

West Northamptonshire Council

People Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

	Topic identified and scheduled
	Topic identified but not yet scheduled
	Topic completed

Topic	Proposed purpose	Date of Committee meeting	Cabinet Member / Executive Director / other senior leader	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	Chief Executive, Children's Trust	No	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.
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	
Task and finish scrutiny review: child and adolescent mental health and the risk of self-harm	To approve the final report of the scrutiny review.	15 September 2022	NA	Yes	The scrutiny panel is meeting during January – August 2022 in order to deliver the agreed purpose of the scrutiny review.
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 2022/23	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing	Yes	The task and finish panel will meet 6 times from January 2022 to April 2023, aligned to iCAN contract gateway review points, to scrutinise delivery of iCAN programme outcomes.

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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.	15 September 2022	Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration	No	
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.	15 September 2022	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education	No	
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 – the timescale for presentation of the proposed Strategy to the Cabinet has changed since scrutiny in March 2022. Clarification is being sought about scheduling the further scrutiny sought by the Committee.	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.
West Northamptonshire Council Housing Strategy – draft Strategy	The Committee to carry out pre-decision scrutiny of the full draft Strategy.	To be confirmed – the timescale for presentation of the proposed Strategy to the Cabinet has changed since scrutiny in March 2022. Clarification is being sought about scheduling the further scrutiny sought by the Committee.	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.

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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.
School performance	The Committee to invite the Regional Director to discuss school performance in relation to academy schools in West Northamptonshire.	To be confirmed – potentially 25 October 2022 / 8 December 2022	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education	No	The Committee has sought to schedule this item earlier in 2022 but the Regional Schools Commissioner (retitled Regional Director from mid-2022) could not attend the Committee meetings on 25 April, 21 June and 15 September 2022.
Housing Solutions Transformation Plan	The Committee to consider an overview of the transformation plan for the Housing Solutions function	To be confirmed – 15 September 2022 is proposed to fit in with the project timescale	Director of Communities & Opportunities	No	
Communities & Opportunities Directorate key contracts and delivery plans	The Committee to consider the Directorate's key contracts and associated delivery plans	To be confirmed – 25 October 2022 suggested	Director of Communities & Opportunities	No	
Housing Allocation Policy	The Committee to consider the Housing Allocation policy for West Northamptonshire.	To be confirmed – 8 December 2022 suggested	Director of Communities & Opportunities	No	

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Sports and Leisure needs assessment	The Committee to consider the needs assessment for sports and leisure provision in West Northamptonshire.	To be confirmed – 8 December 2022 suggested	Director of Communities & Opportunities	The Committee has previously identified wider issues relating to sports and leisure provision as a potential topic for an in-depth scrutiny review.	
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.
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.
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.

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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	Director of Communities & Opportunities	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.
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	The Northamptonshire Integrated Care System is likely to be a continuing area for scrutiny in future.
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	

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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	
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	
Northamptonshire children's services performance	The Committee to receive an update covering the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional measures to further improve recruitment and retention of social workers 	25 January 2022	Director of Children's Services Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education Chief Executive, Children's Trust	No	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieving consistently good quality practice for all children, supported by full implementation of the practice model <p>Outcomes of the Ofsted monitoring visit due to take place in November 2021.</p>				
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	
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	

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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	

People Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting dates in 2022/23

21 June 2022	13 December 2022
15 September 2022	21 February 2023
25 October 2022	24 April 2023

Development of Overview and Scrutiny work programmes for 2022/23

The Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Group considered the process to be used to develop Overview and Scrutiny work programmes at a meeting on 25 May 2022. The Group agreed that rather than go out to public consultation about suggestions for scrutiny topics as in 2021/22 it could be more useful to consider a survey of residents' views about Council services. This would enable areas to be identified where Overview and Scrutiny might help to alleviate issues. The Group also agreed that Cabinet Members should be asked to provide details of forthcoming issues within their portfolios that might be subject to pre-decision scrutiny. The chairs of the three Overview and Scrutiny committees have written to the Leader of the Council to progress these matters.