversity and Inclusion Dashboard - following publication in February 2023 – to monitor workforce data and identify progress against workforce equality indicators.

5 Other Meetings

- 5.1 There are no other meetings scheduled at this time.

Call in Meetings:

None scheduled

Petitions

None scheduled

Councillor Call for Action requests

None scheduled

It is suggested that the Committee approves Thursday at 2.00pm as a suitable day and time each week for any additional meetings required to consider 'requests for call in' which may be lodged in respect of Executive decisions

6 Forward Plan for Cabinet Decisions

- 6.1 Since the implementation of the Local Government Act and the introduction of the Forward Plan, scrutiny members have found the Plan to be a useful tool in identifying potential agenda items.
- 6.2 The following decisions, extracted from the CMIS Forward Plan of Decisions, are likely to be relevant to the Resources O&S Committee's remit. The Panel may wish to consider whether any of these issues require further investigation or monitoring via scrutiny. The Forward Plan can be viewed in full via Forward Plans (cmis.uk.com).



ID Number	Title	Portfolio	Proposed Date of Decision
010445/2023	Council Tax Tax-base for 2023/24	Finance and Resources	17 Jan 23
010446/2023	Business Rates Income 2023/24	N/A	17 Jan 23
010525/2023	Financial Monitoring Report Month 8 2022/23	N/A	17 Jan 23
010856/2023	Job Evaluation	Finance and Resources	17 Jan 23
010892/2023	Key Decision Planned Procurement Activities (February 2023 – April 2023)	Finance and Resources	17 Jan 23
009483/2022	Disposal of Surplus Properties	Leader	14 Feb 23
009663/2022	Promotion of Council Owned Land within Bromsgrove	Leader	14 Feb 23
010139/2023	Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2022/23	Finance and Resources	14 Feb 23
010414/2023	Highways Maintenance and Management PFI Contract (B)	Transport	14 Feb 23
010889/2023	The Supply of Non-Permanent Workers	Finance and Resources	14 Feb 23
007349/2020	Waste Vehicle Replacement Programme	Environment	21 Mar 23
010752/2023	UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) – Acceptance of allocation of Grant and arrangements for its use	Finance and Resources	21 Mar 23
010526/2023	Financial Monitoring Report Month 10 2022/23	N/A	21 Mar 23

7 Legal Implications

7.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

8 Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report.

9 Public Sector Equality Duty

9.1 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.

9.2 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.

9.3 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.

10 Use of Appendices

10.1 Appendix 1 – Work Programme for 2022/2023