



Mi allwch ddarllen y ddogfen yma yn Gymraeg hefyd. Ewch nôl i'r dudalen we, a chliciwch ar y botwm iaith ar dop y dudalen.



CONCISE VERSION

ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT
2022/23

THE PURPOSE OF SCRUTINY

**CONTRIBUTE TO DRIVING IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICES
FOR THE PEOPLE OF GWYNEDD**

This is done constructively by:

- Investigating concerns regarding the quality of our services
- Acting as a Critical Friend, ensuring that appropriate attention is given to the citizen's voice
- Identifying good practice and weaknesses
- Holding the Cabinet and its members to account
- Reviewing or scrutinising decisions or actions that are not the responsibility of the Cabinet

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There are three Scrutiny Committees in Gwynedd, here are the areas of work that the various committees are responsible for scrutinising:

Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee

Education Department, Economy and Community Department, GwE, North Wales Economic Ambition Board, Leadership Team and Legal, Corporate Support Department, Finance Department, the Council's Internal Operation and Partnerships

Communities Scrutiny Committee

Environment Department, Highways, Engineering and YGC (Gwynedd Consultancy) Department, Local Development Plan, Public Services Board, Crime and Disorder and the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan

Care Scrutiny Committee

Adults, Health and Well-being Department, Children and Supporting Families Department, Health and the Housing and Property Department

The meetings of the Scrutiny Committees are conducted as multi-location. Members have the option to attend meetings in the meeting room in the Council's offices or from another location by joining on Zoom.

SCRUTINY FORUM

The Chairs and Vice-chairs of the Scrutiny Committees are the members of the Scrutiny Forum. The Forum takes an overview of all the Council's scrutiny work, with members challenging each other to ensure that the right matters are prioritised. The role of the Scrutiny Forum is:

- ❖ Advise on PRIORITISING scrutiny items (the majority being formal scrutiny with a small number of investigations) and challenge the basis on which items have been identified for scrutiny.
- ❖ Identify the most effective scrutiny method within the resources available (formal scrutiny/investigation)
- ❖ Identify items that are purely for information, seeking to avoid using scrutiny arrangements to achieve the information-sharing role.
- ❖ Assess the contributions of the individual committees and assess the IMPACT of the scrutiny work, and review our scrutiny arrangements continuously.

The full version elaborates on the Forum's work during 2022-23.

SCRUTINY ITEMS

In 2022-23, 33 items were scrutinised at formal scrutiny meetings, including the following:

Recruitment and retention of staff in the care field (Adults, Health and Well-being Department)

Free School Meals

Waste Collection and Recycling Service

Workforce Planning

Autism Plan 2021-23

National and local developments to manage the effect of second homes and holiday lets on local people's ability to access housing in their communities and the Amended Local Development Plan

PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY

One of the ways that scrutiny adds value is through pre-decision scrutiny, which is scrutiny before a decision is made by the Cabinet and/or the Council. These are the items that were pre-scrutinised during 2022/23:

Visitor Economy Plan

Rights of Way Improvement Plan

Well-being Plan

North Wales Care Market Stability Report

Gwynedd Adults Population Needs Assessment Report

Article 4 Direction Potential Area Options – dwelling use classes

THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

The Act requires public bodies to design services that protect future generations in the long term. It places a duty to improve the environmental, economic, cultural and social well-being of the people of Wales.

When undertaking scrutiny, members consider the five ways of working that are stated in the Act, and they use these to guide their questioning:



Long Term



Prevention



Integration



Collaboration



Involvement

PERFORMANCE CHALLENGE

Performance challenge meetings are held every other month (with the exception of April and August), in accordance with the Council departments' areas of work. Departmental projects included in the Council Plan are considered, as well as day to day performance measures and also the risk register.

Representatives of the scrutiny committees are invited to attend meetings twice a year.

The Scrutiny Committee representatives are invited in order to:

- ❖ Have a taste of what grasp the individual departments have of performance matters.
- ❖ Identify, if required, any performance issues that could merit being addressed by a formal scrutiny committee in due course.

The representatives are expected to report back to the first informal meeting of the relevant scrutiny committee following these meetings. Informal meetings are held following formal meetings of the Scrutiny Committees.

All information about scrutiny work in 2022-23 is available in the full version on the Council's website – www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/scrutiny

FACTS ABOUT SCRUTINY IN GWYNEDD 2022/23

45 members were involved in carrying out the important scrutiny work during the year.

33 items were scrutinised in formal meetings.

2 meetings of the Scrutiny Forum were held during the year.

A **joint meeting** of the Scrutiny Forum and the Cabinet Members was held.

There was a **training session** on the legal aspects of chairing scrutiny committees for scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs.

Meetings have been held between Chairs and Vice-chairs and the relevant Cabinet Members and Heads of Department.

A member of the Communities Scrutiny Committee **represents the committee** on the Nature and Climate Change Board.

Members of the Care Scrutiny Committee **attended a workshop** to provide input into Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board's Clinical Services Strategy.