

Scrutiny Business Planning Checklist

Priorities	<p>Is the topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a corporate or service priority? In what way? • an area where performance, outcomes or budget are a concern? How? • one that matters to residents? Why? • key decision preview, policy development or performance?
What is being scrutinised and why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should the scrutiny focus be? What key lines of enquiry should be covered? • Where can the committee add value, what impact can scrutiny have? • What is the desired outcome from scrutiny?
When and how to scrutinise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When can the committee have most influence? (Is the committee getting involved at the right time, or the earliest opportunity?) • What is the best approach - committee, TFG, one-off small group, informal briefing or written update? • What research, visits or other activities could complement the scrutiny? • Would scrutiny benefit from external witnesses or evidence?
Is the work programme focused and achievable?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have priorities changed – should any work be brought forward, stopped or put back? • Can there be fewer items for more in-depth consideration? • Is there a balance between policy development, performance monitoring and key decision preview? • Has sufficient capacity been retained for future work?