



MEETING	EDUCATION AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE	14 July 2026
TITLE	Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee Forward Programme 2026/27
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT	To present the Committee's draft work programme for 2026/27 for adoption
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1. All Council members, co-opted members, Cabinet Members, Heads of Department and the public were given the opportunity to propose potential items for scrutiny during 2026/27.
2. At the Committee's informal meeting on 20 May 2026, the potential items for scrutiny during 2026/27 were considered.
3. Information about the potential items was provided in advance to the committee members. The list of items included:
 - items that had been proposed at the Chair and Vice-chair's liaison meetings with the relevant Heads of Department and Cabinet Members.
 - scrutinised items that required follow-up.
 - an item suggested as a possible item by a member of the committee.
4. Items were prioritised at the meeting, keeping in mind the purpose of scrutiny in Gwynedd, namely to:

**CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS DRIVING IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICES
FOR THE PEOPLE OF GWYNEDD**

This will be done constructively by:

- Investigating concerns about the quality of our services
- Acting as a Critical Friend, 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

5. Members were asked to consider the following factors when prioritising items:
 - ❖ *Does the matter affect the residents of Gwynedd?*
 - ❖ *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?*
6. An attempt was made to prioritise a maximum of three items per meeting to ensure that matters receive due attention and that scrutiny can add value. This was not possible for every meeting. All members are expected to ensure their attendance at both the morning and afternoon session.
7. See attached as an appendix to the report, the Committee's draft work programme.
8. The item 'Attendance, behaviour and attainment of pupils in Gwynedd schools' is scheduled for the 18 February 2027 meeting. There was a discussion at the workshop about the possibility of holding a task and finish group to scrutinise issues relating to artificial intelligence and the behaviour of children and young people in schools. A discussion will take place at the Committee's informal meeting on 3 September 2026 to consider in more detail what exactly needs to be scrutinised.
9. The item 'Gwynedd Economy Strategy Action Plan' is identified as an item for scrutiny when timely.
10. The scrutiny forward programme is a live programme which will be reviewed regularly over the year to ensure that the proper matters are addressed. Consideration will be given to prioritising matters that arise during the year, e.g. matters arising from performance scrutiny and items on the Cabinet's forward programme.
11. **The Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee is asked to adopt the work programme for 2026/27.**

APPENDIX

EDUCATION AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE DRAFT FORWARD PROGRAMME 2026/27

Date	Items	Reason for scrutiny
18/6/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure for Members 	Pre-decision Scrutiny / Ensure a clear and robust procedure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Transport 	Pre-decision Scrutiny / Overspending in the field
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Performance Report 	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economy and Community Performance Report 	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate and Legal Services Performance Report 	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
14/7/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance Performance Report 	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding Arrangements in Schools Scrutiny Investigation Report 	Scrutiny Investigation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Centre Vibrancy 	Follow-up / Council Plan 2023-28 - A Prosperous Gwynedd
8/10/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response Plan to the Our Bravery Brought Justice Report 	Assurance in terms of implementation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gwynedd Culture Plan 	Pre-decision scrutiny / Council Plan 2023-28 – A Prosperous Gwynedd
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Work 5 Year Strategy 	Council Plan 2023-28 – Tomorrow’s Gwynedd
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary Education Finance 	The impact of funding on teaching in Secondary Schools
10/12/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional Learning Needs 	Scrutinise the additional learning needs education provision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Performance Report 	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economy and Community Performance Report 	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments

18/2/27	• Finance Performance Report	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	• Corporate and Legal Services Performance Report	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	• Pupils' attendance, behaviour and attainment in Gwynedd schools	Follow-up to the scrutiny in the 17 October 2024 meeting
16/3/27	• School Support Service	Implementation of the new arrangements
	• Supporting Businesses and Community Enterprises	Follow-up / Council Plan 2023-28 - A Prosperous Gwynedd

Item to be added when timely - Gwynedd Economy Strategy Action Plan