

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

REPORT:	HOMES SUB-COMMITTEE	
DATE OF DECISION	24 July 2023	
REPORT TITLE:	WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24	
CORPORATE DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR:	Stephen Lawrence-Orumwense, Director of Legal Services	
LEAD OFFICER:	Simon Trevaskis, Senior Democratic Services & Governance Officer Email: simon.trevaskis@croydon.gov.uk Telephone: Extn:27207	
LEAD MEMBER:	Cllr Leila Ben-Hassel, Chair of Homes Sub-Committee	
AUTHORITY TO TAKE DECISION:	The Health & Social Care Sub-Committee is able to review and suggest updates to its work programme.	
KEY DECISION?	No	REASON: Not applicable
CONTAINS EXEMPT INFORMATION?	No	Grounds for the exemption: Not Applicable
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL	

1 SUMMARY OF REPORT

1.1 This agenda item sets out the current iteration of the Sub-Committee’s work programme for the 2023/24 municipal year. The work programme will be presented to the Scrutiny & Overview Committee at its meeting on 25 July 2023 for sign off.

1.2 The Sub-Committee has the opportunity to discuss the presented programme, but should ensure that any new items are reflective of the underlying work programming principles agreed by the Scrutiny & Overview Committee. These principles are:-

1. **The Public’s Money.** Scrutiny wants reassurance that taxpayers’ money is put to best use. At a time when the Council is making cuts to balance the books, it has no money to waste. In the middle of a cost-of-living crisis, every pound of public money should be valued. Scrutiny will aim to look at the impact of any financial decisions on the public and the Council’s finances, including knock-on effects. We will aim to research best practice and to provide suggestions as well as criticism.

2. **The Public's Services.** Scrutiny wants reassurance that services are improving. This is about leadership, culture and organisation as much as it is about budgets. We will seek reassurance that even in difficult financial circumstances, we are still meeting our duty of care to the most vulnerable. Scrutiny will listen and learn from the public's experiences of service performance to guide its work on Croydon's transformation.

3. **The Public's Voice.** Scrutiny wants to make sure that the Council is transparent, open and engaging with the people it exists to serve. Scrutiny will monitor the planned improvements in governance for Croydon's local democracy, as well as inviting public voices into the Scrutiny process itself. The Mayor was elected on a mandate to "listen to Croydon" and Scrutiny will hold the executive to account for this pledge.

1.3 Although, the Sub-Committee is able to propose changes to its work programme, but in line with Constitution, the final decision on any changes to any of the Committee/Sub-Committee work programmes rests with the Chairs & Vice-Chairs Group, following consultation with officers.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Homes Sub-Committee is recommended to:

- 1 Note the Work Programme, as presented in the report.
- 2 Consider whether there are any other items that should be provisionally added to the work programme as a result of the discussions held during the meeting.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Regularly reviewing its work programme provides an opportunity for the Sub-Committee to ensure it is focussed on high priority issues affecting the services provided to residents.

4. WORK PROGRAMME

4.1 The proposed work programme is attached at Appendix 1.

4.2 Members are asked to note that the lines of enquiry for some items have yet to be confirmed and that there are opportunities to add further items to the work programme.

Additional Scrutiny Topics

2.3 Members of the Sub-Committee are invited to suggest any other items that they consider appropriate for the Work Programme. However, due to the time limitations at Committee meetings, it is suggested that no proposed agenda contain more than two items of substantive business in order to allow effective scrutiny of items already listed.

Participation in Scrutiny

2.4 Members of the Sub-Committee are also requested to give consideration to

any persons that it wishes to attend future meetings to assist in the consideration of agenda items. This may include Cabinet Members, Council or other public agency officers or representatives of relevant communities.

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Work Programme 2023/24 for the Homes Sub-Committee.