



MEETING	EDUCATION AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE	8 June 2023
TITLE	Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee Forward Programme 2023/24
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT	Present the Committee's draft work programme for 2023/24 for adoption
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1. During the Committee's annual workshop on 25 April 2023 possible items to scrutinise during 2023/24 were considered. Items were prioritised bearing in mind the purpose of scrutiny in Gwynedd, namely:

CONTRIBUTE TO DRIVING IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE OF GWYNEDD

This will be done constructively by:

- Investigating concerns regarding the quality of our services
- Acting as a Critical Friend, and ensuring that appropriate attention is given to the citizen's voice
- Identifying good practice and weaknesses
- Holding the Cabinet and its members to account
- Reviewing or scrutinising decisions or actions that are not the responsibility of the Cabinet

2. Members were asked to respond to an online question regarding their top five priorities from the list of possible items provided in advance prior to the workshop. Six main priorities emerged from the responses to the question, namely:

- 1 Education Strategy
 - = Transforming education for children in their early years
 - = Gwynedd Economy Plan
- 2 Post-16 Education Project in Arfon
 - = Attendance and behaviour of pupils in Gwynedd Schools
 - = Beach Management

3. Members discussed in smaller groups the top priorities as well as what else from the list should be scrutinised during 2023/24. When identifying their priorities members were asked to consider:

- ❖ *Does the matter affect a vast proportion of the population?*
- ❖ *Can scrutiny make a difference / have an influence? (People / service / performance)*
- ❖ *Is it timely to scrutinise the matter?*
- ❖ *Is the matter a priority for the Council?*
- ❖ *Are we clear about what we are trying to improve?*

4. Following reporting back from the groups, items to scrutinise were prioritised and the relevant Heads of Department and Cabinet Members were invited to note any additional matters that needed consideration in terms of the items prioritised by Members of the Committee as well as provide observations on the timing of the scrutiny.
5. The Committee's draft work programme is attached as an appendix to the report. An effort was made to prioritise a maximum of three items per meeting in order to ensure that due attention was given to matters and that scrutiny would add value. This was not always possible on every occasion with four items programmed for one meeting. All members are expected to ensure their attendance for the morning and afternoon session.
6. Two items were identified in the workshop as possible items to be scrutinised at the first meeting of the Scrutiny Committee in 2024/25. Namely, 'Immersion Education System' and 'Youth Service'.
7. The scrutiny forward programme is a live programme which will be reviewed regularly during the year to ensure that the correct matters are addressed. Consideration will be given to prioritise matters that will arise during the year e.g., matters from performance challenge meetings and items on the Cabinet's forward programme.
8. **The Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee is asked to adopt the work programme for 2023/24.**

**EDUCATION AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE DRAFT FORWARD PROGRAMME
2023/24**

08/06/2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Planning • Town Centre Vibrancy
14/09/2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gwynedd Category 3 Secondary Schools Scrutiny Investigation Report • Education Strategy • Digital Plan
09/11/2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Annual Report • GwE Annual Report • Byw'n Iach Company • Beach Management
25/01/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance and behaviour of pupils in Gwynedd schools • Post-16 Education Project in Arfon • Gwynedd Economy Plan
21/03/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transforming education for children in their early years • Free School Meals • North Wales Economic Ambition Board

Items to be programmed in 2024/25:

Immersion Education System

Youth Service