



Borough of Telford and Wrekin

Scrutiny Management Board

Thursday 19 June 2025

6.00 pm

Council Chamber, Third Floor, Southwater One, Telford, TF3 4JG

Democratic Services:	Paige Starkey	01952 380110
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Committee Members:	Councillors D R W White (Chair), M Boylan (Vice-Chair), E Davies, N A M England, T L B Janke, H Morgan, L Parker and G Thomas	

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1.0	Apologies for Absence	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
3.0	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	3 - 6
	To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 September 2024.	
4.0	Terms of Reference	To Follow
	To agree the Terms of Reference for the 2025/26 municipal year.	
5.0	Scrutiny Work Programme 2025/26 - 2026/27	7 - 18
	To receive and consider the proposed work programme for 2025/26 and 2026/27.	

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SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes of a meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board held on Tuesday 3 September 2024 at 6.00 pm in Council Chamber, Third Floor, Southwater One, Telford, TF3 4JG

Present: Councillors D R W White (Chair), M Boylan (Vice-Chair), T L B Janke and G Thomas

In Attendance: P Starkey (Senior Democracy Officer (Scrutiny)) and R Phillips (Registrars, Public Protection, Legal & Democracy Service Delivery Manager)

Apologies: Councillors E Davies, J Jones and G C W Latham-Reynolds

SMB1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Elise Davies, Janice Jones and Gilly Latham-Reynolds.

SMB2 Declarations of Interest

None.

SMB3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

SMB4 Biennial Scrutiny Report 2022 - 2024

The Senior Democracy Officer (Scrutiny) presented the draft Biennial Scrutiny Report for 2022/23 – 2023/24 to the Board. Members were informed that the introduction of the two yearly scrutiny report was established to coincide with the two yearly scrutiny work programme.

The report highlighted some of the valuable work undertaken by scrutiny including various workshops and site visits.

Members of the Board were asked to consider the draft report and provide comments to the Scrutiny Team before being presented to Scrutiny Assembly and Full Council later in the year.

The Senior Democracy Officer (Scrutiny) advised that the Biennial Report would be presented to the Scrutiny Assembly before being agreed at a meeting of Full Council.

Members noted the report.

SMB5 Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/24 - 2024/25

The Senior Democracy Officer (Scrutiny) presented the draft Scrutiny Work Programme for the 2024/25 municipal year.

A two year work programme was implemented in the preceding year to allow for in-depth work to be completed over multiple years and had undergone a recent review. The updated work programme included various constitutional items, such as the budget as well as new and carried over suggestions following consultation with officers and elected Members.

A Member asked if items could be added to the work programme throughout the year.

The Service Delivery Manager: Registrars, Public Protection, Legal & Democracy advised that Committees would have opportunities throughout the municipal year to add items to their individual work programmes and prioritise topics as needed.

The Chair invited Members to participate in a minute silence in memory of the late Councillor Chris Turley who held the position of Chair of Business & Finance Scrutiny.

RESOLVED – that the suggestions set out in the report be referred to each of the relevant Scrutiny Committees to prioritise their own work programmes, having regard to the over-arching priorities.

SMB6 Review of Scrutiny Arrangements

The Service Delivery Manager: Registrars, Public Protection, Legal & Democracy advised Members of the Board that a referral had been received from Full Council for Scrutiny Management Board to consider an independent review of the Council's current Scrutiny arrangements following a motion which was tabled at its meeting on 29 February 2024.

Members were informed that the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CFGS) have a number of online tools and resources which would allow local authorities to undertake their own evaluation of current scrutiny and governance arrangements. Subject to agreement of the Board, a workshop would be arranged by officers to undertake the review using the online tools provided by the CFGS.

Members commented that the Council had undergone a number of changes in the last twelve months and that there had been an increase in pre-decision Scrutiny. Members agreed that a review of the Council's current Scrutiny arrangements would be beneficial to Members to ensure Scrutiny adds value and how to best utilise available mechanisms.

RESOLVED – that a workshop be arranged to enable the Scrutiny Management Board to review the Council's scrutiny arrangements.

The meeting ended at 6.28 pm

Chairman:

Date: Wednesday 4 June 2025

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Business & Finance					
Issue / Topic	Brief Description	Suggested by	Directorate	Timeframe	Comments
Financial Monitoring	Receive an update on the Council's Financial Monitoring position for 2025/26.	SMT	Finance, IDT & People	September 2025	Committee Agenda Item To be repeated each year and become a standing item in the late autumn/early Winter.
Growth Fund	Review the Council's property investment portfolio, how it has supported with economic development and highlight areas of improvement.	NEW – Members	Prosperity & Investment	November 2025	Committee Agenda Item
Housing Investment Programme - Annual Update (Nuplace)	Review and consider proposals for the Housing Investment Programme, including key achievements over the last year and the progress of the delivery of the programme.	Standing Item	Prosperity & Investment	June 2025	Committee Agenda Item Site Visit to be scheduled to coincide with update at meeting.

Leisure Services	To undertake a review of the leisure service offer to better understand how to ensure the Council offer continues to remain responsive to resident need and is operated efficiently and effectively.	NEW – Members	Prosperity & Investment Communities, Customer & Commercial Services	Late 2025/26 or early 2026/27	Workshop
Medium Term Financial Strategy (Budget)	Consultation on draft budget & policy framework proposals published by the Leader and any alternative proposals developed by opposition groups.	Constitutional Function	Finance, IDT & People	January 2026	Committee Agenda Item
Pride in Our High Street	Review the impact of the Pride in Our High Street programme and how the scheme has supported local businesses/traders.	Carried forward from previous year	Prosperity & Investment	2026/27	Committee Agenda Item Carried forward from 2024/25

Telford Land Deal	Receive regular updates in relation to the Telford Land Deal.	Standing Item	Prosperity & Investment	March 2026	Committee Agenda Item
Wellington Market Regeneration	Review the Council's investment into the regeneration of Wellington Market focusing on the support provided to businesses/traders and the wider economic impact on the town.	NEW – Members	Prosperity & Investment	2026/27	Committee Agenda Item

Children & Young People					
Issue / Topic	Brief Description	Suggested by	Directorate	Timeframe	Comments
Children's Services Ofsted Inspection Action Plan	Monitor the progress of the action plan following the Ofsted inspection of Children's Services.	NEW – SMT	Children's Services	October 2025	Committee Agenda Item
Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill	Receive a briefing on the new Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill outlining the reforms to Children's Social Care and the Families First Partnership Programme.	NEW – SMT	Children's Services Education & Skills	July 2025	Committee Agenda Item / Workshop
Children & Young People's Strategy 2025 – 2028	Receive a briefing on the Children & Young People Strategy 2025 – 2028, outlining key priorities, initiatives, and expected outcomes.	NEW – Members	Children's Services Education & Skills Public Health	July 2025	Committee Agenda Item

Education Attainment and Outcomes	Annual review of education attainment and outcomes for schools in the Borough.	Constitutional Function	Education & Skills	February 2026	Committee Agenda Item
Elective Home Education	Monitor the Council's statutory duty in relation to Elective Home Education.	Previously by SMT – request to be brought back by Committee	Education & Skills	2026/27	Committee Agenda Item
SEND	Monitor the Council's provision for SEND including identification, placements and funding.	Previously by Committee – request to be kept on programme by Chair	Education & Skills	TBC	Committee Agenda Item / Workshop Site visit to be scheduled for SEND specialist hubs following request from Committee.

Telford & Wrekin Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report	Receive the Telford & Wrekin Local Safeguarding Children Board report for the 2024/25 financial year.	Constitutional Function	Policy & Governance Safeguarding	February 2026	Committee Agenda Item
Youth Support	Review of the Council's youth offer including the funding available to support youth activities such as youth clubs, education, training and employment.	NEW – Members	Education & Skills	October 2025	Committee Agenda Item

Communities					
Issue / Topic	Brief Description	Suggested by	Directorate	Timeframe	Comments
Community Action Team Programme (CAT)	Review the effectiveness of the Community Action Team Programme including accessibility and funding.	NEW – Parish & Town Councils	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services	February 2026	Committee Agenda Item
Domestic Abuse Strategy – Violence Against Women & Girls	Provide an update on the Domestic Abuse Strategy to encompass the Violence Against Women & Girls prevention agenda and proposed actions.	NEW – SMT	Public Health	October 2025	Committee Agenda Item
Littering Strategy	Review of the measures taken by the Council to reduce the amount of litter in the Borough including processes for street cleansing and prevention.	NEW – Members	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services	2026/27	Committee Agenda Item / Task and Finish Group Cross-cutting to include members from Environment Scrutiny.

Social Value in Contracts	Review of the Social Value in Contracts scheme, with a focus on corporate social responsibility, and consideration of the development of a social value impact fund to assess its potential benefits for the community.	Carried forward from previous year	Policy & Governance	2026/27	Workshop Carried forward from 2024/25
Telford & Wrekin Skills Strategy	Monitor the effectiveness of the strategy against the five key principles and its impact on improving skill levels.	NEW – Members	Education & Skills	February 2026	Committee Agenda Item Cross-cutting to include members from CYP Scrutiny.
Traffic Regulation Orders	Review the process undertaken for the management and implementation of Traffic Regulation Orders including the legislative processes.	NEW – Members	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services Policy & Governance	July 2025	Committee Agenda Item / Workshop

Environment					
Issue / Topic	Brief Description	Suggested by	Directorate	Timeframe	Comments
Climate Change and Adaptation	Annual Update on the Council's Climate Change agenda.	Standing Item	Communities, Customer & Commercial Services	April 2026	Committee Agenda Item
Contaminated Land Strategy 2025/26	Review how the Council identifies and manages contaminated land sites in the Borough.	NEW – SMT	Neighbourhood & Enforcement	October 2025	Committee Agenda Item There is a request from the Committee for updates to come back on Landfill management and also a visit to operational and non-operational sites.
Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Receive an update on the Telford and Wrekin Local Nature Recovery Strategy.	NEW – SMT	Prosperity & Investment	July 2025	Committee Agenda Item

Shropshire Good Food – 12 month review	Update on the Shropshire Good Food Project.	Standing Item	Communities, Customer & Commercial Services	March 2026	Committee Agenda Item
Surface Water Flooding Strategy	Assess the risks and causes of surface water flooding in the Borough, review current mitigation measures and review how well agencies worked together to address issues.	NEW – Members	Neighbourhood & Enforcement External	TBC	Task & Finish Group Cross-cutting to include members from Communities Scrutiny.

Health & Adult Social Care					
Issue / Topic	Brief Description	Suggested by	Directorate	Timeframe	Comments
Adult Social Care CQC Action Plan	Monitor the progress of the action plan following the CQC assessment into Adult Social Care services.	NEW – SMT/Committee	Adult Social Care	October 2025	Committee Agenda Item Item suggested following 6 March formal meeting which received update on outcomes of assessment.
Dentistry	Receive an update on patient access to dental services in Telford and Wrekin.	Carried forward from previous year	Public Health	TBC	Committee Agenda Item / Workshop Carried forward from 2024/25
Mental Health	Review into provisions for mental health support for adults and children within Telford and Wrekin.	Continuation of previous years' work	Adult Social Care Public Health External	Ongoing	Committee Agenda Item/Workshop First workshop held on 1 April. Cross-cutting to include members from CYP Scrutiny.

NHS 10 Year Plan	Receive an update on the proposals for the NHS 10 year plan and its impact on improving healthcare outcomes for residents.	NEW – SMT	Public Health External	March 2026	Committee Agenda Item
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