

Meeting of:	Place Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	Tuesday, 18 November 2025
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Place Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Updated Forward Work Programme Schedule 2025/26
Purpose of Report:	To agree the Updated Forward Work Programme Schedule for 2025/26.
Report Owner:	Director of Corporate Resources
Responsible Officer:	Mark Thomas, Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Director of Corporate Resources Director of Environment and Housing Director of Place Head of Housing and Building Services Head of Sustainable Development Other relevant officers of the Council
Policy Framework:	This report is in accordance with the recommendations of the Audit Wales Democratic Renewal report and follows a review of the Council's scrutiny function.
Executive Summary: - An updated Forward Work Programme (FWP) Schedule for 2025/26 is attached at Appendix A, and Members of the Committee are asked to consider the contents for approval. - Updates since the Committee's approval of the FWP on the 20th May 2025 are set out in Section 2 of the report.	

Recommendations

1. That the Committee considers and agrees items for its Forward Work Programme Schedule for 2025/26 (Appendix A).
2. T H A T a summary of the Decision Tracking Data relevant to the Place Scrutiny Committee be presented to the Committee as part of the biannual Forward Work Programme Monitoring Reports.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. To agree the items, topics and delivery methods that the Place Scrutiny Committee will consider for the remainder of the 2025/26 Municipal year, and to update the Forward Work Programme published on the Council's website.
2. To provide a six-monthly update to Committee Members on the data readily available and to maintain an understanding of the Committee's impact in supporting the Council's decision-making processes.

1. Background

- 1.1 On 10th April 2025, Cabinet agreed proposals for new Scrutiny arrangements to take affect for the 2025/26 Municipal year and which were aligned to the new objectives contained within the Council's new Corporate Plan – Vale 2030. A copy of the Cabinet report can be found in the following link:
[https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/ Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2025/25-04-10/Reshaping-Scrutiny.pdf](https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2025/25-04-10/Reshaping-Scrutiny.pdf)
- 1.2 The new arrangements were subsequently agreed by Council at its meeting held on 28th April 2025. This included a new Committee structure resulting in four Scrutiny Committees (Start Well, Live Well, Place and Resources). The Full Council report can be found here:
[https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/Council-Structure/minutes, agendas and reports/agendas/council/2025/25-04-28.aspx](https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/Council-Structure/minutes,_agendas_and_reports/agendas/council/2025/25-04-28.aspx)
- 1.3 As well as the four Scrutiny Committees, the Council also has a broader Scrutiny Function which includes the following Committees:
 - Performance Joint Scrutiny Committee. This is a joint forum bringing together all four Scrutiny Committees into a singular space to monitor the Council's performance and finances against its Corporate Plan.
 - Governance and Audit Committee. The purpose of this Committee is to maintain assurance in relation the Council's finances, policies and procedures, making sure they are robust and fit for purpose. As well as keeping track of the Council's control environment and maintaining its risk register.

- These Committees also make recommendations to Cabinet for approval.

1.4 The Place Scrutiny Committee is one of the four Scrutiny Committees and its remit covers two of the Council's Wellbeing Objectives: Creating Great Places to Live, Work and Visit; Respecting and Celebrating the Environment. The Committee considers reports from the following Council Service Areas: Sustainable Development, Regeneration, Project Zero (Climate Change), Housing and Building Services, Neighbourhood Services and Transport, Public Rights of Way, Ecology and Tourism and Marketing, amongst others.

1.5 On 20th May 2025, Members of the Committee were presented with a newly structured Forward Work Programme (FWP) to align with the recently agreed Scrutiny arrangements to enable more effective scrutiny, the types of scrutiny to take place being:

Investigative (Task and Finish)	Committees can take deeper dives into topics using a range of methods based upon the Committee's forward work programme and identified priorities.
Proposal (Committee Meetings)	Policies are in development and are seeking Scrutiny feedback and recommendations to help shape the Council's future direction.
Briefings / For Information Reporting (Committee HUB)	Information only or update items which are for noting and where scrutiny can add limited value, but the Member call-in procedure is used as required.

At the Committee meeting on 20th May 2025, the Place Scrutiny Committee agreed its FWP Schedule for 2025/26 (Appendix A to that report), subject to the omissions highlighted by Members at the meeting being included, etc. A way forward was also agreed concerning areas for deeper dive Task and Finish review investigations, which included further Committee Member consideration and consultation on the topics to be chosen.

1.6 The agreed FWP also set out that there would be six formal meetings of the Place Scrutiny Committee throughout the Municipal year, the (provisional) dates of which were provided within the FWP, and that the Committee would consider the FWP biannually (in May and November).

2. Key Issues for Consideration

2.1 Since the Committee's approval of the FWP on 20th May 2025, the work programme has been maintained by Democratic Services in consultation with Service Area Officers in preparation for Member consideration, and the latest version of the document (at the time of report publication) is attached at Appendix A to this report. Any subsequent updates will be presented to the Committee verbally by the Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer present. The

work programme is a proposed list of items for consideration and may be subject to change depending on prevailing circumstances.

- 2.2** The Committee has established a Task and Finish Working Group to look at providing greater accessibility to beaches in the Vale of Glamorgan for people with limited accessibility and related issues to these (such as wheelchair users, people with physical disabilities, sight impairment and learning / intellectual disabilities and needs, older people with mobility issues) and for all residents of, and visitors to, the Vale of Glamorgan. The Group Members consist of Councillors C. Iannucci-Williams (Chair), C.E.A. Champion (Vice-Chair), G.M. Ball, P. Drake, A.M. Ernest, S. Lloyd-Selby, J.M. Norman, C. Stallard and a Representative from the Tenant Working Group / Panel, K. Mitchell. The Group has met on four occasions so far and is working towards presenting its findings to the Committee in early 2026.
- 2.3** The Committee has considered eight proposal reports, including references from Cabinet and Full Council.
- 2.4** In addition, the Committee and wider Elected Members have been provided with two For Information Reporting so far on separate topics.
- 2.5** Tracking of the Committee's decisions and subsequent impact continues to be monitored by the Democratic and Scrutiny Services Team. Due to the new scrutiny arrangements, it was necessary to review the method for collating and maintaining decision tracking across the scrutiny function as a whole. As such, a new automated system has been developed to record and publish Scrutiny Committee recommendations more efficiently.
- 2.6** Decision tracking data has been compiled into a PowerBI format and is now continuously available to Members, via MemberNet, at any time. This data will be regularly updated by Democratic Officers as and when updates arise. Therefore, Members no longer need to wait for decision tracking information to be formally reported to Committee and may raise queries with Democratic Officers at any time.
- 2.7** The Democratic Services Team are currently working with ICT colleagues to ensure that the same decision tracking data will also be readily available to members of the public via the Council's Scrutiny Webpage
- 2.8** Now that decision tracking data is more readily available, it is proposed that the information is no longer formally reported to the Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis; however, Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officers will provide a summary on Committee decisions within the biannual FWP reports going forward.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** Scrutiny Committee FWPs are published by the Council on a regular basis (biannually) via the [Scrutiny webpage](#), which encourages public involvement in the decision-making process.
- 3.2** The [Scrutiny Public Participation Guide](#) is available on the Council's Public Participation Webpage as well as advice on the Scrutiny Request for Consideration process via the Council's [Scrutiny Committee Request for Consideration](#) webpage. These methods of engagement support the commitment set out within Vale 2030 to 'Provide residents with more meaningful and engaging opportunities to participate and have a greater say in our work.'
- 3.3** Scrutiny Committee decision tracking data is available to both Elected Members and Members of the Public. This supports the commitments set out within Vale 2030 to 'Improve accountability and transparency by sharing more information about how decisions are made and scrutinised, priorities set, and budgets determined' as well as 'Use digital technology more innovatively to improve services whilst ensuring that services are accessible to everyone'.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1** None as a direct result of this report.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1** None as a direct result of this report.

Employment

- 5.2** None as a direct result of this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.3** None as a direct result of this report.

6. Background Papers

[Scrutiny report on Place Forward Work Programme 2025/26 – 20th May 2025.](#)



Place Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2025 - 26

Corporate Plan Objectives	
Creating Great Places to Live, Work and Visit. Economic Development and Regeneration, Tourism, Countryside and Parks, Waste management and cleansing, Highways and Engineering, Planning, Transportation, Placemaking and Public and Private Sector Housing.	Respecting and Celebrating the Environment. Climate and Nature Emergency.

Cabinet Members	Directors
Councillor Bronwen Brooks - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable Places.	Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place.
Councillor Sandra Perkes - Public Sector Housing and Tenant Engagement.	Director of Environment and Housing.
Councillor Mark Wilson - Neighbourhood and Building Services.	

Democratic Services Contact	Committee Membership
Mark Thomas Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer 01446 709279 methomas@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Committee Membership Webpage Scrutiny Information Webpage(s)

Co-opted Membership	
Marianne Blackmore	Representative from the Tenant Working Group / Panel.
Mrs Gina Doyle	Representative from the Tenant Working Group / Panel.

Kirsty Mitchell	Representative from the Tenant Working Group / Panel.
Mr Glyn Niblett	Representative from the Tenant Working Group / Panel.
Mr Osian Caroll	Representative from Citizens Advice Cardiff and Vale.

Forms of Scrutiny	
Investigative (Task and Finish)	Committees can take deeper dives into topics using a range of methods based upon the Committee's forward work programme and identified priorities.
Proposal	Policies are in development and are seeking Scrutiny feedback and recommendations to help shape the Council's future direction.
Briefings	Information only or update items which are for noting and where scrutiny can add limited value but the Member call-in procedure is used required.

Task and Finish Working Groups [Investigative]		
• Cross-party work, with a clearly defined scope, and the Cabinet Member sighted. • Brought together on a voluntary basis by 4 to 8, politically balanced (where practical) Members, with the Chair decided by the "home" Scrutiny committee. • Leverage the expertise of officers, partners, wider stakeholders alongside evidence and insight from the people of the Vale of Glamorgan who will be invited and encouraged to participate as expert witnesses and share their lived experiences. • Hold the Cabinet and officers accountable on specific topics while proactively shaping the Council's policy direction. • Reports and recommendations fed back to the Cabinet Member, Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet for consideration.		
Topic	Officer Lead	Timeframe
Review on providing greater accessibility to beaches in the Vale of Glamorgan for people with limited accessibility and related issues to these (such as wheelchair users, people with physical disabilities, sight impairment and learning / intellectual disabilities and needs, older people with mobility issues) and for all residents of, and	Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Topic and Review Group Composition approved 22nd July, 2025. Report to Committee: scheduled for early 2026.

visitors to, the Vale of Glamorgan.		
To review the interlinked issues of refuse on local beaches and the wider matters around local holiday resorts.	Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Schedule to be confirmed – approved as the second task and finish to be undertaken by Committee at its meeting in July. To follow the review on providing greater accessibility to beaches in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Place Committee Meetings [Proposal, etc.]

- Six scheduled meetings per Municipal Year.
- Opportunity for Committees to make individual recommendations on policies that are still in their development stage, and where decisions have yet to be taken.
- Committee recommendations fed back to Cabinet to consider as a policy develops, with Cabinet providing a response to recommendations, including any rationale for accepting, partially accepting or rejecting.
- Arena for responding to Cabinet Member Decision Call-ins and/or Committee Requests for Consideration.

Topic	Officer Lead	Meeting Date
Notice of Motion – A Voluntary Ban on the Sale and Use of “Flying Rings” Throughout the Vale of Glamorgan (Reference from Council: 28th April, 2025).	Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	20th May, 2025 Received by Committee Further update received 16th September, 2025
Vale of Glamorgan Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) 2021-2036 – Housing Growth in Barry (reference from Cabinet: 1 st May 2025).	Ian Robinson, Head of Sustainable Development irobinson@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	20th May, 2025 Received by Committee
Place Committee Forward Work Programme Schedule 2025/26.	Mark Thomas Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer 01446 709279 methomas@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	20 th May, 2025 Received by Committee View Supplementary Information Further update scheduled for 18 th November 2025.
Placemaking plans.	Phil Chappell, Operational Manager, Regeneration	22 nd July, 2025

	prchappell@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Received by Committee View Presentation
Project Zero Update.	Susannah McWilliam, Programme Manager Project Zero (Climate Change) smcwilliam@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	22 nd July, 2025 Received by Committee View Presentation Next iteration due in January 2026
Task and Finish Review Activity.	Mark Thomas Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer 01446 709279 methomas@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	22 nd July, 2025 Received by Committee
Update on the delivery of the Shared Prosperity Fund 2022 – 2026	Phil Chappell, Operational Manager, Regeneration prchappell@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	16 th September, 2025 Received by Committee
Update Report – No Flying Rings Campaign.	Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	16 th September, 2025 Received by Committee
Vale of Glamorgan Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) 2021-2036 – Housing Growth in Barry Consultation Report.	Ian Robinson, Head of Sustainable Development irobinson@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	18 th November 2025 Scheduled
Place Committee Forward Work Programme Schedule 2025/26.	Mark Thomas Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer 01446 709279 methomas@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	18 th November 2025 Scheduled
Local Lettings Policies report.	Mike Ingram Head of Housing and Building Services 01446 709516 MIngram@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Nick Jones Operational Manager, Public Sector Housing	18 th November 2025 Scheduled

	njones@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	
Initial Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget Proposals 2026/27 and Revised Budget 2025/26. (including rent setting).	Laura Davis Finance Support Manager 01446 704639 LLDavis@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Scheduled for an extraordinary meeting on 6 th January 2026
Replacement Local Development Plan 2021-2036 Deposit Plan.	Ian Robinson, Head of Sustainable Development irobinson@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Scheduled for an extraordinary meeting on 6 th January 2026
UPDATE - Bathing water quality at designated bathing beaches in the Vale of Glamorgan.	Director of Environment and Housing Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Scheduled for 20 th January 2026
Vale of Glamorgan Tree Strategy – update.	Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Adam Sargent Neighbourhood Services Manager. asargent@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Scheduled for 20 th January 2026
Coastal Erosion Review / Monitoring.	Clive Moon, Engineering Manager – Environment crmoon@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Scheduled for 20 th January 2026
Update - Tenant & Leaseholder Participation Strategy / STAR survey Improvement Plan.	Farida Aslam Senior Neighbourhood Manager 02920673095 faslam@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
Social Housing Delivery Priorities and Social Housing Grant Update.	Mike Ingram Head of Housing and Building Services 01446 709516 MIngram@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
Community Investment Strategy.	Mike Ingram Head of Housing and Building Services 01446 709516 MIngram@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
20 mph limit review for the Vale of Glamorgan.	Director of Environment and Housing. Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026

Barry Making Waves Levelling Up projects and fund (LuF).	Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
Plan For Neighbourhoods (PfN).	Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	In January 2026. Possible FIO or scrutiny report, to be confirmed
Long Term Plan for Towns Progress Report.	Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
Vale of Glamorgan Local Area Energy Plan.	Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
Court Road / on street parking update(s).	Director of Environment and Housing Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
To declare a local nature reserve at Barry's Old Harbour to help protect local wildlife (public petition).	Director of Environment and Housing Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Colin Cheesman, County Ecologist crcheesman@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
Cardiff Capital Region and update on Aberthaw Power Station.	Ian Robinson, Head of Sustainable Development irobinson@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
Parking Review for Barry Island.	Director of Environment and Housing Colin Smith, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026
Food and Farming / Agricultural Hub.	Phil Chappell, Operational Manager, Regeneration prchappell@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	To be reported to the Committee in 2026

Aqua park	Marcus Goldsworthy	Update report currently scheduled to go in early 2026
Pride in Place Update	Phil Chappell	Update report currently scheduled to go in early 2026

Member Briefings / For Information Reporting		
- Information only reports provided to Elected Members, with a notification indicating when new material is available. - Ad hoc reports and presentations from the Council and Partner organisations which would likely not benefit from Scrutiny time but be useful information to support Members in improving their awareness of local, regional and national policy direction. - Member briefing sessions would be arranged, often before relevant Scrutiny Committee meetings, to invite officers or wider partners to provide whole Member briefing sessions and presentations as appropriate.		
Topic	Officer Lead	Method and Timeframe (including FIO report, Presentation, Briefing Session).
Cardiff and Vale Housing Partnership / Council Housing Development Strategy Update(s).	Mike Ingram Head of Housing and Building Services 01446 709516 MIngram@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Andrew Freeguard. Operational Manager - Housing Development. afreegard@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Briefing Session - schedule to be confirmed
Update Report: Household Waste Recycling Centres.	Colin Smith Operational Manager - Neighbourhood Services: Operations ccsmith@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Schedule to be confirmed
Annual progress report on the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.	David Hunt Countryside Access Manager (Public Rights of Way) dahunt@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Shared with Members in October 2025 as a FIO report
Vale of Glamorgan – Annual Tourism & Events Update.	Nia Hollins, Principal Tourism & Marketing Officer nhollins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Phil Chappell, Operational Manager, Regeneration prchappell@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Shared with Members in September 2025 as a FIO report

Vale of Glamorgan Local Development Plan 2011-2026: Seventh Annual Monitoring Report 2024/2025	Ian Robinson, Head of Sustainable Development irobinson@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk Marcus Goldsworthy, Director of Place mjgoldsworthy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk	Schedule to be confirmed
--	--	--------------------------

