

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2025-26

(Updated: 29 August 2025)

Items allocated to specific meeting dates		
14 October 2025		
Officers are in discussion with departments to see if other items from the work programme can be brought forward to the October. A verbal update will be given at Committee on 9 September.		
11 November 2025		
Quarter Two (July to September) Performance Monitoring Report	Performance Monitoring To consider the Quarter two performance report, with a focus on amber / red indicators, and provide comments to the Executive.	Shona Ware, Assistant Director Customer Focus & Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance Team Leader Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services, Councillor Chris Brant
Safeguarding Annual Return	Performance Monitoring - Annual recurring item Whilst there is no requirement for Committee to sign-off the annual return to the Safeguarding Boards, it is important to have an overview of the work we're doing at this time in training staff, members and the reflect on the number and nature of referrals, and make any recommendations to Executive regarding changes in delivery.	Nicola Riley, Assistant Director Wellbeing Portfolio Holder for healthy Communities, Councillor Rob Pattenden
Service Levels	Holding the Executive to account	Various
Suggestion from Monitoring Officer	Following on from 'Case for Change' decision, scrutinising possible impact on service levels	

Simpler Recycling Projects – Government legislation Suggestion from Corporate Director – Communities	Holding the Executive to account Understanding the implications of national changes to recycling announced by Government. <i>Moved from October meeting – Executive now considering at their October meeting instead of September.</i>	Ed Potter, Assistant Director Environmental Services Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services, Councillor Ian Middleton
Flytipping Suggestion from Ian Boll following discussion with Cllr Amanda Watkins	Cllr Watkins has reported flytipping issues in Banbury specifically. Ian has suggested flytipping for the work programme. <i>Moved from October meeting – ties in with Simpler Recycling item, moved back to maintain link.</i>	Ian Boll, Corporate Director Communities, and Ed Potter Assistant Director Environmental Services Portfolio Holder - TBC
16 December 2025		
Cherwell Futures Programme (previously Transformation Programme) (may feed into Local Government Reorganisation and Budget Planning) Suggestion from Chief Executive	Holding the Executive to account. To consider regular updates on the transformation programme; initial 'Case for Change' scheduled for Executive in July 2025, OSC involvement during implementation phase. To become an annual item. <i>Moved from October meeting.</i>	Stephen Hinds, Corporate Director Resources and Transformation & Shona Ware, Assistant Director Customer Focus Leader & Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership, Councillor David Hingley
Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable Thames Valley Police Attendance	External Scrutiny - Annual recurring item To fulfil the Council's requirement regarding crime and disorder scrutiny to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions no less than once in every twelve-month period. All Members are invited to attend the meeting.	Ian Boll, Corporate Director Communities Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities, Councillor Rob Parkinson

27 January 2026		
Quarter Three (October to December) Performance Monitoring Report	Performance Monitoring To consider the Quarter three performance report, with a focus on amber / red indicators, and provide comments to the Executive.	Shona Ware, Assistant Director Customer Focus & Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance Team Leader Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services, Councillor Chris Brant
Temporary Accommodation (Previously referred to as Homelessness and Rough Sleeping) Suggestion from Cllr Lynne Parsons	Progress against the new Temporary Accommodation Policy Cllr Parsons revised the remit of this suggested topic following the recent approval of the new Temporary Accommodation Policy (Executive 1 July 2025)	Nicola Riley, Assistant Director Wellbeing Portfolio Holder for Healthy Communities, Councillor Rob Pattenden
24 March 2026		
Draft Performance Outcomes Framework 2026-27	Performance Monitoring. To consider and make comments / recommendations to Executive on the draft Performance Outcomes Framework for 2026-2027 prior to Executive adoption of the framework	Shona Ware, Assistant Director Customer Focus & Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance Team Leader Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services, Councillor Chris Brant
Action Plans stemming from Planning and Development To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PAS Review Merton College PR9 Site Appeal Housing Delivery Action Plan (as discussed at 3.6.25 Committee) 	Holding the Executive to account Multiple items across the year; Scrutinising implementation of the various action plans. An initial update on implementation of the various plans.	David Peckford, Assistant Director Planning & Development & Paul Seckington, Head of Development Management Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development Management, Councillor Jean Conway

Suggestion from Monitoring Officer		
Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report	To consider the draft annual report of the Committee, prior to submission to full Council	Emma Faulkner, Principal Officer – Scrutiny and Democratic Lead
To be allocated – remaining 25-26 Year		
Graven Hill	Holding Executive to Account/External Scrutiny Review planning process for Phase 2 July 2026, then annually – review of previous year’s performance and monitoring of Phase 2 implementation. Timing of this element is dependent on the planning process.	Stephen Hinds, Shareholder Representative Leader & Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership, Councillor David Hingley
Follow-up on recommendation relating to Cherwell Safer Communities Partnership Plan	At 11 March 2025 meeting of the Committee it was resolved - “(1) That the Committee recommends that the Executive, as a matter of urgency, ensure that the Cherwell Safer Community Partnership Plan be reviewed and updated and presented to this committee early in the next municipal year” This item could be tied in with the wider CSCP item, dependent on timing of the renewed plan	Ian Boll, Corporate Director Communities Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities, Councillor Rob Parkinson
Performance of S106 delivery Raised by Cllr Dr Isabel Creed	Many housing developments across the district, particularly in Banbury, are having houses built but then developers appear to not be completing additional infrastructure such as play parks. Could be covered under transformation item in future, due to possible changes to how S106 agreements are monitored. Initial OSC aspect could be current enforcement of S106 Developer Agreements.	David Peckford, Assistant Director – Planning and Development Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development Management, Councillor Jean Conway
NEW	End of inquiry reports and recommendations from the four working groups are being submitted to Executive	Various officers and Portfolio Holders.

Executive Response to working group recommendations	in October. Executive then have two months to provide a response, which will be reported to Overview and Scrutiny	
To be allocated to 2026-27 work programme		
Year end Performance Monitoring 2025/26	Performance Monitoring To consider the year end performance report, with a focus on amber / red indicators, and provide comments to the Executive.	Shona Ware, Assistant Director Customer Focus & Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance Team Leader Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services, Councillor Chris Brant
Action Plans stemming from Planning and Development To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PAS Review Merton College PR9 Site Appeal Housing Delivery Action Plan (as discussed at 3.6.25 Committee) Suggestion from Monitoring Officer	Holding the Executive to account Multiple items across the year; Scrutinising implementation of the various action plans. Full detailed report on each action plan.	David Peckford, Assistant Director Planning & Development & Paul Seckington, Head of Development Management Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development Management, Councillor Jean Conway
Cherwell Futures Programme (previously Transformation Programme) (may feed into Local Government Reorganisation and Budget Planning)	Holding the Executive to account. To consider regular updates on the transformation programme. To become an annual item.	Stephen Hinds, Corporate Director Resources and Transformation & Shona Ware, Assistant Director Customer Focus Leader & Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership, Councillor David Hingley



Suggestion from Chief Executive		
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Meeting dates 2025-26 (All Tuesday 6:30pm unless indicated)

9 September; 14 October; 11 November; 16 December; 27 January; 24 March.

Members are reminded of the five roles of scrutiny when considering items for the work programme:

Performance Monitoring; Policy Development; Policy Review; Holding the Executive to Account; External Scrutiny

The Executive Forward Plan is [published on the Cherwell District Council website monthly](#).