

West Northamptonshire Council

People Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	Proposed Task and Finish Group	Comments
Residential and nursing care for older people	The Committee to receive an overview of current provision and planning towards meeting future needs.	20 July 2021	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing	No	
Integrated Care System / Integrated Care across Northamptonshire (iCAN)	The Committee to receive an overview of the aims of the Northamptonshire ICS and iCAN, and plans for implementation.	20 July 2021	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing	No	
Integrated Care across Northamptonshire (iCAN)	The Committee to scrutinise progress made with the development of iCAN and the position on key risk factors.	21 September 2021 – A task and finish panel has been set up and will conclude its review in January 2023	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	Yes	The task and finish panel will meet 5 times from January 2022 to January 2023, aligned to iCAN contract gateway review points, to scrutinise delivery of iCAN programme outcomes.
West Northamptonshire Anti-Poverty Strategy	The Committee to receive an update on progress with the development of the Strategy.	21 September 2021	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	No	
Northamptonshire children’s services performance	The Committee to receive an update on the Ofsted monitoring visit in July 2021 that will focus on children with child protection plans and with children in need plans.	21 September 2021	Director of Children’s Services Chief Executive, Children’s Trust	No	

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	Proposed Task and Finish Group	Comments
Residential and nursing care for older people	The Committee to scrutinise trends relating to performance and capacity of current care homes.	16 November 2021	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	No	
Adult Social Care transformation	The Committee to scrutinise outcomes from the implementation of the Adult Social Care Target Operating Model (TOM)	16 November 2021	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	No	
Task and finish scrutiny review: child and adolescent mental health and the risk of self-harm	The Committee to confirm the scope for the review.	16 November 2021 – A task and finish panel has been set up and will conclude its review to report to the Committee meeting on 21 June 2022.	Relevant input was sought on the proposed scope for the review before it was finalised.	Yes	
Northamptonshire children's services performance	<p>The Committee to receive an update covering the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional measures to further improve recruitment and retention of social workers • Achieving consistently good quality practice for all children, supported by full implementation of the practice model • Outcomes of the Ofsted monitoring visit due to take place in November 2021. 	25 January 2022	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education Chief Executive, Children's Trust	No	

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	Proposed Task and Finish Group	Comments
School improvement	The Committee to receive an overview of activity by West Northamptonshire Council to support school improvement.	25 January 2022	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education	No	
Special educational needs and disability (SEND) support and alternative provision	The Committee to receive an overview of SEND support and alternative provision (education outside school arranged by the local authority or schools) in West Northamptonshire.	25 January 2022	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education	No	
Healthwatch function	The Committee to receive a briefing paper giving an overview of the Healthwatch function in Northamptonshire.	25 January 2022	NA	No	This item aims to enable the Committee to identify focus areas / questions for a potential substantive item on this topic if required.
West Northamptonshire Anti-Poverty Strategy	The Committee to receive an update on progress with the adoption and implementation of the Strategy.	1 March 2022	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	No	
West Northamptonshire Council Housing Strategy	The Committee to provide scrutiny input in the developing Housing Strategy.	1 March 2022 – The Committee to hold a separate workshop-style session following its formal meeting.	Assistant Director Housing and Communities	No	

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	Proposed Task and Finish Group	Comments
School performance	The Committee to invite the Regional Schools Commissioner to discuss school performance in relation to academy schools in West Northamptonshire.	To be confirmed	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education	No	The Committee proposed to scrutinise this topic on 25 April 2022. The Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) was not available on this date. The RSC's Office has proposed that this topic could be best scheduled in autumn 2022, to take account of a reorganisation of RSCs in the summer.
Healthwatch West Northamptonshire work in 2021/22	The Committee to invite Healthwatch West Northamptonshire to give an overview of issues identified through its work in 2021/22.	To be confirmed	Healthwatch West Northamptonshire representatives	No	The Committee proposed to scrutinise this topic on 25 April 2022. A Healthwatch Northamptonshire (HWN) representative was not able to attend on this date. HWN has proposed that this topic could be best scheduled following publication of HWN's Annual Report for 2021/22 on 30 June 2022.
West Northamptonshire Council Housing Strategy – outcomes from public consultation	The Committee to consider the outcomes of public consultation on the proposed Strategy.	To be confirmed – Potentially late May 2022 to reflect the timetable for developing the Strategy.	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Leisure	A workshop style remote meeting will be used.	The Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Group considered potential cross-cutting scrutiny topics on 22 March 2022. It agreed that scrutiny of the Housing Strategy should be open to members of all three Overview and Scrutiny committees.

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	Proposed Task and Finish Group	Comments
West Northamptonshire Council Housing Strategy – draft Strategy	The Committee to carry out pre-decision scrutiny of the full draft Strategy.	To be confirmed – Potentially early June 2022 to reflect the timetable for developing the Strategy.	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Leisure	A workshop style remote meeting will be used.	The Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Group considered potential cross-cutting scrutiny topics on 22 March 2022. It agreed that scrutiny of the Housing Strategy should be open to members of all three Overview and Scrutiny committees.
Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22	The Committee to consider the Annual Report on its activity in 2021/22, for submission to Full Council.	21 June 2022	NA	No	
Adult Social Care social worker recruitment and retention	The Committee to scrutinise the latest position, focussing on posts supporting the delivery of statutory social care services.	21 June 2022 / 30 August 2022	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	To be confirmed	The Committee proposed to scrutinise this topic on 25 April 2022. The Executive Director has proposed to the Chair that this topic could be best scheduled in mid-2022 to enable the Committee to consider data on 2021/22 as well as the impact of the new entry pay rate introduced by the Council for 2022/23 and of different recruitment approaches being tried.

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	Proposed Task and Finish Group	Comments
Northamptonshire children's services performance	The Committee to receive an update on performance against key targets and the continuing development of children's services.	21 June 2022 / 30 August 2022	Chief Executive, Children's Trust Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education	No	<p>The Committee will confirm the timing of this item at its meeting on 25 April 2022.</p> <p>The Committee has also identified the way in which children's services contributes with other services to dealing with cross-cutting issues as a potential future topic for scrutiny.</p>
Special educational needs and disability (SEND) support	The Committee to consider an update on the development of SEND support, to include performance against the timescale for completing Education, Health and Care Plan assessments.	30 August 2022	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education	No	
Provision of free broadband to young people leaving local authority care.	The Committee to provide scrutiny input into the potential development of proposals by West Northamptonshire Council.	To be confirmed	Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education	To be confirmed	The Full Council meeting on 23 September 2021 referred a motion on this topic to the Committee, to consider the issues involved. The Committee was subsequently advised that the matter would be the subject of further corporate work.

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	Proposed Task and Finish Group	Comments
Rough sleeping	The Committee to provide scrutiny input on responses to rough sleeping in West Northamptonshire.	To be confirmed	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Leisure	To be confirmed	The Committee has identified the following potential focus areas for scrutiny: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the potential to continue to apply the principles of the 'everyone in' approach used during the COVID-19 pandemic severe weather shelter provision.
Support for people living with dementia	The Committee to scrutinise how well people living with dementia are supported in West Northamptonshire.	To be confirmed	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	To be confirmed	The Committee has identified that work on this topic might take as a starting point the response to the Northampton Borough Council scrutiny review on dementia-friendly communities.
Sports and leisure provision	Scrutiny of how West Northamptonshire Council works together with other service providers and community groups to provide the best overall offer to residents from all parts of the community.	To be confirmed – early 2022/23	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture and Leisure	The Committee to consider setting up a task and finish panel to carry out an in-depth scrutiny review.	The Committee considers that this work could be an example of scrutiny on the wider theme of the community impact of Council services: looking at how the Council identifies needs, other support available in the community that help to meet them, and can therefore focus resources to have the most impact.

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	Proposed Task and Finish Group	Comments
West Northamptonshire Anti-Poverty Strategy	The Committee to scrutinise the outcomes delivered by the Anti-Poverty Strategy in the first year after it is adopted.	To be confirmed – subject to the timing of the Anti-Poverty Strategy Annual Report.	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	No	The Committee will seek to scrutinise the substance of the Annual Report two months before it is presented to Full Council.

People Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting dates in 2022/23

21 June 2022	13 December 2022
30 August 2022	21 February 2023
25 October 2022	24 April 2023