

Reference number: CPSC/03/24

Report title: Work Programme and Communications Review	
Report to: Corporate Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Report author: Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
Date: 25 January 2024	For: Discussion and identifying any follow-up scrutiny actions
Enquiries to: Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer at graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk.	
County Divisions affected: Not applicable	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The work programme is a standard agenda item. The work programme for the Committee continues to be developed and the current position is outlined below.

2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider this report and issues under consideration in the Appendix and any further development or amendments.
- 2.2 The Scrutiny Board has asked scrutiny committees to also give consideration as to which work programme items may benefit from communications activity in order to promote the work of the scrutiny function both internally and externally. Members are asked to consider this when reviewing the Appendix.

3. Background

3.1 Developing a work programme

Work has continued on identifying priorities and future agenda items. This has included discussions with Committee Members, Cabinet Members and Officers as well as the other Policy and Scrutiny Committees via the Scrutiny Board.

This work has reflected the adoption of the *Everyone's Essex – Our Plan for Levelling Up the County: 2021-2025* strategy at Council on 12 October 2021.

The current work programme is attached in the **Appendix**.

4. Everyone's Essex

The Committee should take account of the *Everyone's Essex – Our Plan for Levelling Up the County: 2021-2025* strategy when considering the work programme and future items.

Particular attention should be paid to the strategic ambitions (and associated commitments and performance measures) most relevant to the work of the Committee. Reflecting the corporate focus of the committee, this could be more looking at the How We Will Deliver section and include scrutiny of effectiveness and efficiency, value for money, and the managing and prioritising of resources, so that investment can be made in the priorities set out in the strategy. It could also include scrutinising the People Plan in the strategy which aims to ensure that the County Council has the capability to meet the demands ahead.

5. Update and Next Steps

See Appendix.

6. Appendix

Current Work Programme.