

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME – Corporate Scrutiny Committee

Strapline: **Good Scrutiny helps the Council achieve for the benefit of the People of Gwynedd**

A PRIORITIES

	Subject	Purpose
1	<p><u>Community Strategy</u></p> <p>The Community Strategy aims to involve key stakeholders within the County working jointly on the formulation of a vision and planning and providing services for the benefit of the people of Gwynedd.</p> <p>The Council is responsible for leading the work in Gwynedd but it includes the Health Board, Police, colleges and others.</p> <p>Additionally, Gwynedd Council and the Isle of Anglesey County Council have undertaken to formulate a single Strategy on a joint basis from now on.</p>	<p>To consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What has been achieved and what has yet to be achieved from the <i>Gwynedd Together 2008-12</i> Strategy. b) Have those matters been given sufficient consideration in the latest version of the Community Strategy – <i>Improving Gwynedd Together 2011 onwards</i> c) What is the effect of the Strategy on the people of Gwynedd ch) The new <i>Local Services Board's</i> draft priorities d) Formulating recommendations for the Local Services Board to consider whilst developing the new joint strategy with Anglesey.
2	<p><u>Savings Strategy</u></p> <p>In order to plan and realize savings of £37.5m, the Council has, since 2008, been considering how best to achieve this whilst maintaining services of the highest standard possible.</p>	<p>To consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The effect of implementing the Strategy (by achieving Efficiency Savings and Cuts) on service users, the economy and residents of Gwynedd between 2009 and 2012. b) The Council's role in terms of safeguarding jobs in the public sector.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Suggestions for further savings – e.g. Newyddion Gwynedd. ch) Challenging the level of success in adhering to the equality policy whilst realizing savings. d) How unbiased are officers who decide on efficiency? dd) Formulating recommendations for the <i>Resources Cabinet Member</i>.
3	<p><u>The Council's Strategic Plan</u></p> <p>This is the plan which gives mid term strategic direction to all the Council's work.</p>	<p>To consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Council's attainment on its <i>3 Year Plan</i>. b) The Council's <i>Annual Improvement Report</i>. c) <i>The Wales Audit Office's Corporate Assessment</i>. ch) Review of the <i>3 Year Plan</i>. d) Formulating recommendations for the <i>Council Leader</i>.
4	<p><u>Procurement</u></p> <p>The Council operates a Procurement Strategy across all the Council's services.</p> <p>The Council intends to ensure that it increases the number of local businesses competing for work whilst realizing the strategy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To assess the effect of the policy in terms of retaining business in the local area. b) To formulate recommendations for the <i>Economy Cabinet Member</i>.
5	<p><u>The Council and the Public</u></p> <p>The way in which the Council involves the public in Gwynedd</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What progress has been made on the conclusions of the MORI report in 2009? b) How successful are the Council's current Engagement and Consultation arrangements? c) How could they be improved? ch) Are there lessons to be learnt from the Council's past

		<p>performance?</p> <p>d) To consider examples of good practice in other areas outside Gwynedd and by other agencies</p> <p>dd) Does <i>Newyddion Gwynedd</i> achieve its purpose?</p> <p>e) Is everybody clear about the type of image we wish to convey of Gwynedd Council?</p> <p>f) What is the role of the Chief Officers?</p> <p>ff) What is the public's perception of the Council?</p> <p>g) To formulate recommendations for the <i>Deputy Leader</i></p>
6	<p><u>The Workforce</u></p> <p>Keeping morale high amidst the workforce in a difficult period is of key importance if we are to realize our pledges to the people of Gwynedd</p>	<p>a) How successful are the engagement arrangements between the Chief Officers and the Managers and other officers of the Council?</p> <p>b) How successful are inclusive methods of management within units and across the Council?</p> <p>c) Are there examples of bullying taking place?</p> <p>ch) Is there evidence of an increase in the number of accidents or any slackening of Health and Safety regulations?</p> <p>d) To formulate recommendations for the <i>Resources Cabinet Member</i>.</p>
7	<p><u>The balance between rural and urban services – hidden costs</u></p>	<p>This might be more suitable for the Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>

B Scrutiny Investigation

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8	<p><u>Business Transformation – Systems Thinking</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council pledged in 2009 to improve services for customers by 2012 through the use of 'Systems Thinking'. 	<p>a) To consider where the plan has reached.</p> <p>b) What has been achieved to date</p> <p>c) To consider what problems were encountered</p> <p>d) To question people about the effect of the service</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Systems Thinking’ is a recognised plan in the field of business development and aims to simplify business processes whilst maintaining standards or improving the service for the customer. • This would be expected to realize a saving. 	<p>provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) To question officers about their experiences f) To consider the views of external specialists g) To visit a plan which has led to change in another part of the country h) To formulate recommendations for the <i>Resources Portfolio Leader</i>
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C Other Matters

9	<p><u>Emergency Planning</u></p> <p>Ensuring efficient arrangements across the County in an emergency situation is of key importance to all Gwynedd residents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To assess progress on a plan of action following the <i>Wales Audit Office’s</i> report. b) To formulate recommendations for the <i>Customer Care Cabinet Member</i>.
10	<p><u>A better understanding of and awareness of partnerships and the Council’s role</u></p>	<p>It is suggested that this item be retained on the Programme but not timetabled and to follow the guidance of the Statutory Guidelines under the Local Government 2011 Measure.</p>
11	<p><u>Planning Matters</u></p>	<p>A request for more information by some members</p>
12	<p><u>Fleet Strategy 2011-14</u></p> <p>Realizing the strategy is one of the essential elements in terms of realizing the Council’s Carbon Footprint Plan and the Council’s Assets Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To scrutinise progress on achieving the Strategy. b) To formulate recommendations for the <i>Environment Cabinet Member</i>. <p>It is suggested that this matter be transferred to the Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>