

Work requests Community Scrutiny Committee – February 2025

Community Scrutiny Committee	
Request	Position
Waste Services Review	<p>This work was intended to be presented at an extraordinary meeting of the Community Scrutiny Committee in September 2024. This was postponed due to a lack of clarity from the new Government on what household recycling collection arrangements will be acceptable and the need for the Council to be assured that it will be compliant.</p> <p><u>Update December 2024</u></p> <p>DEFRA ministers were written to in September this year setting out the need for urgent clarity on the waste and recycling position regarding Simpler Recycling. This included reference to our aging fleet as well as the delays to delivery and the impact this may have on meeting our obligation in the new Environment Act. A copy of the letter was provided to Council in November. The Chief Executive is also seeking a meeting with the minister. The press release issued on the 12 Nov also updates on the situation. To date no response to the letter has been received and the position remains as reported to Council.</p> <p><u>Update February 2025</u></p> <p>It is planned that the extraordinary meeting will take place in Spring 2025.</p>
National Forest Line	<p>It was agreed that there would be further review by Community Scrutiny following item in December 2023 to seek to provide support to the Ivanhoe/National Forest Line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initially agreed that NWL (with LCC) would seek to arrange a further briefing/meeting with Network Rail following Outline Business Case approval and enable further engagement for Scrutiny. However, since December 2023 the situation has changed (as the update in September 2024) with the cancellation of the RYR programme in her statement on 29 July 2024. The project has been identified within the District Regeneration Framework to ensure remains

visible in the Council’s work plan to support other partners in delivery. It is proposed that any updates from partners and support that the Council may be able to provide will be reported to Scrutiny through the annual update report on the Framework.

Update September 2024 (from DfT)

- The Chancellor announced the cancellation of the RYR programme in her statement on 29 July 2024.
- The RYR projects will now come to an orderly close and no further funding will be provided through the programme.
- Where projects are not currently live, no new work will be started. For projects which have development or design work in progress, DfT are considering the best way to bring these projects to a close.
- For Ivanhoe, this will mean that no new work will start.
- The Chancellor also announced that the Transport Secretary will be undertaking a review of the Department’s investment portfolio, including individual RYR projects.
- DfT Capital Review underway and is considering alignment of individual infrastructure projects with government’s priorities of growth, housing, jobs and value for money.
- The review is being progressed in two phases – the first will consider RYR projects plus other Network North proposals, the second will have a larger scope. The outputs will help to inform a wider Spending Review in 2025 however some announcements could be made before then.

February 2025

No further update.

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Scoping work on Air Quality and resident engagement	<u>Update December 2024</u> Officers to attend the Scrutiny Work Programming Group meeting in March 2025 and have scoping discussion.
Scoping work on Warehouse Design	At the Scrutiny Work Programming Group meeting in December 2024, a request was made to examine the design of warehouses around the district, given the significant number of them within the district and with further growth projected. It was agreed that this work would be considered in 2026, to allow the Planning Policy Team to prioritise their work on drafting the Council's Local Plan in 2025.

Principles and Criteria used for Assessing Items Put Forward

Identify Issues for consideration by Scrutiny

- Consulting with members of Scrutiny Committees, senior officers, Cabinet members – horizon scanning on policy development
- Looking at the corporate priorities, Council Delivery Plan and Cabinet Forward plan – identify key issues/topics for investigation/inquiry
- Considering events and decisions in the Council's calendar which could require an input/consultation via scrutiny – eg budget setting, CDP development
- Considering requests from members – eg via another forum or scoping report submitted
- Evaluating the Council's performance – eg quarterly reports, end of year reports, reviewing success of a particular scheme or initiative
- Reviewing any follow up work required after previous scrutiny work

Prioritise the potential list of scrutiny topics based on factors including

- the resources required to deliver it (from members, offices and financially)
- the value and level of impact which could be achieved
- link to the council's priorities
- whether it is a regular recurring item which requires consideration before Cabinet/Council approval
- consideration of the guidance for selecting scrutiny topics

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Topics are suitable for Scrutiny when	Topics are not suitable for Scrutiny when
Scrutiny could have an impact and add value	The issue is already being addressed elsewhere and change is imminent
The topic is of high local importance and reflects the concerns of local people	The topic would be better addressed elsewhere (and will be referred there)
The resources are available that would be required to conduct the review – staff and budget	Scrutiny involvement would have limited or no impact on outcomes
It avoids duplication of work elsewhere	The topic would be sub-judice or prejudicial to the councils interests
The issues is one that the committee can realistically influence	The topic is too broad to make a review realistic
The issue is related to an area where the council or one of its partners is not performing well	New legislation or guidance relating to the topic is expected in the next year

PREVIOUS SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET

None.