Role of programming panel

- i) To oversee the workloads of the six bodies to ensure efficiency of the scrutiny and policy development process;
- ii) To co-ordinate requests for reviews referred to it by the Cabinet or the Council which do not fall within the remit of any one group; and
- iii) To resolve any disputes between groups.

(MDDC Constitution page 124, section 2a)

Aim – coordination of work programme

Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference:

- to approve work programme in consultation with the Programming Panel
- to refer those matters which fall within the remit of the Scrutiny Committee, the Policy Development Groups or the Audit Committee, to the Programming Panel for allocation
- to respond to reasonable requests from the Cabinet to develop or review policy not within the remit of any Policy Development Group

(MDDC Constitution page 125, section 3c)

"Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective scrutiny function"

Centre For Governance and Scrutiny, The Good Scrutiny Guide



Remits

Scrutiny: contribute to the development of Council policies and also hold the Cabinet to account for its decisions... to review existing policies, consider proposals for new policies and suggest new policies. (MDDC Constitution page 20 section 7a)

PDGs: to review existing policies, consider proposals for new policies and suggest new policies.... The Policy Development Groups act as the overview function, developing and reviewing policy. (MDDC Constitution page 22 section 8.1a)

Audit

Provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment including (from the perspective of the Council) those partnership or joint working arrangements the Council has with other bodies and how their risk management and controls might impact the Council;

Provide independent scrutiny of the authority's financial and nonfinancial performance to the extent that it affects the authority's exposure to risk and weakens the control environment;

Oversee the financial reporting process.

(MDDC Constitution page 26, section 9.1)

Community

Any matters that impact on the health, safety and wellbeing of people (e.g. air quality, pollution, noise), Public health, Environmental Health (e.g. food standards, water quality), Leisure, Grants funding, Town and Parish fund updates, Presentations from grant funded organisations, Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, Community engagement and consultation, Equalities, Health and Safety, Town and Parish Councils (charter), Anti-social behaviour, Community safety, Digital transformation – broadband, Local welfare assistance, Benefits, Presentations from local interest groups such as Drink Wise Age Well, Youth Services, Older Persons strategy, Updates from the clinical commissioning group, RIPA, Targeted families

Economy

Economic Development, Inward Investment, Business support and development, Tourism, Town Centres, Markets, local and national economy, Town Team updates, CCTV, Car Parking, Business Rates updates, Commercial units property updates, Night time economy (could include references to licencing and anti-social behaviour), Funding bids and updates, High Street Innovation Fund, Project updates on heritage projects, arts projects and food and drink projects which link to the local economy.

Environment

Waste collection and Recycling, Street cleaning, Trade Waste, Clinical Waste, Climate change, reduction of carbon footprint, Parks and Open Spaces, Cemeteries, Trees, environmental enforcement (vehicles, animal control, fly tipping, fly posting), flood defence and drainage, clocks and monuments, street naming and numbering, public conveniences, Grounds maintenance – grass cutting.

Homes

Council Housing, Housing Strategy, Housing policies, Neighbourhood and tenancy management, tenant involvement, homelessness prevention, housing needs and allocations, housing enabling, HRA budget, HRA capital programme and planned maintenance, Building maintenance, Devon Home Choice, Asbestos management, Community Housing support, Update on affordable housing projects, Updates on legislative changes or guidance from the HCA, Private Sector Homes, Bringing back empty homes into use, Disabled Facility Grants.

(MDDC Constitution page 22, section 8.2)

Questions/ideas