

Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme 2024-25

The Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee Work Programme details the planned activity to be undertaken over the forthcoming municipal year.

The Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee has the responsibility to review and scrutinise the work of the county council and external organisations on matters relating to the environment and climate change, economic development and growth, and highways and transport. Accordingly, the work of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee will focus on the following areas:

- Climate change
- Environment
- Highways and transport
- Economic development and growth

The programme is determined by the Committee following a planning session at the start of the municipal year. This includes provision for the rights of county councillors to ask for any matter to be considered by the committee.

Coordination of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee programmes is undertaken by the Scrutiny Management Board. This is in line with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees' Terms of Reference, as set out in the county council's [Constitution](#) (Section 6).

Cabinet Members

The Cabinet Member portfolios aligned to the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee's responsibilities are:

[County Councillor Rupert Swarbrick](#) – Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

[County Councillor Aidy Riggott](#) – Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth

[County Councillor Shaun Turner](#) – Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change

The areas of responsibility for each Cabinet Member are set out at [Section 5 – Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members](#) in the county council's constitution.

Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee Programme 2024-25

Committee Meeting Schedule						
Scrutiny Activity	13/06/24 (informal session)	12/9/24	24/10/24	04/12/24	30/01/25	17/03/25
LCC Service Area Report to Committee		Preparation of the Local Transport Plan 4 Bus Service Improvement Plan	Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Skills, Interventions and Initiatives led by the Skills and Employment Hub	The Management of Waste Operations through Planning Policy and Enforcement**	Love Clean Streets App Highways Reactive Maintenance Performance***	Public Rights of Way – Open Reports Flood Risk Management - Environment Agency Flood Defence and Alleviation Schemes
Annual Report to Committee						
Planned Decision Scrutiny Review						
Short Scrutiny (Rapporteur) Review Update						
Other Scrutiny Review Update	Service Area Updates	Public Realm Agreements – Progress Report	*			Lancashire Road Safety Partnership Inquiry Findings Report
Cabinet Member Required Attendance	Portfolio Updates	CC Aidy Riggott and CC Rupert Swarbrick	CC Shaun Turner and CC Jayne Rear	CC Shaun Turner	CC Rupert Swarbrick	CC Shaun Turner
Possible/reserve Items				Civil Parking Enforcement	Major Economic Development Projects	Smart Meters

** The topics 'Minerals and Waste Local Plan – Review of Development Management Policy re: Transport' and 'Landfill and transfer Sites – Planning Permission Enforcement and Breaches' were merged into a single item following a request made at the Scrutiny Management Board held on 13 November 2024.

*** This topic was originally entitled as 'Value for Money Potholes Repair'. The report will continue to focus on pothole repairs.

Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee Recommendations Progress

Meeting Date	Report Title	Corporate Priority	Recommendation	Progress Detail
12 September 2024	Preparation of the Local Transport Plan 4	Delivering better services	<p>"That the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth be asked to consider;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Reviewing and clarifying the definition of key centres. (ii) The inclusion of connectivity issues beyond the administrative boundaries of the three upper tier authorities of Lancashire within the Local Transport Plan 4." 	Response received from the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth and included at Appendix 'C' to item 5 on the agenda for the meeting held on 4 December 2024.
	Bus Service Improvement Plan	Delivering better services	<p>"That the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport be asked to consider;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Giving more priority and funding to improving bus service provision in rural areas and provision in the Rossendale district. (ii) Strengthening consultation with County Councillors on the bus service consultation process. (iii) Reviewing and expanding the distribution list for the Enhanced Partnership Forum and to include County Councillors" 	Response received from the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and included at Appendix 'B' to item 5 on the agenda for the meeting held on 4 December 2024.
24 October 2024	Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure	Protecting our environment	<p>That;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A breakdown of charge points by district be circulated to all members of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee. (ii) The proposals for potential locations be shared with all members of the Committee. 	<p>Breakdown of charge points circulated to the committee on 25 October 2024.</p> <p>Proposals for potential locations will hopefully shared with members by the end of March 2025.</p> <p>Recommendation issued to Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change on 30 October 2024. Response is set out at Appendix 'B'.</p>

			(iii) The Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change gives consideration to utilising all commercial opportunities available to the council in finalising the technical specification to procure an operator."	
	Skills, Interventions and Initiatives led by the Skills and Employment Hub	Supporting economic growth	<p>"That;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Relevant information and social media links to help county councillors promote Skills Bootcamps be provided. (ii) Data on where interventions had taken place by district be circulated to all members of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee. (iii) The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills gives consideration to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expanding the out of hours provision. b. Where possible, utilising local community centre venues to deliver training. c. Linking training with local labour market intelligence. 	<p>Information shared with all members via the Member Development newsletter January 2025 edition.</p> <p>Data circulated to committee members on 13 January 2025.</p> <p>Recommendation issued to Cabinet Member for Education and Skills on 30 October 2024. Response is set out at Appendix 'C'.</p>
4 December 2024	The Management of Waste Operations through Planning Policy and Enforcement	Protecting our environment	<p>That;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The full list of mineral extraction sites and landfill facilities be shared with the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee. (ii) The Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change gives consideration to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Implementing public facing information and updates on enforcement action across the county. 	<p>List of mineral extraction sites and landfill facilities, and the briefing note on working relationships with the United Utilities requested on 6 December 2024.</p> <p>Recommendations shared with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change on 6 December 2024. A response is awaited.</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Reviewing whether the legal resource for enforcement activities within planning is sufficient or could be enhanced. c. Establishing if the county council's website needs updating to include a link to the 'report an environmental incident' webpage on the gov.uk website and to consider adding the Environment Agency hotline number to the Members' portal ('C-First') and Members' key contacts. d. Carrying out a collective review of the processes, functions, responsibilities and arrangements in the current system of the multi-agency approach to enforcement. <p>(iii) A briefing note on the working relationships between United Utilities and the County Council be shared with the committee.</p>	