

Long list of scrutiny work programme topics 2022/23 by Cabinet portfolio

Leader

Item	Boundary Commission Review	Comments
<p>Details</p> <p>OPSF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant impact to the borough, large amount of public interest and confusion so how will information be shared, importance of an appropriate Comms strategy, how will this be ensured? • The focus needs to be on voters and not on councillors. 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Propose report to committee rather than a project group. Could present the draft communications plan for discussion early in the process, suggest July 22.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer comments: Much of the boundary commission review is out of the control of the council therefore difficult for scrutiny to add value. However, communication with the public is important and scrutiny could engage and add value to the development of the draft communications plan.</p>

Item	Vision Derbyshire / Levelling Up	Comments
<p>Details</p> <p>OPSF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision Derbyshire and how this would play out – and how it sat with Levelling Up white paper. • Maybe another one for a monitor report on how Levelling Up progressing/playing out. 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Will need more time to understand the impacts of this further before reviewing. Awaiting further negotiation and announcements re. county deal and this is a big part of the levelling up agenda. Suggest not including now but keep an eye on developments and could be added in later.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer comments: Relevant as affecting whole organisation and will bring benefits to residents. Query the timeliness though, agree with service lead suggestion to not schedule in but DSOs to monitor and suggest update if there are developments. Note that written updates could be provided or given in member e-bulletin as it is important for all members to be aware.</p>

Deputy Leader

Item	Climate Change Action Plan (already on the SWP for 2022/23)*	Comments
<p>Details</p> <p>OPSF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to have this as a central piece of scrutiny work. • How successful has embedding climate change within the organisation been? • Scrutiny can add value to the development of the new action plan. • Important to integrate into other scrutiny topics. 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Happy to continue with this approach – suggest twice yearly update to committee.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer notes: Organisational priority and high in the public interest, advise continue involvement in a monitoring capacity.</p>

Governance

Item	Member development	Comments
<p>Details</p> <p>CC&O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to encourage ownership of skills and skills development amongst members. • Options for providing training on broader/basic skills like chairing, budget management, skills needed to be a rounded councillor – consider needs of new and longer serving members. • Making sure that councillors are skilled for the committees they are on. • Ensuring sessions are relevant to enhance role as a councillor. • DCC have e-learning courses on specific topics which have been useful such as governance, constitution, finances – look at what DCC do. • Options for online learning – makes it more accessible and can be interactive. • Fire safety for councillors – would be a good as a mandatory session. • Requirement for enhanced social media training due to fact that people are more scrutinised on things like this these days. Need an awareness of how to best utilise all types of social media. 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Potential for a special scrutiny session to help develop the 2023 member induction. Could be handled via a facilitated focus group / discussion to help inform that programme. The objective could be to develop a new member induction programme for 2023/24. Suggest starting off this work from May 22.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer notes: There is real opportunity for scrutiny to add value to this topic; suggest a focus group meeting supporting the development of the induction programme and delving into the detail of the programme. This work would be timely and present an opportunity for scrutiny to have a real impact.</p>

Item	Constitution	Comments
<p>Details</p> <p>CC&O/ OPSF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links somewhat to member development – ensuring members are fully aware of the detail of the constitution – vital to doing a good job of the councillor. • Revisiting terms of reference of committees and ensuring members are aware of these. 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Link to member development. Important that new and returning members have a good understanding of constitutional matters early in their term of office. Be aware of impact on this topic due to boundary review and reduced councillor numbers.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer notes: Can be fed into the member development item.</p>

Item	Volunteer sector	Comments
<p>Details</p> <p>CC&O</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many volunteer sectors are available in Chesterfield? • Options for creating a record (i.e. by conducting a survey) so if we ever have another crisis we could look at the list of what is available to refer people to. • Look at with the Health and Wellbeing Board. 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Query what is meant by “voluntary sectors”. Work already undertaken by volunteer centre and DCC in partnership with CBC re. maintaining a record and responding differently to crises. Unsure that scrutiny could add value at this time.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer notes: Work would be duplicated and the number of external partners involved will make this topic a challenge to scope and may not be manageable.</p>

Item	Members on outside bodies	Comments
Details CC&O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How are the outside bodies chosen? 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Will be a review of outside bodies (OB) during 2022/23 which will include looking at current OBs, defining the role of sitting on an OB and the selection process. Scrutiny could really help with this, it would lend itself to a project group. Propose starting time of May 22.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer comments: A timely project that provides an opportunity for scrutiny to add value. Also relates well with the community as many outside bodies involve external organisations. Agree with a project group approach and potentially could be a short, impactful project.</p>

Item	Emergency Planning and Business Continuity	Comments
Details OPSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included on 2021/22 SWP, needs to continue – agreed at January 2022 OPSF meeting that an update about future work would be brought because a large amount of work planned. 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Could do another update, suggest Autumn as fits with work schedules.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer comments: Already on draft programme following recent review at OPSF, suggest aligning with service leads timeline for further review. Could be considered as monitoring rather than main item.</p>

Business Transformation

Item	People Plan	Comments
Details OPSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link to mental health returning to work etc. effects of homeworking and the return and how longer term will impact. Finding a criterion to use going forward when interviewing people that can measure against. How are we managing vacancies in staff? Review feedback after surveys have been done etc. 	<p>Scrutiny officer comments: Officer report received at OPSF in Mar 22. Potentially consider specific items for further review following this update and receive as monitoring updates.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investors in people gold: look at the standards they use and see if we could use them. • Auditor report – code of corporate governance. Are there any benchmarks to measure outcomes? 	
--	--	--

Item	My Chesterfield	Comments
Details OPSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing the service offered whilst balancing against the risk that it could be a barrier for some being able to access – is there a plan b? • What does that mean for the staff? • Electronic means of communication are not consistently applied across the whole council, very select on what can be done online. Understand what new services are added and why. • Review and see the take up of it – number of people subscribed so far. • How can we make sure as many people as possible know it's there, how to access it and how to use the tool? 	Scrutiny officer comments: Update received as part of ICT Improvement Programme in Jan 21, also scheduled for May 2022. In the public interest and a top organisational priority. Use points from this item to scope report at May meeting however more consideration needed on what value scrutiny can add to this topic in terms of driving outcomes.

Item	Organisational development	Comments
Details OPSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult to see which officers/services do what and how they all interact. • Is there value in creating a method of seeing the structures of the council and how they all interact? 	Scrutiny officer comments: Further information needed in order to fully scope. The organisational development programme has not been completed yet so may be more beneficial to wait until that is finished. More of a training point and will be useful for all members to be aware of; could be fed into the member induction or as an article in the e-bulletin.

Item	Business grants	Comments
Details E&W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful, need to keep on top of/monitor. • What was the method/protocol for awarding grants? How did we ensure they got to the businesses who needed them most? 	Scrutiny officer comments: Feedback on the roll out of grants has been very positive. Also potential for duplication as the internal audit service have a role in monitoring this. Scrutiny

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons learned exercise. 	would need to consider what it's objectives of reviewing it were and how it could add value.
--	---	--

Item	ICT Improvement Programme	Comments
Details OPSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to be carried forward because aimed to bring efficiencies and monetary savings and Covid-19 had significant impacts. 	Scrutiny officer comments: Already on work programme, due at OPSF May 2022. Consider points above re. My Chesterfield.

Economic Growth

Item	Town centre economy	Comments
Details CC&O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What impact will cuts to visitor information and events budgets have on the drive to boost tourism? • Link to Visitor Economy Strategy – this will be monitored after 12 months by CC&O following the scrutiny project group. • Make better use of empty properties. • Look at the softer side of what goes on in town centres – arts/photography/dance. • Talk to the above areas and see what they can offer (activities etc) for the town centre. • Is there potential for growth in the education sector? • How could we support/achieve that growth? 	Scrutiny officer comments: Scrutiny has just finished a project group on the visitor economy strategy, the recommendations from this will be monitored by CC&O SC. These points and questions can be fed into the monitoring.

Item	Pavements Shopping Centre	Comments
Details CC&O/E&W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the options for the centre now it is under council ownership? • How can we make the best use of it? • Possible topic for working group. 	Scrutiny officer comments: As above, will be part of the visitor economy strategy monitoring.

Item	Marketing and successfully letting retail units	Comments
<p>Details</p> <p>CC&O/E&W</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are retail units being advertised? • Awareness that not all are council owned however that is not the perception of the public so what can we do to address this and support the letting of the units? • Need to keep under observation. • Update on the Waterside Development and the Enterprise Centre, what types of business are using/are they relocating from elsewhere? What types of businesses are we attracting to Chesterfield? • Acknowledged that scrutiny can't influence new tenants but as CBC owns The Pavements Shopping Centre scrutiny needs to understand the work CBC doing and support work where possible. • Comms strategy needs to be right. • Like for like comparisons need to be used. • Important to understand the good and bad parts of the development process. • Monitor performance after the developments have been completed and all commercial properties e.g. number of tenants, finances 	<p>Scrutiny officer comments: Report on this topic received by CC&O in Feb 22. Much of this is outside of the council's control and likely to duplicate work of the economic growth team. Query value added by scrutiny involvement. Will need careful scoping if included on SWP.</p>

Item	Activities and skills for young adults	Comments
<p>Details</p> <p>E&W</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at activities'/skills learning for young adults who are looking for work. 	<p>Scrutiny officer comments: Feeds into the Skills Action Plan work coming to E&W. Likely to duplicate so suggest consolidating this into one item alongside Skills. When scoping topic, need an awareness of extent of CBC involvement due to education sitting with DCC.</p>

Town Centres and Visitor Economy

Item	Stephenson Memorial Hall Project	Comments
Details CC&O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be a large amount of interest and disruption to the public. • Comms strategy around the project will be really important and needs to be right. • Need for members to be kept informed so they can respond effectively to residents' queries. • Option for scrutiny monitoring rather than main item. 	Scrutiny officer comments: Other bodies are involved in this project, e.g. planning committee. However, public interest and need for members to be kept informed is important. Potential to be done via member update/e-bulletin rather than topic at scrutiny as would be beneficial for all members, not just scrutiny. If consider beneficial for scrutiny, propose looking at communications plan for all town centre developments e.g. Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield, Stephenson Memorial Hall, levelling up fund.

Item	Museums on the move	Comments
Details CC&O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where, how and why will locations be chosen for this? • Can the community involved, what sort of statistics/evidence will be looked at to inform this? • Consideration of the legacy after the Stephenson Memorial Hall project is finished. 	Scrutiny officer comments: This is a time sensitive topic and may be too late for scrutiny to be involved in criteria for choosing locations/involving the community. There is potential for considering the legacy after the project however due to the timescales of the project, this would more likely fit onto a future work programme.

Housing

Item	Private sector housing	Comments
Details E&W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector landlords. • Involve the law centre in terms of their work they do with housing. • Bringing empty homes back into play and homelessness strategy – how will that work with private landlords? • Needs to be carried forward because the team is still understaffed, they are struggling to recruit and a large backlog. 	Summary of comments from service lead: New posts within the private sector housing team have been approved including empty homes lead. Current joint working with the law centre is across a broad range of housing areas, areas of focus would require streamlining if it goes forward as a scrutiny topic. Scrutiny officer comments:

		Item already provisionally included following last review at E&W SC. Is of public interest and scrutiny has demonstrated its ability to influence this area from previous similar reviews. When scoping, further clarification needed over law centre involvement. Suggest include in first meeting of the new year to look at a number policies in development.
--	--	--

Item	CBC Housing	Comments
Details E&W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing decent homes is very important. • How long does it take to turn around a vacant property for new tenants to move in? • What is CBC providing with properties? e.g. carpets. • Impact of Covid-19 backlog and how service recovering – possibility of a further topic about the recovery of all services mentioned. 	<p>Summary of comments from service lead: Plan was put in place to manage/prioritise repairs during Covid and emergency repairs and voids continued during the lockdowns. Still working through some repairs from the backlog as additional repairs are reported continuously. Re. decent homes, consultation and review undertaken by government, awaiting timetable for this and further guidance from government.</p> <p>Scrutiny officer comments: Question on length of time to turn void property around was asked at Full Council in Feb 22. Lead officer can provide information on repairs/voids, particularly the impact of Covid-19. Will need to consider the objectives of this if included and what value can scrutiny add. Potential for a lessons learnt activity. What would scrutiny's objectives be? Potential to look at next year once more government guidance issued.</p>

Health and Wellbeing

Item	Parks and Open Spaces	Comments
Details E&W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How "green" are our open spaces? (green = environmentally friendly) • Can we champion where we are using "green" methods? 	<p>Scrutiny officer comments: Included on monitoring schedule for update following implementation of the two strategies approved at</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we add value by raising the profile of what we do so that it's something that every member of the community can get involved in? 	Council in Feb 2022. Suggest putting towards the end of the year to allow time for implementation to have taken effect.
--	--	---

Item	Recycling rates	Comments
Details E&W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the current rates of recycling? • Has there been an impact due to Covid-19? • Issues with waste disposal in the news, understand more about recycling collections in the borough. • Performance of the current contract. 	Scrutiny officer comments: E&W SC have reviewed this topic regularly, most recently in Feb 2021 which incorporated the impact of Covid-19. Consider value of scrutiny input again (is it too soon?), suggest looking at as a monitoring item rather than main item.

Item	Health and Wellbeing partnership working	Comments
Details CC&O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how much the partnership working is benefiting/detrimental to CBC/residents. • What value are the partnerships adding to residents? • Ask Cabinet Member for more information why the topic was suggested? Only three groups for the borough, could the names of the groups be improved to better reflect the area. • COVID distance i.e. people on a screen, community leaders have been unable to attend meetings and we need to engage these to come back and to listen to the issues. • Very top down at the moment, need to go back to people in the community to let them know the issues that we want tackling. • Integrated Care System, need a report to see what their intentions are. 	Summary of comments from service lead: Links to the future of the Health and Wellbeing Boards and Locality Partnerships through the development of the integrated care system. Currently building up knowledge of how this is going to work but still a long way to go on a national, regional and local perspective before we have some more developed thinking. Scrutiny officer comments: Will affect the community in a big way however still at the earlier stages which we do not have much control over. As with the Vision Derbyshire/Levelling Up, suggested not scheduling in at this stage but DSOs to monitor and bring forward updates if necessary.

Those highlighted in **green** are topic areas that are already covered on the OSC work programme.