

MEETING	CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE	16 July 2026
TITLE	Care Scrutiny Committee Forward Programme 2026/27
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT	To submit the Committee's draft work programme for 2026/27 for adoption
AUTHOR	Llywela Haf Owain, Senior Scrutiny Adviser

1. All Council members, co-opted members, cabinet members, heads of department and the public were given an opportunity to propose potential items to be scrutinised during 2026/27.
2. At the Committee's annual workshop on 12 May 2026, potential items to scrutinise during the year, were considered.
3. Information about the potential items was provided in advance to the committee members. The items included those suggested at the liaison meetings held between the Chair and Vice-chair and the relevant Heads of Department and Cabinet Members, items that have been scrutinised but require follow-up and items that we did not manage to scrutinise last year for various reasons.
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 effort was made to prioritise a maximum of four items per meeting to ensure that matters receive due attention and that the scrutiny adds value.
7. After sending a reminder to the relevant officers of the timetable for submitting reports, the Chair received a request to add another item to the September meeting agenda, namely:

Date of Meeting	Item Title
4 June	Strategic Safeguarding Panel Annual Report Safeguarding Policy Review
16 July	Third Sector Compact
17 September	Population Needs Assessment

8. See attached as an appendix to the report, the Committee's draft work programme.
9. The scrutiny forward programme is a live programme which will be reviewed regularly over the year to ensure that the right matters are addressed. Consideration will be given to prioritising matters that will arise during the year, e.g. matters arising in the scrutiny of performance and items on the Cabinet's forward programme.
10. **The Care Scrutiny Committee is asked to adopt the work programme for 2026/27.**

CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME 2026/27

Date	Items	Reason to scrutinise
4/6/26	Strategic Safeguarding Panel Annual Report	Pre-scrutiny / Assurance needed in terms of implementation
	Safeguarding Policy Review	Pre-scrutiny / Assurance needed in terms of implementation
	Children and Supporting Families Performance Report	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	Adults, Health and Well-being Performance Report	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	Housing and Property Performance Report	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
16/7/26	Day Care Service	Council Plan 2023-28 – A Caring Gwynedd
	Task and Finish Group's Report on Complaints – Adult, Health and Well-being Department and Children and Supporting Families Department	Task and Finish Group
	Llechen Lân	Pre-scrutiny / Council Plan 2023-28 – A Caring Gwynedd
	Third Sector Compact	Pre-scrutiny
17/9/26	North Wales Population Needs Assessment for Care and Support	Pre-scrutiny
	Response Plan to the Our Bravery Brought Justice Report	Assurance needed in terms of implementation

	• Work jointly with the Housing Associations	Council Plan 2023-28 – A Homely Gwynedd
Date	Items	Reason to scrutinise
5/11/26	• Adults, Health and Well-being Performance Report	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	• Children and Supporting Families Performance Report	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	• The impact of legislation to remove profit from children's care homes on Cyngor Gwynedd's ability to provide homes for looked after children	Council Plan 2023-28 – A Caring Gwynedd / To receive assurance that suitable arrangements are in place to continue offering suitable homes for looked after children, including those with profound and complex needs.
	• Annual Report 2025-26 – Complaints, Enquiries and Expressions of Gratitude – Children and Supporting Families and the Adults, Health and Well-being Departments	Assurance in respect of the arrangements for handling complaints in care work
	• Childcare	To receive assurances that a suitable service is in place that provides value for money
21/1/27	• Housing and Property Performance Report	Scrutiny of the performance of Council departments
	• Derwen Service	Council Plan 2023-28 – A Caring Gwynedd / Challenges in the field
	• Increased use of technology to improve residents' ability to access care and support	Pre-scrutiny / Council Plan 2023-28 – A Caring Gwynedd

11/3/27	Housing and Homelessness Support Strategy	Pre-scrutiny / Council Plan 2023-28 – A Homely Gwynedd
	Housing Action Plan	Council Plan 2023-28 – A Homely Gwynedd
	The Council's ability to implement the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) Plan	Matter on the risk register / Obtain assurances that additional resources provided to improve performance are adequate