

**Community Scrutiny Committee – WORK PROGRAMME** (as at 03/09/25)

Date of Meeting	Item	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Agenda Item Duration
<b>December 2025</b>				
11 December 2025	<b>Community Grant Annual Report</b> To provide an update on community grants aligned to budget setting process.	Paul Sanders, Head of Community Services	-	30 minutes
11 December 2025	<b>Leisure Centres Annual Review</b> To review the performance of the leisure centres against a range of performance indicators such: levels of participation, membership levels, utility consumption; improving health and wellbeing, providing local economic benefit; as well as financial performance.	Paul Sanders, Head of Community Services	-	30 minutes
11 December 2025	<b>Recommendations of the Water Management in the Coalville Strategic Growth Area Task and Finish Group</b> To consider the review undertaken by the task and finish group and make recommendations to Cabinet.	James Arnold, Strategic Director of Place	-	30 minutes
<b>February 2026</b>				
26 February 2026	<b>Stenson Square Gardens – Presentation of Designs Post public Engagement and Approval to Fund and Submit Planning Application(s)</b> Stenson Square Gardens update including details of proposed next stages and associated costs.	Paul Wheatley, Head of Economic Regeneration and Property	-	30 minutes

Date of Meeting	Item	Lead Officer	Witness	Agenda Item Duration
June 2026				
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#### Work requests considered by the Scrutiny Work Programming Group

Work Request	Status/Progress	Committee date to be considered (provisional)
National Forest Line	<p>Further to Community Scrutiny on 7<sup>th</sup> December, officers have continued to engage with Leicestershire County Council and Network Rail and timescales have been confirmed for the Outline Business Case as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Final outline business case from Network Rail to be submitted to Department of Transport early February and will be reviewed by the Restore Your Railways Programme Board (Late February)</li> <li>- Final OBC to be presented to further DfT and Network Rail Board throughout March/April 2024</li> <li>- Anticipated submitted to Treasury for sign off in early May. If approval granted will move onto next stage – Final Business Case</li> </ul> <p>NWL (with LCC) will seek to arrange a further briefing/meeting with Network Rail following Outline Business Case approval and enable further engagement for Scrutiny.</p> <p><u>Update: 19/6/24</u></p> <p>Focus is moving to the next stage of work which will focus on detailed designs. Update to be provided by Network Rail on what this stage will include and the support and involvement of Project Delivery Group members.</p> <p>DfT to consider the best route forward after the General Election to secure authority for the project's progression into the Design stage, plus any additional change controls required to realign funding requirements / scope with NR's current review work. A further update will be provided after the general election.</p>	-

	<p><u>Update September 2024 (from DfT)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chancellor announced the cancellation of the RYR programme in her statement on 29 July 2024.</li> <li>• The RYR projects will now come to an orderly close and no further funding will be provided through the programme.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• For Ivanhoe, this will mean that no new work will start.</li> <li>• The Chancellor also announced that the Transport Secretary will be undertaking a review of the Department's investment portfolio, including individual RYR projects.</li> <li>• DfT Capital Review underway and is considering alignment of individual infrastructure projects with government's priorities of growth, housing, jobs and value for money.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p><u>February 2025</u></p> <p>No further update.</p> <p><u>June 2025</u></p> <p>No further update</p> <p><u>September 2025</u></p> <p>No further update</p>	
S106 agreements and the transfer of open space and sustainable urban drainage systems	<p>This suggested topic review was considered by the Scrutiny Work Programming Group at its meeting on 18 June 2025. It was agreed that an information paper be submitted to the next Scrutiny Work Programming Group meeting to allow a more detailed discussion to be held before a decision was taken on further action.</p>	-
<b>Matters reserved for future consideration</b>		

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 scoping work for further discussion will be carried out after the submission of the Local Plan in 2026.	TBC
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### **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

Topics <b>are</b> suitable for Scrutiny when	Topics <b>are not</b> 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 (from meeting held on        )**

Foundations Review – Disabled Facilities Grants

The committee made the following recommendations to Cabinet:

- 1) Marketing and publicity of the Light Bulb Service and grants available be improved.
- 2) Ensure that tenants housed in private properties are not disadvantaged on the housing register.
- 3) Request that the Foundation review the Disability Facilities Grant cap with the view to increase it, and to address issues with means testing that could prevent eligible residents from accessing the adaptations.
- 4) The grant condition period be increased from five years to 10 years. 5) The eligibility criteria be tightened to ensure value for money on grant awards.

At its meeting on 26 August, Cabinet considered the recommendations and responses provided by Officers. The recommendations were not accepted.

The report and minutes for both meetings can be found below –

[Community Scrutiny Committee – 26 June 2025](#)

[Cabinet – 26 August 2025](#)