

Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2023-24

Regeneration, Public Protection & Housing (inc. Crime & Disorder) Scrutiny

Date / Timing	Overarching Item/Issue	Why is this on the work programme?	Cabinet Member & Officer	How will this be scrutinised?	Scrutiny Focus – What are we trying to achieve?
27 th June 2023	Scrutiny Forward Work Programme	Link to Well-being objectives, priorities for improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Aspirational Merthyr Tydfil Focused on Learning • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil • A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil Tackling Poverty Agenda. Ensuring public voice. Drive improvement.	Chair of Regeneration, Public Protection & Housing (inc. Crime & Disorder) Scrutiny	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams (Hybrid) Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	Adding value through critical friend challenge and ensuring a robust work programme is in place. This will adhere to the 4 principles of scrutiny and 4R's model.
	Impact/Outcomes from report items:				
	Disabled Facility Grant (Housing)	Link to Well-being objectives, priorities for improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration Deputy Chief Executive	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams (Hybrid)	Scrutiny seeks to review the current budget/funding, management and assessment process relating to the Housing aspect of DFGs. Topic will allow

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil 	<p>Head of Housing and Regeneration</p> <p>Senior Housing Officers</p>	<p>Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting</p>	<p>critical friend challenge and add value by scrutinising actions involved in the application and assessment process and where appropriate, offer recommendations/proposals going forward to improve outcomes for Local Authority and public. Potential to invite partner organisations such as Care and Repair.</p>
<p>Impact/Outcomes from report item:</p>					
Date / Timing	Overarching Item/Issue	Why is this on the work programme?	Cabinet Member & Officer	How will this be scrutinised?	Scrutiny Focus – What are we trying to achieve?
<p>26th September 2023</p>	<p>PASS – Business Plan & Quarterly Report</p> <p>Postponed until later in cycle – March 2024</p>	<p>Link to Well-being objectives –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil A Clean and Green Merthyr Tydfil 	<p>Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection</p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive</p> <p>Head of Public Protection</p> <p>Other officers from PASS</p>	<p>Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams (Hybrid)</p> <p>Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting</p>	<p>Scrutiny to receive a progress review of services provided by PASS including development of their business plan. Understanding of current position and challenges to receive critical friend challenge.</p>

Impact/Outcomes from report item:				
St Tydfil's Shopping Centre (including the Glebeland Site)	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive Senior Regeneration Officers	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams (Hybrid)	Following purchase of the centre, Scrutiny seeks to review progress of the plans for the site and will offer critical friend challenge of any future strategies to develop the centre and Glebeland site. Value will be added by offering recommendations to ensure any developments that take place will be of benefit and improve the town centre.
			Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	
Impact/Outcomes from report item:				
Disabled Facility Grant (Housing) – Service Options	Link to Well-being objectives, priorities for improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil • A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration Deputy Chief Executive Director of Social Services	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams (Hybrid)	Following on from the Scrutiny in September, Scrutiny seeks to review the various options which have been identified for future functions of the service and service improvements. As a pre-decision item, critical friend challenge will be offered to these options and if appropriate,

			Head of Adult Services Senior Housing Officers Property Services Manager/Officers	Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	recommendations will be made.
Impact/Outcomes from report item:					
Taxi Ranks (within the Night-Time Economy)	Link to Well-being objectives, priorities for improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive Head of Public Protection	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams (Hybrid)	Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	Scrutiny to offer critical friend challenge to the proposals being made in relation to taxi ranks within the town centre, with particular focus on taxi ranks within the night-time economy. As a pre-decision item, if appropriate recommendations will be made to help the development of the proposals.
Impact/Outcomes from report item:					

Date / Timing	Overarching Item/Issue	Why is this on the work programme?	Cabinet Member & Officer	How will this be scrutinised?	Scrutiny Focus – What are we trying to achieve?
14 th November 2023	Local/Public Transport (Bus Service) Item postponed	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil Key to ensuring a public voice	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive Senior Regeneration Officers Transport Officers Representatives from Stagecoach	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	To provide critical friend challenge of the current service and the issues and challenges that are faced. Scrutiny of this item will also enable and bring forward the voice of the public with this item being a topic of high importance amongst members of the public.
	Impact/Outcomes from report item:				
	Hoovers Redevelopment Item postponed	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	Scrutiny seeks to review progress on the redevelopment of the site and provide critical friend challenge to options available, with recommendations to be

			Senior Regeneration Officers	Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	considered based on any on-going proposals. Potential workshop to develop detailed understanding of any plans/reports.
Impact/Outcomes from report item:					
Long Term Plan for Towns	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection	Deputy Chief Executive	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	Following the announcement from Central Government relating to funding for the regeneration of local towns across the UK, Scrutiny seeks to review the initial plans on how the funding will be invested, how town boards will be developed, how local priorities are expected to be met and where appropriate, offer recommendations to the development of the Long-Term Plan scheduled to be finalised by the summer of 2024.
				Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	
Impact/Outcomes from report item:					

Date / Timing	Overarching Item/Issue	Why is this on the work programme?	Cabinet Member & Officer	How will this be scrutinised?	Scrutiny Focus – What are we trying to achieve?
23 rd January 2024	Housing and Homelessness	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil Housing (Wales) Act 2014 Corporate Risk	Cabinet Members for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive Strategic Housing Manager Other Senior Housing Officers	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	As an issue of high importance and high corporate risk, Scrutiny seeks to receive a progress review since the item was brought forward during the cycle last year. This should include any developments and information on any challenges that has been faced, as well as the impact the changes in Welsh Government legislation has had on housing and homelessness in the County Borough. This topic will allow critical friend challenge and add value by scrutinising mitigation actions against the Homelessness is a corporate risk and it will be essential to consider proposals going forward, and how further collaborative working can improve outcomes.
				Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	

Impact/Outcomes from report item:				
Empty Buildings in the County Borough	Link to Well-being objectives, priorities for improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil • A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration Cabinet Member for Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive Head of Public Protection Public/Environmental Health Manager Senior Regeneration Officers	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	Scrutiny seeks to explore progress made with regards to empty buildings within the County Borough and the impact of any schemes designed to increase their use, and whether this has had any impact with regards to homelessness and other key priorities. Members to explore opportunities and challenges relating to the overarching item, and how we could possibly work with owners to improve quality and use of buildings.
			Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	
Impact/Outcome from report item:				
St Tydfil's Shopping Centre	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	As a direct action noted from the Scrutiny in September and the expected rapid progress being made, Scrutiny seeks to review the

			Deputy Chief Executive Senior Regeneration Officers	Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	progress of the development of the shopping centre with critical friend challenge being offered to the current progress, future plans/ strategies for the development of the centre with key focus of the financial position/implications of the purchase of the centre.
Impact/Outcome from report item:					
Date / Timing	Overarching Item/Issue	Why is this on the work programme?	Cabinet Member & Officer	How will this be scrutinised?	Scrutiny Focus – What are we trying to achieve?
5 th March 2024	Prevention of Children Accessing Age-Related Goods	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive Head of Public Protection Licensing Officers	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	Scrutiny seeks to review the actions and current practices related in the prevention of children accessing age-related good. Members will offer critical friend challenge to these practices and if appropriate, provide recommendations for improvement.
				Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	
Impact/Outcome from report item:					

Licensed Activities – Alcohol and Taxi Licence Fit and Proper Persons Controls	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive Head of Public Protection Licensing Officers	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	Scrutiny to review the processes and controls currently in place in relation to licenced activities, specifically alcohol and taxi licences. Scrutiny seeks to view whether the current practices are appropriate in ensuring that only fit and proper persons are successful in their application ensuring safety of the public. If appropriate, recommendations will be made.
			Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	
Impact/Outcome from report item:				
PASS – Business Plan & Quarterly Report	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	Scrutiny to receive a progress review of services provided by PASS including development of their business plan. Understanding of current position and challenges to

		A Clean and Green Merthyr Tydfil	Head of Public Protection Other officers from PASS	Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	receive critical friend challenge.
Impact/Outcomes from report item:					
Date / Timing	Overarching Item/Issue	Why is this on the work programme?	Cabinet Member & Officer	How will this be scrutinised?	Scrutiny Focus – What are we trying to achieve?
9 th April 2024	Town Centre Masterplan	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection Deputy Chief Executive Senior Regeneration Officers	Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	Scrutiny to offer a critical friend challenge to the town centre masterplan. Progress of the plan to be reviewed by Members including the current position, plans for the future and any challenges that are being faced. If appropriate, recommendations to be made by Members.

Impact/Outcomes from report item:					
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TBC	Self-Evaluation Report (Workshop)	<p>Link to Well-being objectives –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Aspirational Merthyr Tydfil focusing on Learning • A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil • A Clean and Green Merthyr Tydfil 	<p>Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection</p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive</p> <p>Head of Public Protection</p>	Venue: Committee Room	The corporate self-evaluation process is a key element of the Council's Governance Framework. The process requires all Chief Officers to annually review the current position for all services in relation to Outcomes, Provision and Service Delivery and Leadership and

			<p>Senior Regeneration Officers</p> <p>Public Health Manager/Officers</p> <p>Licensing Manager/Officers</p> <p>Trading Standards Manager/Officers</p>	<p>Scrutiny Type: Workshop</p>	<p>Management. Through completion of the process, they will identify areas where good practice has been noted; along with any areas of development and, more specifically, explicitly note their priorities for improvement.</p>
<p>Impact/Outcomes from report item:</p>					
Date / Timing	Overarching Item/Issue	Why is this on the work programme?	Cabinet Member & Officer	How will this be scrutinised?	Scrutiny Focus – What are we trying to achieve?
	Town Centre Buildings	Link to Well-being objectives –	<p>Cabinet Member for Regeneration</p> <p>Deputy Chief Executive</p>	<p>Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams</p>	<p>Scrutiny to explore the progress made relating to the redevelopment of empty buildings within the County Borough and provide critical</p>

14 th May 2024		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Senior Regeneration Officers	Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting	friend challenge of the current practices in place to address issues. Will also allow Members to explore opportunities and/or restrictions influencing progress and how we can work with building owners to improve quality and use of buildings. Potential to invite building owners and offering critical friend challenge to them.
	Impact/Outcomes from report item:				
	Transforming Towns Grant	Link to Well-being objectives – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil 	Cabinet Member for Regeneration Deputy Chief Executive Senior Regeneration Officers	Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams	Closely linking with the 'Town Centre Buildings' item in this Scrutiny, Members seek to review the current programme and any progresses made, including examples, of projects that have been supported through the grant.
	Impact/Outcomes from report item:				

	<p>Feedback on Workshop: Self-Evaluation Report</p> <p>Workshop to be held on full report</p>	<p>Link to Well-being objectives –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Aspirational Merthyr Tydfil focusing on Learning • A Healthier Merthyr Tydfil • A Safe & Prosperous Merthyr Tydfil • A Clean and Green Merthyr Tydfil 	<p>Chair of Regeneration, Housing & Public Protection (inc. Crime and Disorder) Scrutiny</p>	<p>Scrutiny Type: Committee Style Meeting</p> <hr/> <p>Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams</p>	<p>The corporate self-evaluation process is a key element of the Council's Governance Framework. The process requires all Chief Officers to annually review the current position for all services in relation to Outcomes, Provision and Service Delivery and Leadership and Management. Through completion of the process, they will identify areas where good practice has been noted; along with any areas of development and, more specifically, explicitly note their priorities for improvement.</p> <p>Opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the workshop including whether it met its purpose.</p> <p>Reflect on whether any proposals or recommendations during the workshop were considered by officers and how they may be addressed.</p>
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	Impact/Outcomes from report item:
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Additional Items for Consideration

- Progress on the development of the Synagogue
- SPF Report (following design of programme)
- Local Authority work relating to VAWDASV
- Ffos Y Fran Regeneration
- Progress of pilot scheme in Galon Uchaf/Penydarren (Rats/Accumulations)

Potential workshop/task & finish group/site visits items for consideration

- Scrutiny site visit to police control room
- Workshop on SPF funding
- Workshop or scrutiny visit to potential properties with Housing team so they know what is involved (from Scrutiny on 6th September 2022)
- Task & Finish Group on Fly-Tipping