

Appendix 2 – All items suggested for the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes 2025/26

Scrutiny Topic	Suggested by	Reason for Suggestion	Scrutiny Officer Notes	Accepted / Rejected (If rejected include reason why)	Suggested Committee to review (If approved)
Performance Review	Stuart Sambrook (Policy Manager)	To monitor and review Council performance.		Accepted	Resources
Draft Climate Strategy and Action Plan	Stuart Sambrook (Policy Manager)	To review and comment on the Council's new Climate Strategy and Action Plan.		Accepted	Communities & Wellbeing
Corporate Strategy	Stuart Sambrook (Policy Manager)	To review the new Corporate Strategy.		Accepted	Resources
Hyndburn Leisure Services Annual Review	Public	To provide a progress report on the Hyndburn Leisure Trust after recent changes to operations.	Agreed Standing Item	Accepted	Resources
Household Support Fund	Lee Middlehurst (Head of Benefits, Revenues & Customer Contact)	To provide an update on the operational function of the Household Support Fund within the Council.		Accepted	Resources
Review of the use and cost of Consultants by the Council	Public	For Members to scrutinise the selection criteria/process when using consultants; to understand if the cost of projects built in a percentage for consultancy fees; and how decisions for using consultants are made.		Accepted	Resources
The cost and effect on Council services of employing agency staff.	Public	To scrutinise the reason for using agency staff and the cost of this to the Council.		Accepted	Resources
Review of HMOs	Cllr Steven Smithson	To review the impact of HMOs in the borough.		Accepted	Resources

Review of Empty Homes	Cllr Steven Smithson	To review the number of empty homes and plans to reduce this.		Accepted	Resources
Derelict Buildings Review	Cllr Steven Smithson	The number in the borough and any plans to bring the buildings back into use.		Rejected A review of empty homes would include elements of this.	Resources
Oswaldtwistle Civic Theatre	Cllr Steven Smithson	To review progress in bringing the Theatre back into use.		Accepted	Communities & Wellbeing
Recycling Review	Cllr Steven Smithson	How can recycling be improved across the borough?		Rejected – considered in part last municipal year.	Resources
Review of Events	Cllr Steven Smithson	A review of the cost and value of events.		Accepted	Special
Flytipping	Cllr Steven Smithson	To scrutinise enforcement data and fines.		Accepted	Communities & Wellbeing
Skip Days	Cllr Steven Smithson	A review of the service		Rejected – considered in part last municipal year.	Communities & Wellbeing
Sport Pitch fees	Cllr Steven Smithson	A review of costs and uptake of the pitches.		Rejected – considered last municipal year.	Communities & Wellbeing
Pest Control	Cllr Steven Smithson	To provide a service update.		Rejected – reviewed in recent past.	Resources
Onward Homes	Cllr Steven Smithson	To review social housing services.		Rejected – scrutinised last municipal year.	Communities & Wellbeing
Climate Emergency	Cllr Steven Smithson	To consider the green agenda and net zero targets		Accepted – similar request.	Communities & Wellbeing
Dog Warden	Cllr Steven Smithson	To provide an update on service and enforcement		Rejected – reviewed in recent past.	Resources
Allotments	Cllr Steven Smithson	To review the service, value for money and empty plots		Accepted	Communities & Wellbeing
Food Hygiene ratings	Cllr Steven Smithson	How many businesses are compliant and work to improve.		Rejected – a possible item for future scrutiny.	Resources
Parks and Open Spaces	Cllr Steven Smithson	To review service provision including managing anti-social behaviour, maintenance costs, waste bins in parks and green flag status.		Rejected – considered in part last municipal year.	Resources
Grass Cutting	Cllr Steven Smithson	To review the provision of service.		Rejected – a possible item for future scrutiny.	Resources

Transparency and Communication	Councillor Zak Khan	To review transparency and communication of the Council to the public.		Rejected – included within the Corporate Peer Challenge review (Rec. 7 of the CPC Action Plan)	Resources
Appointment of Scrutiny Chairs and Co-optees	Councillor Zak Khan	To review the appointment of Scrutiny Chairs and Co-optees.		Rejected – constitutional item reviewed annually.	Resources
Council reputation and relationship management	Councillor Zak Khan	To review the Council's reputation and relationship management with external partners, organisations, businesses.		Rejected – included within the Corporate Peer Challenge review (Recs. 3,4 & 10 of the CPC Action Plan).	Resources
Ability for Councillors & Cabinet to hold Executive to account.	Councillor Zak Khan	To review the ability for Councillors and Cabinet to hold the Executive to account.		Rejected – included within the Corporate Peer Challenge review (Recs. 2 & 8 of the CPC Action Plan)	Resources
Internal culture, attitude and behaviours	Councillor Zak Khan	To review internal culture, attitude and behaviours.		Rejected – included within the Corporate Peer Challenge review/constitutional item reviewed annually.	Resources
Council's role in Place Making.	Councillor Zak Khan	To review the success and weaknesses of the Council's role in Place Making and to consider an improvement plan.		Rejected – included within the Corporate Peer Challenge review (Rec. 3 of the Action Plan)	Resources
Relationship with neighbouring Councils.	Councillor Zak Khan	To scrutinise the Council's relationship with neighbouring Councils.		Rejected – included within the Corporate Peer Challenge review.	Resources
Review of our response to the Peer Review Challenge	Jane Ellis, Executive Director, Legal & Democratic Services	To review the Council's response to the Corporate Peer Challenge.		Rejected – considered by the Corporate Action Plan Working Group	Resources
Staff and Member Training	Jane Ellis, Executive Director, Legal & Democratic	To review training for staff and Members, including barriers to attendance, method of delivery etc.		Rejected – considered by the Corporate Action Plan (Rec. 4 of the Action Plan)	Resources

	Services				
Review of Planning Enforcement	Jane Ellis, Executive Director, Legal & Democratic Services	To review the outcomes and resourcing of planning enforcement.		Accepted	Resources
Prograss Report of Huncoat Garden Village	Jane Ellis, Executive Director, Legal & Democratic Services	To hold a 6 monthly review of the Huncoat Garden Village project.		Accepted	Special
Review of Taxi Outsourcing	Jane Ellis, Executive Director, Legal & Democratic Services	To review progress on taxi outsourcing including MOTs/Maintenance etc.		Accepted	Resources
Review of Corporate Strategy	Jane Ellis, Executive Director, Legal & Democratic Services	Review of progress against the Corporate Strategy objective.		Accepted – duplicated request	Resources
Disabled Facilities Grants	Cllr Stephen Button	To consider the support and value of the DFG service to the community.		Accepted	Communities & Wellbeing
Household Support Fund	Cllr Stephen Button	To provide a progress report on the Household Support Fund.		Accepted – duplicated request	Resources
Dog Warden/Pest Control Services	Cllr Stephen Button	To provide an update on the services and monitor data relating to the range of work and successes of the services		Rejected – reviewed in recent past.	Resources
Leisure Services – Health Initiatives	Cllr Stephen Button	To scrutinise the provision and impact of the Health Walk initiative and other similar initiatives on the borough's wellbeing		Accepted	Communities & Wellbeing
Access to swimming lessons provided by Hyndburn	Jane Ellis	To review the availability, cost and accessibility of swimming lessons provided by the Leisure Trust.		Accepted	Communities & Wellbeing

Leisure Trust					
Update on the Town Centre Dome Bid	Councillor Kate Walsh	To provide a progress report on the Dome bid and details of future plans.		Accepted	Special
Financial Support to the Borough's Other Town Centre	Councillor Kate Walsh	To scrutinise the financial support provided to the borough's main town centre, other than Accrington.		Accepted	Special
Local Government Reorganisation	Councillor Kate Walsh	To provide an update on the Council's submission and after the Government's response.		Accepted	Special
Plan for Neighbourhood Funding	Councillor Kate Walsh	To provide an update on the 'Plan for Neighbourhood Funding' and the role of the Town Centre Neighbourhood Board in delivering this.		Accepted	Special