

Overview and Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2023/24



This table sets out the draft Overview and Scrutiny Commission's Work Programme for 2023/24 following discussions at the topic workshop on 7 June 2023.

The work programme will be considered at every meeting of the Commission to enable it to respond to issues of concern or to request new pre-decision items ahead of their consideration by Cabinet/Council.

Chair: Cllr Ed Foley

Vice-chair: Cllr Mike Brunt

Scrutiny Support

For further information on the work programme of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission please contact: -

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For more information about overview and scrutiny at LB Merton, please visit www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny

Meeting date: 5 July 2023 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 26 June 2023*)

Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Executive Director introductions	Verbal update with Q&A	Dan Jones (ED Environment, Civic Pride and Climate) Polly Cziok (ED Innovation & Change) Asad Mushtaq (ED Finance & Digital)	To understand current priorities in relation to Panel work programme
Scrutiny Annual Report	Report	Cllr Ed Foley, Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Commission	
Scrutiny Member Survey	Report	Cllr Ed Foley, Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Commission	
Identify questions for the Borough Commander	Discussion	Cllr Ed Foley, Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Commission	Plan line of questioning for 6 September meeting
Overview and Scrutiny Commission work programme 23/24	Report	Cllr Ed Foley Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Commission	Discuss and approve work programme and re-establishment of the FMTG

Meeting date: 6 September 2022 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 28 August 2022*)

Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Questions to the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive - priorities and challenges for 2022/23	Verbal update with Q&A	Cllr Ross Garrod, Leader of the Council; Hannah Doody, Chief Executive	To understand current priorities in relation to Panel work programme
BCU Commander – crime and policing in Merton	Report and in-depth discussion	BCU Commander	To hold BCU Commander to account on crime and disorder. (Include Community Policing)
Safer Merton - Antisocial Behaviour	Report	Community Safety Team, Katy Saunders, Megan Hatton	Report to focus on ASB and Knife Crime (Include graffiti and vandalism)
Work programme 2023/24	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme.

Meeting date: 8 November 2023 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 30 October 2023*)

Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Business Plan - budget update	Report	Asad Mushtaq, Executive Director of Finance & Digital	
Cabinet Member priorities	Report	Cllr Eleanor Stringer, Cabinet Member for Civic Pride	
Delivery of the Civic Pride fund		Cllr Eleanor Stringer, Cabinet Member for Civic Pride	
Customer Service and the Council Website		Polly Cziok, Executive Director of Innovation and Change	
Work programme 2023/24	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme

Meeting date: 24 January 2024 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 15 January 2024*)

Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Business Plan Update – budget scrutiny	Report – common pack for Panels and Commission	Asad Mushtaq, Executive Director of Finance & Digital	To report to Cabinet on budget scrutiny
Scrutiny of the Business Plan; comments and recommendations from the overview and scrutiny panels	Report	Asad Mushtaq, Executive Director of Finance & Digital	To send comments and recommendations from the overview and scrutiny panels to Cabinet
Identify questions for the Borough Commander	Discussion	Cllr Ed Foley Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Commission	Plan line of questioning for meeting on 26 February
Work programme 2023/24	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme.

Meeting date: 26 February 2024 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 16 February 2024*)

Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
BCU Commander – crime and policing in Merton	Report	BCU Commander	To hold BCU Commander to account on crime and disorder. (Include Community Policing)
Safer Merton - VAWG Strategy / Safety of women & girls	Report	Safer Merton	Include lighting
Night-time Strategy	Report	Sarah Xavier	What can the council do to develop an overarching strategy to bring various safety measures together to keep residents safe and support the economy.
Work programme 2023/24	Written report	Rosie McKeever, Scrutiny Officer	To agree the work programme

Meeting date: 13 March 2024 (*Deadline for papers: 5pm, 4 March 2024*)

Item/issue	How	Lead member and/or lead officer	Intended outcomes
Equality, Diversity & Inclusion strategy	Report		
People and Culture Plan	Report	Peter Little, Head of Organisational Development	Update on Workforce Strategy (renamed as People & Culture)
Decision Making: Review the current structure of the scrutiny panels and restructure to re-align with new directors.	Report	Scrutiny Team	Include Young Inspectors.
Planning the Commission's 2024/25 work programme	Report	Cllr Ed Foley Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Commission	To review 2023/24 and suggest ideas for 2024/25

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