

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW PANEL</b>
<b>Date:</b>	1 August 2023
<b>Scrutiny Chair / Reporting Officer:</b>	<p>Councillor Claire Reid – Chair of Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel</p> <p>Councillor Hugh Roderick – Chair of Children’s Services Scrutiny Panel</p> <p>Councillor Naila Sharif – Chair of Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel</p> <p>Simon Brunet – Head of Policy and Communications (Statutory Scrutiny Officer)</p>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>SCRUTINY ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMMES 2023/24</b>
<b>Report Summary:</b>	To receive for information, the annual work programmes of the Council’s three Scrutiny Panels.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	That Overview Panel note the content of work programmes and planned activity of the Scrutiny Panels.
<b>Links to Corporate Plan:</b>	Topics included within the work programmes remain linked to the Council’s corporate priorities. Scrutiny activity seeks to support effective decision-making and to improve outcomes for residents and service users.
<b>Policy Implications:</b>	The work programmes comprise activity that seeks to check the effective implementation of council policies and if appropriate make recommendations to the Executive with regards to development, performance monitoring, outcomes and value for money.
<b>Financial Implications:</b>	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
<b>(Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)</b>	The recommendations from the content of the work programmes and planned activity of the Scrutiny Panels and any associated reports could have financial implications where policy or service delivery changes are implemented as a result. Any changes, and the associated financial implications, will need to be the subject of separate reports
<b>Legal Implications:</b>	The Overview Panel supports the role that scrutiny plays in holding the authority’s decision-makers to account making it fundamentally important to the successful functioning of local democracy by ensuring the efficient delivery of public services and driving improvements within the authority.
<b>(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)</b>	<p>In reviewing the summary of the work undertaken, the Panel can consider how the scrutiny function is being supported by the annual work programme.</p> <p>Both Overview and Scrutiny have statutory powers to scrutinise decisions the executive is planning to take, those it plans to implement and those that have already been taken/implemented.</p>

Recommendations from such scrutiny enable improvements to be made to policies and how they are implemented. Overview and Scrutiny also play a valuable role in developing policy.

**Risk Management:**

The Chairs and Deputy Chairs of the Scrutiny Panels will be informed of the progress in implementing the work programmes.

**Access to Information:**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Paul Radcliffe, Policy and Strategy Lead by:



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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Tameside Scrutiny Panels are required to publish an Annual Work Programme of planned activity for the municipal year ahead. The programme of work will cover a two-year rolling period to be reviewed, updated and agreed on an annual basis.
- 1.2 Scrutiny activity aims to reflect priority issues across the Council and external partners. Work will continue to improve the flexibility, responsiveness and reporting methods of all scrutiny activity undertaken during 2023/24. Discussion from Scrutiny Panels held in June 2023 has directly informed the list of topics and planned updates 'check and challenge', for the year ahead.
- 1.3 Each year a range of emerging topics and issues may require the attention of Scrutiny. It is therefore important to ensure efforts are best placed to support and influence effective decision-making, with a focus on improving outcomes for residents and communities.

### **Scrutiny activity in Tameside**

- 1.4 There is a range of options available to each Scrutiny Panel as to how activity is planned and undertaken. Scrutiny Chairs will work closely with panel members in order to adopt a combination of approaches to review service and performance updates, respond to formal consultations, focus reports of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and areas in need of more in-depth review. This includes a responsibility for:
  - Research and insight on a particular issue, including desktop reviews
  - Review of decisions and recommendations
  - Follow-up (from previous review / recommendations)
  - Engagement and consultation – to provide responses to pre-decision activity
  - Consideration of decisions and reports of the Ombudsman
  - Receive updates on key issues as they arise
  - Active monitoring of national and regional policy and substantive variation to services
- 1.5 The work programme is ambitious and it is not expected that all topics will be covered during the year, but more an agreed list from which to select items. Scrutiny will remain mindful of budget pressures, regulatory frameworks and the demand on statutory services. Through each work programme, the scrutiny of key partners will be planned where appropriate and relevant. At times, Scrutiny may also consider work and outcomes associated with individual delivery panels of the Executive.
- 1.6 In addition to the work programme, all panel members will continue to receive a regular update email to inform of upcoming activity, access to scrutiny resources, engagement and consultation with regard to local, regional and national decision-making. This provides a direct opportunity for scrutiny members to contribute and respond to the range of activity taking place both within the Council and across partners.

## **2. WORK PROGRAMMES**

- 2.1 The Scrutiny meetings held in June 2023 provided members with the opportunity to comment and contribute to the list topics included in the annual work programmes.
- 2.2 Scrutiny activity will continue to be undertaken outside of the formal meetings and through working groups, with all findings and recommendations presented to the full panel for comment and approval. This flexibility can allow responsive and timely work to be undertaken, creating an enhanced opportunity to both influence and inform the impact of decisions. It is also necessary to monitor and evaluate outcomes from past activity and to review the implementation of recommendations.

2.3 Where deemed appropriate, the wider development of scrutiny may include project support and service development work undertaken at the request of the Executive as a critical friend.

**Planned activity**

2.4 In order to prevent delay, Scrutiny Panels agreed topics to be considered at the next round of public meetings in July, as detailed below.

**Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel – 25 July 2023**

- Neighbourhood Enforcement  
(Invitation to the Executive Member for Climate Emergency & Environmental Services)

**Children’s Services Scrutiny Panel – 26 July 2023**

- Services for Care Leavers  
(Invitation to the Deputy Executive Leader – Children and Families)

**Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel – 27 July 2023**

- Domestic Abuse  
(Invitation to the Executive Member for Population Health & Wellbeing)

2.5 On occasion a topic may require the attention of more than one scrutiny panel in order to examine a range of impacts. At such a time, a decision will be made to assign a lead panel based on both remit and the subject matter. All aspects of activity will be made available to panel members to consider and respond.

**3. SCRUTINY ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMMES 2023/24**

3.1 The work programmes below capture the input and discussion of panel members from meetings held in June 2023. The list of topics does not reflect the order in which activity will be selected or undertaken.

**Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel**

3.2 The Scrutiny Panel recognises that topics specific to growth, investment and regeneration may be closely linked and best considered in conjunction with others.

<b>Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel</b>
• Neighbourhood Enforcement – policy and the effectiveness of strategic, operational and place-based approach to fly tipping, street scene/cleanliness and parking etc
• GMP – implementation of the neighbourhood model / Community Safety Partnership
• Transport for Greater Manchester – Rochdale-Oldham-Tameside Bus Transit programme and emerging public and active travel schemes
• Housing / Registered Provider Partnership – coordination update to include housing partners around homelessness strategy and accommodation
• Town Centres – consultation / development and delivery phases
• Local Plan – Places for Everyone (strategic <u>not</u> operational planning)
• Poverty / cost of living and vulnerability – cross cutting and strategic response
• Climate change actions / Environment Strategy implementation
• Access to work – NEET / Routes to Work / vulnerability
• The Panel to receive regular updates during the year regarding new and emerging areas
<b>Follow-up on past activity</b>
• Homelessness and housing

### **Children's Services Scrutiny Panel**

- 3.3 The Scrutiny Panel will undertake core assurance activity across improvement activity, to include:
- Children's Social Care Improvement Plan
  - Safeguarding Partnership
  - Ofsted activity and reports

<b>Children's Services Scrutiny Panel</b>
• Children's Social Care Improvement Plan / Ofsted Monitoring
• Effectiveness of services and support to care leavers
• Quality and consistency of social work practice / voice of the child / timeliness of plans and assessments across the service
• Development of the Adolescence Hub – Youth Services and provision
• Mental health support / assessment (incl. CAMHS)– crisis and ongoing
• Child exploitation – joint commissioning and intervention activity
• Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools / education investment areas – future vision and pathway</li> <li>- Impact of Covid-19 on transition</li> </ul>
• SEND – NHS investment
• The Panel to receive regular updates during the year regarding new and emerging areas
<b>Follow-up on past activity</b>
• Children's Workforce Strategy – social worker recruitment and retention

### **Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel**

- 3.4 The Scrutiny Panel will undertake core assurance activity with health partners during the municipal year and receive timely briefings, to include: CQC inspection framework
- GMIC model
  - Tameside & Glossop NHS Integrated Care Foundation Trust
  - Pennine Care NHS Mental Health Foundation Trust

<b>Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel</b>
• Mental Health pathway – crisis support and ongoing secondary care – Pennine Care discharging Care Act duties
• Domestic Abuse (JSNA)
• Tameside Carers – assessment and support for unpaid carers (Health and Care Act 2022)
• Strategy development – input to emerging strategies – e.g. Adults Social Care; and Carers
• Learning disabilities – living at home model – offer and focus on journey, support and outcomes for service users (inc. accommodation). Engagement – Big Chat
• Adult Social Care - Market Position Statement (capacity and demand)
• Tameside Provider Partnership (TPP) / GM Integrated Care (GMIC) – incl. GM, ICFT, Primary Care and TMBC reps.
• Health inequalities – improvement and prevention programmes
• Access to GP appointments (incl. Primary Care Access Service)
• Elective waiting lists – post Covid-19 impact on waits
• Access to Dental Services
• The Panel to receive regular updates during the year regarding new and emerging areas

### **In-year monitoring**

- 3.5 Each Scrutiny Panel will plan and undertake additional oversight and in-year monitoring, to include the following activity.

<b>Additional in-year monitoring</b>
• Budget updates – annual and mid-year
• Feedback and learning from complaints (LGSCO)

- Performance monitoring against corporate priorities (incl. Children's Social Care)

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 As set out on the front of the report.