

**Resources and Place Scrutiny Committee**  
**Scrutiny Recommendations and Actions Tracker**

The Recommendations and Actions Tracker is a standing item, and documents the progress of formal scrutiny recommendations and suggested actions for improvement made by the Resources and Place Scrutiny Committee at its public meetings. Items will remain on the tracker until a response has been provided to the Committee by the Executive, council departments, and/or external partners.

**Formal Recommendations to Executive**

Ref	Meeting date and agenda item	Scrutiny recommendation	Lead	Target date	Last update	Response	Status

**Formal Recommendations to External Partners**

Ref	Meeting date and agenda item	Scrutiny recommendation	Lead	Target date	Last update	Response	Status

**Suggested Actions for Improvement to Council Departments/Partners**

Ref	Meeting date and agenda item	Action	Lead	Target date	Last update	Update	Status
89	<b>7 March 2023:</b> Libraries Review	Consult with town / parish councils to understand what they wanted from the service	Felicity Harrison	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	An update on the Library service is being brought to the meeting on 16 September 2025.  (NB: The Libraries Review has been removed from the Executive Forward Plan as it was a legacy item.)	In progress
90		Ensure that 'priorities', 'review recommendations' and 'opportunities for future investment are aligned and that targets are set		16/09/2025	01/07/2025		In progress
91		Libraries report to be updated before submitting it to the Executive		16/09/2025	01/07/2025		In progress
116	<b>11 October 2023:</b> Thames Water and Environment Agency	Meet with the EA and West Berkshire Council to discuss the Northbrook in Newbury	EA/Thames Water	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	(Links to Action #143) Thames Water have supported with testing of the Northbrook. WBC have started an initial business case, and had initial conversations with the Environment Agency on potential funding opportunities for flood alleviation. The business case is being finalised, but will be managed in line with the emerging draft Section 19 report after the January 2024 district-wide flooding. This will require EA funding. 03/09/25 - Discussions continue between all parties on this and other related matters. (Also, see Thames Water Q&A #35)	In progress
141	<b>25 April 2024:</b> Actions from Previous Minutes	Scrutiny Commission to be updated about progress with Councillor Gourley's motion (in relation to Thames Water) that was passed at March Council.	Cllr Stuart Gourley	tbc	08/09/2025	The Scrutiny Chairman is in dialogue with the Executive Portfolio Holder regarding the timing of future reports. 08/09/25 - The scheduling of this item to be discussed under the Work Programme.	In progress

143	<b>25 April 2024:</b> Actions from Previous Minutes	Seek an update from Councillor Gourley about whether action would be taken following the results of the Northbrook tests.	Cllr Stuart Gourley	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	<p>(Links to Action #116)</p> <p>The Environment Officer who joined us on the site visit, has requested a water quality monitoring device to be deployed along the Northbrook. We have a limited number of these devices available and for obvious reasons, they are all currently deployed at sewage treatment works across the Thames catchment. He has also had to focus his time on inspection visits to treatment works but did say he would repeat the request with the officers who manage this equipment, in case one can be made available but we cannot promise this will happen, nor say when this may be possible. Cllr Gourley is continuing to chase the EA for answers on this issue.</p> <p>01/07/25 - concerns on this matter have been brought to the attention of Lee Dillon MP by a resident, the outcome of which would be monitored.</p> <p>05/09/25 - Cllr Gourley has continued to chase the EA for further support with pollution testing, but all systems are deployed elsewhere currently. The EA do not consider this site as a priority at the current time.</p>	In progress
201	<b>17 October 2024:</b> Thames Water and Environment Agency	Draft a letter to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in consultation with Councillor Stuart Gourley to lobby for water companies to be made statutory consultees for major planning applications.	Jon Winstanley	20/06/2025	01/07/2025	01/07/25 - letter had been sent to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. Response has been received explaining that forthcoming Government consultation will include the subject of statutory consultees in the planning system.	Complete
212	<b>26 November 2024:</b> Response to Faraday Road Football Ground queries	Provide details of the project plan and objectives for Faraday Road.	Cllr Nigel Foot	30/09/2025		A draft is being produced. Cllr Foot to clarify some details and will provide a further update following the next meeting of the Faraday Road Steering Group in September.	In progress
223	<b>11 February 2025:</b> Actions from Previous Meetings	Follow up with Thames Water regarding Thatcham Sewage Works.	Cllr Carolyne Culver	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	<p>Cllr Culver has contacted Denise Kinsella and awaits a response. Cllr Gourley has also been asked to liaise with Thames Water on this point.</p> <p>01/07/25 - Stephen Chard to seek confirmation on ownership of the Thatcham Sewage Works. Confirmed this is Thames Water.</p>	In progress

229	<b>11 February 2025:</b> Scrutiny Commission Work Programme	Discuss with Councillor Gourley whether headteachers could make representations to TAG re school streets.	Cllr Carolyn Culver	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	Cllr Culver has advised Cllr Amirtharaj to contact Cllr Gourley to ask whether this issue can be tabled at a meeting of the Policy Development Group, which has replaced the advisory groups.	Complete
156, 157, 232	<b>17 July 2024 &amp; 13 March 2025:</b> Waste Strategy	Undertake benchmarking with other local authorities to check the link between affluence and waste volume.	Daniel Warne	17/03/2026	19/06/2025	Assigned to officer for action in Q4, following implementation of other key priorities.	In progress
		Consider how measurement and reporting of community litter-picking could be improved, and consider increased provision of community litter-picking kits as part of the Waste Strategy		17/03/2026	01/07/2025	Action forms part of adopted Waste Management Strategy. Assigned to officer for action in Q4, following implementation of other key priorities. 01/07/25 - importance highlighted of ensuring that local communities and volunteer groups were aware that litter picking kits were held by parishes.	In progress
		A future report to be brought to the Scrutiny Commission on implementation of the new recycling scheme.		17/03/2026	01/07/2025	Agreed this item would be scheduled for the spring/summer of 2026.	In progress
235	<b>13 March 2025:</b> Recommendations Tracker	Develop a template for a combined actions and recommendations tracker in consultation with the Scrutiny Commission Chairman	Stephen Chard	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	Provided. This is the recommendations tracker.	Complete
236	<b>1 July 2025:</b> Corporate Programme	The Corporate Programme to become a standing item.	Stephen Chard	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	Confirmation awaited re Corporate Programme actions.	In progress
237		Councillor Iain Cottingham to provide an update on progress with the corporate landlord model.	Cllr Iain Cottingham	16/09/2025	01/07/2025		In progress
238		Councillor Jeff Brooks would be asked to provide an update on progress with iTrent implementation (Phase 2).	Cllr Jeff Brooks	16/09/2025	01/07/2025		In progress
239	<b>1 July 2025:</b> Changes to the Scrutiny Structure and the Policy Development Group	The PDG Work Programme would be a standing item for this meeting and it was suggested that the PDG receive the scrutiny work programmes.	Stephen Chard	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	PDG meetings are being held on an ad-hoc basis at present. However, the Work Programme is due for development and will be supplied for future meetings.	In progress
240	<b>1 July 2025:</b> Capital Financing Report Outturn: 2024/25	The following additional information would be provided at the Executive on 3 July 2025: An itemised list of projects costing up to or below £250k. Why the project 'Special Education Mental Health and Autism Spectrum Disorder Reduced Provision' had slipped in the current financial year.	Cllr Iain Cottingham	16/09/2025	08/09/2025	Information provided	Complete

241	<b>1 July 2025:</b> 2024/25 Revenue Financial Performance: Provisional Outturn	Additional information would be provided at the Executive on 3 July 2025 to explain: The budget variance for the budget lines of Executive Director - Place, Executive Director - Resources and for the Chief Executive. The overspends against the budgets for Transformation and for Finance, Property and Procurement.	Cllr Iain Cottingham	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	Info awaited, to follow for September's agenda.	In progress
242	<b>1 July 2025:</b> 2024/25 Revenue Financial Performance: Provisional Outturn	Cllr Iain Cottingham to provide the invest to save business case to Cllr Antony Amirtharaj to provide a fuller explanation of the commissioning work that was involved with procuring SEND provision.	Cllr Iain Cottingham	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	This will be more widely circulated once received.	In progress
243	<b>1 July 2025:</b> 2024/25 Revenue Financial Performance: Provisional Outturn	Information was requested on the use of capital receipts for transformation activity as part of the item on Transformation at the next Scrutiny Committee.	Cllr Iain Cottingham	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	Info awaited, to follow for September's agenda.	In progress
244	<b>1 July 2025:</b> 2024/25 Revenue Financial Performance: Provisional Outturn	A diagram to be provided to help understand how financial governance groups interlinked.	Shannon Coleman-Slaughter		01/07/2025		In progress
245	<b>1 July 2025:</b> Task and Finish Group Updates	A brief overview of activity would be provided with the agenda papers to provide an update on progress with task and finish groups.	Stephen Chard	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	Provided from 16/09/25 onwards.	Complete
246	<b>1 July 2025:</b> Task and Finish Group Updates	The three scrutiny chairmen and Democratic Services to carry out a piece of work to achieve clarity about the purpose and parameters of task and finish groups.	Scrutiny Chairmen	16/09/2025	01/07/2025	This is being progressed by Nicki Thomas, Service Lead for Legal and Democratic Services, in the first instance.	In progress
247	<b>1 July 2025:</b> Executive Forward Plan (Asset Disposals)	A standing item for the Executive was on Asset Disposals. Councillor Ross Mackinnon explained that he intended to explore this at the Executive on 3 July 2025. Councillors Culver and Mackinnon would discuss, post the Executive, if there was scope for scrutiny involvement with asset disposals.	Cllrs Ross Mackinnon and Carolyne Culver	16/09/2025	01/07/2025		In progress
163, 221, 248	<b>17 July 2024, 26 November 2024, 1 July 2025:</b> Social Housing	Chairman of Scrutiny Commission to discuss issues relating to Housing First and empty homes with the relevant Executive Portfolio Holder.	Cllr Carolyne Culver	25/11/2025	01/07/2025	Cllr Culver has contacted Cllr Gaines as housing portfolio holder and Cllr Codling as chairman of Health and Wellbeing, requesting that we establish between the three of us what is the best way forward to develop and scrutinise housing policy in a manner that does not duplicate effort. 01/07/25 - social housing had been identified as the area of focus.	In progress
		Liaise with the Executive Portfolio Holder: Planning and Housing regarding the timing of proposed housing reports	Cllr Carolyne Culver	25/11/2025	01/07/2025	The Scrutiny Commission Chairman is in dialogue with the Executive Portfolio Holder regarding the timing of future reports.	In progress

		The plans for scrutiny of this topic would be discussed further at the next meeting. A briefing note would be requested from Housing Officers on the current situation and the difficulties being faced to help the Committee focus its work in this area.	Stephen Chard/Housing Officers	25/11/2025	01/07/2025	Briefing note has been requested to help inform further scrutiny work on this topic.	In progress
249	<b>1 July 2025:</b> Work Programme (Public Transport)	Councillor Antony Amirtharaj would progress this with the Portfolio Holder in the first instance and would consider whether he felt it to be a suitable topic for scrutiny.	Cllr Antony Amirtharaj	16/09/2025	01/07/2025		In progress
250	<b>1 July 2025:</b> Work Programme (Northcroft Dryside)	Councillor Howard Woollaston to draft a set of questions for Portfolio Holders and officers in relation to his concerns in this area. They would then be shared with the Chairman before being progressed further.	Cllr Howard Woollaston	16/09/2025	01/07/2025		In progress