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**Nottingham
City Council**

Nottingham City Council Communities and Environment Scrutiny Committee

Date: Wednesday, 24 January 2024

Time: 10.00 am

Place: Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham,
NG2 3NG

Councillors are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business

Director for Legal and Governance

Governance Officer: Kate Morris

Direct Dial: 0115 876 42114

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Minutes**
To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2023
- 3 Declarations of Interests**
- 4 Service Impact of Budget Proposals** 3 - 10
Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer
- 5 Work Programme** 11 - 18
Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

If you need any advice on declaring an interest in any item on the agenda, please contact the Governance Officer shown above, if possible before the day of the meeting

Citizens attending meetings are asked to arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting to be issued with visitor badges

Citizens are advised that this meeting may be recorded by members of the public. Any recording or reporting on this meeting should take place in accordance with the Council's policy on recording and reporting on public meetings, which is available at www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk. Individuals intending to record the meeting are asked to notify the Governance Officer shown above in advance.

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Communities and Environment Scrutiny Committee

24 January 2024

Scrutiny of the Budget

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To scrutinise the service impacts of the specific proposals that fall within the remit of this Committee.
- 1.2 To note that the overall financial impact of the budget, and the service impact of proposals that fall outside of the remit of this Committee will be scrutinised by the other Scrutiny Committees at their meetings in January / February as these matters fall outside the terms of reference for this committee.

2 Action required

- 2.1 To discuss the service impact of individual proposals put forward from the Communities, Environment and Resident Services Directorate with the officers and Executive Councillors present, gather information and draw conclusions.
- 2.3 To provide feedback to the relevant Portfolio Holder(s).

3 Background information

3.1 The Role of Overview and Scrutiny

All Council's operating Executive Governance arrangements are required to establish Overview and Scrutiny Committees. These Committees act as a check and balance to the power of the Executive, holding decision makers to account for their decisions, reviewing proposals and supporting the development of policy. When operating effectively Overview and Scrutiny supports effective decision making and good governance through processes of supportive but robust challenge and transparent public accountability.

- 3.2 As part of its governance improvement work, Nottingham City Council has recently reviewed the structure, operation and support for Overview and Scrutiny to ensure it can deliver the above aims as effectively as possible, thereby supporting the Council's overall improvement journey. A new structure for Overview and Scrutiny, with dedicated officer support, was established in May 2023 with five committees, each linked to one of the Council's Directorates, with separate Committees for Children's Services and Health and Adult Social Care. Each of these

Committees has a role to play in the scrutiny of the budget and these roles are outlined in this report.

3.3 Scrutiny of the Budget – 2024/25

All Councils are legally required to agree a balanced budget, outlining how resources will be allocated to enable them to deliver their statutory responsibilities within their financial means. Drawing up proposals to deliver a balanced budget for 2024/25 has been exceedingly challenging due to reductions in funding for local authorities, increases in demand for services where statutory duties exist, particularly Children’s and Adult’s social care and homelessness, and inflationary and other pressures. This has resulted in the need to put forward proposals to stop or reduce some services in order to seek to balance the budget.

3.4 In Nottingham, proposals have been drawn up by the Council’s Executive Councillors and Senior Officers. At its meeting on 19 December 2023, Executive Board agreed to put these proposals to the public with a formal consultation process for those proposals requiring it. Proposals not requiring formal consultation were shared in the interests of transparency. Extracts from the appendices to the Executive Board report containing the proposals that fall within this Committee’s remit are attached to this report.

3.5 Scrutiny of the Impact of Individual Proposals

This Committee is responsible for scrutinising the service impact of individual proposals put forward from the Communities, Environment and Resident Services Directorate. This falls outside of the formal consultation process but it is important that the service impacts are scrutinised by the relevant committee. Matters to consider could include:

- a) What impact the proposals will have on service users/ citizens and how these impacts might be mitigated
- b) How effectively equalities have been considered as part of the proposals
- c) The impact proposals may have on each other

Any comments or recommendations should be fed back to the Portfolio Holder responsible.

3.6 The service impact of the individual proposals put forward from the Council’s other directorates will be scrutinised by the four other Overview and Scrutiny Committees at their meetings in January/ February with comments fed back to the relevant Portfolio Holders. In addition, the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, as the Scrutiny Committee responsible for finance, will provide feedback to the Executive on the overall budget as part of the formal consultation process. These matters fall outside of the Terms of Reference for this Committee and should not form part of the considerations at this meeting.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Appendix One: Public Consultation savings proposals

4.2 Appendix Two: Non Public Consultation savings proposals

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Report to, and Minutes of, the Executive Board meeting held on [19 December 2023](#) (Budget Strategy and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2027/28)

6.2 [2024/25 Budget Savings Proposals Consultation](#)

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

8.1 Nancy Barnard, Head of Governance and Statutory Scrutiny Officer
nancy.barnard@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

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Appendix 1: Saving Proposals - Public Consultation - CERS

Proposal Reference	Option Type	Directorate / Department	Proposal Title	Proposal Narrative	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	Cumulative MTFP Impact £m	Cumulative Staffing Impact FTE
DP(D)-2417	Manage Demand	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Improve recycling performance	Implementation of a side waste policy to regularise domestic waste tonnages collected and a programme of activity to support residents in presenting consistent materials for recycling thereby reducing contamination penalties.	(0.250)	(0.250)	0.000	0.000	(0.500)	0
DP(D)-2423	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Increased income from Woodthorpe Nursery	Additional income generation through a fees and charges review and an increased number of community events taking place at the Woodthorpe nursery and plant shop	(0.010)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.010)	0
DP(D)-2430	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Introduce charges for garden waste collection	To continue to offer a kerbside collection for residents who wish to pay for the service. Free disposal will be available at the Household Waste Recycling Centre.	(0.292)	(0.208)	0.000	0.000	(0.500)	0
DP(E)-2419	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Review of Museums Service to identify alternative delivery model reducing reliance on council funding	The Museums Service is currently undergoing a Delivery Model Assessment (DMA) process to identify an alternative delivery model for these primarily discretionary services that minimises reliance upon contribution from the Council.	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
DP(E)-2426	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Remove council contribution to One Nottingham	Increase third party income to maintain existing service provision and remove council contribution to One Nottingham.	(0.023)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.023)	0
DP(E)-2427	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Risk based approach to environmental health work relating to Planning Applications.	Adopt a risk based approach to environmental health work relating to Planning Applications relating to high-risk cases.	(0.100)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.100)	(2)
DP(E)-2410	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Review of Library Service	Undertake an assessment of the Library Service provision whilst maintaining a comprehensive and efficient service offer appropriate to the needs of our citizens. Will require a further public consultation regarding a review of the Council's Library Needs Assessment and 'the Next Chapter' Libraries Strategy.	(1.143)	(0.381)	0.000	0.000	(1.524)	(31)
DP(D)-2431	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Introduce baseline service level for mechanical road sweeping	Establish city wide baseline level for mechanical sweeping of the highway and other maintained areas of once every 12 weeks.	(0.126)	(0.042)	0.000	0.000	(0.168)	(6)

Proposal Reference	Option Type	Directorate / Department	Proposal Title	Proposal Narrative	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	Cumulative MTFP Impact £m	Cumulative Staffing Impact FTE
DP(E)-2413 DP(E)-2414 DP(E)-2415 DP(E)-2416 DP(E)-2417 DP(D)-2422	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Green Spaces and Natural Environment Service Review	Review of the Green Spaces and Natural Environment Service current operating model which includes a wide range of service reductions.	(0.254)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.254)	(8)
DP(E)-2428	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Reduction of contribution to Area Based Grants	Reduction of contribution to voluntary and charity sector through area based grants.	(1.340)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.340)	0
DP(E)-2412	Cease/ Stop	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Reduction of Community Protection and Resident Development service areas	Reduction of both the Community Protection and Resident Development services. Requirement to deliver duties relating to environmental enforcement and antisocial behaviour will be met.	(2.274)	(0.758)	0.000	0.000	(3.032)	(63)
DP(E)-2409	Cease/ Stop	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Review of Community Centres	Review of the current operational model for Community Centres to seek to remove all Council contribution from their operation.	(0.337)	(0.337)	0.000	0.000	(0.674)	(6)
DP(D)-2425	Cease/ Stop	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Permanent closure of City Centre water features	To remove maintenance budgets for the water features at Old Market Square and Sneinton Square.	(0.030)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.030)	0
DP(D)-2427	Cease/ Stop	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	To cease to deliver an in-house pest control service	Externally commission pest control work at Council assets and direct social housing tenants to external pest control providers.	(0.029)	(0.029)	0.000	0.000	(0.058)	(3)
DP(E)-2429	Cease/ Stop	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Cease contributions to the Cultural Sector	Removal of contribution to the cultural sector.	(0.198)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.198)	0
DP(E)-2430	Cease/ Stop	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Ceasing of Ward Budgets	Removal of locally distributed ward budgets.	(0.125)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.125)	0
COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT & RESIDENT SERVICES					(6.531)	(2.005)	0.000	0.000	(8.536)	(118)

Appendix 2: Saving Proposals - Non-Public Consultation - CERS

Proposal Reference	Option Type	Directorate / Department	Proposal Title	Proposal Narrative	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	Cumulative MTFP Impact £m	Cumulative Staffing Impact FTE
DP(D)-2432	Manage Demand	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Efficiencies through centralisation of Fleet Services	Efficiencies through the Centralisation of fleet budgets and review of management and operation of Fleet Services	(0.202)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.202)	0
DP(D)-2410	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Provision of District Heating, Metering and Billing services to district heating customers	Increase to charges commenced January 2024.	(1.000)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.000)	0
DP(E)-2421 DP(E)-2422	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Increase in charges for Energy Assessment work	Increase in charges for Energy Assessment income generating work in Climate Service.	(0.009)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.009)	0
DP(D)-2424	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Increased income generation for the Council's Landscape Service	Landscape Service to increase charges and prioritise externally grant funded income generating work.	(0.020)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.020)	0
DP(E)-2418	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Expansion of Commercial Waste Partnership	Increase income from existing commercial waste partnership.	(0.100)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.100)	0
DP(D)-2418	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Increase to MOT Charges	Increase to charges for enhanced MOTs for Taxis to ensure full cost recovery.	(0.040)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.040)	0
DP(D)-2419	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Bereavement Services fees and charges uplift	Increase to charges commenced January 2024.	(0.083)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.083)	0
DP(D)-2426	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Reduction in Museums Conservation Service resource	Deletion of conservation resource above grant match funding requirements.	(0.009)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.009)	0
DP(E)-2424	Charge More	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Maximise income opportunity at Theatre & Concert Hall	Maximising income opportunities through Theatre Royal and Concert Hall	(0.095)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.095)	0
DP(D)-2401 DP(E)-2425	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Directorate Senior Management Review	Review of senior management structure across the Directorate	(0.515)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.515)	(6)
DP(D)-2411	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Reduction of utilities costs	Reduction of utilities costs as a result of price stability through procurement processes and consolidated council asset base.	(1.500)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.500)	0
DP(E)-2411	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Improved financial performance for Leisure Centres	Through a combination of increased income and operational efficiencies reduce the Council contribution of Leisure Centre operations.	(0.165)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.165)	0
DP(E)-2420	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Review of Carbon Neutral 2028 programme management function	As part of a wider review of delivery of the Council's Carbon Neutral 2028 commitments realise efficiencies in programme management functions.	(0.050)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.050)	(1)

Proposal Reference	Option Type	Directorate / Department	Proposal Title	Proposal Narrative	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £M	Cumulative MTFP Impact £m	Cumulative Staffing Impact FTE
DP(D)-2421	Reduce Costs	Communities, Environment & Resident Services	Review of Parks Development Service	To reduce resources allocated to site inspections and grant applications to minimum levels and increase income generation work for the Parks Development Service.	(0.058)	(0.012)	0.000	0.000	(0.070)	(2)
COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT & RESIDENT SERVICES					(3.846)	(0.012)	0.000	0.000	(3.858)	(9)

Proposals shaded in grey have been endorsed by Executive Board

**Communities and Environment Scrutiny Committee
24 January 2024**

Work Programme

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the Committee's work programme for 2023/24 based on areas of work identified by the Committee at previous committee meetings and any issues raised at this meeting.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note the work that is currently planned for the remainder of the municipal year 2023/24 and make amendments to this programme as appropriate.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The Communities and Environment Scrutiny Committee has been established to carry out the statutory overview and scrutiny functions in relation to matters affecting local communities and the environment including community protection, environmental health, community safety, sport, culture, tourism, waste and cleansing, energy and the environment. This includes:
- a) holding local decision-makers, including the Council's Executive and relevant Boards of the Council's group of companies, to account for their decisions, actions, performance and management of risk
 - b) reviewing existing policies and strategies of the Council and other local decision-makers where they impact on Nottingham citizens
 - c) contributing to the development of new policies and strategies of the Council and other local decision-makers where they impact on Nottingham citizens
 - d) exploring any matters affecting Nottingham and/or its citizens
 - e) make reports and recommendations to relevant local agencies with respect to the delivery of their functions, including the Council and its Executive
 - f) reviewing decisions made but not yet implemented by the Council's Executive in accordance with the Call-in Procedure.

- 3.2 The Committee is responsible for setting and managing its own work programme to fulfil this role. This work programme must have a clear link to its roles and responsibilities and take into account the resources available to deliver it.
- 3.3 In setting a programme for scrutiny activity, the Committee should make sure that each item included on the programme has clear objectives and desired outcomes from its work that add value to the improvement of the Council. Once items have been identified, the scheduling of those items should be timely; sufficiently flexible so that issues which arise as the year progresses can be considered appropriately; and reflect the resources available to support the Committee's work. It is recommended that there is a maximum of two substantive items scheduled for each committee meeting.
- 3.4 The current work programme for the municipal year 2023/24 is attached. There is space for further items to be added to later meetings. This is because some potential issues require further scoping and consideration as to the appropriate timing – once this has been done they will be proposed for scheduling accordingly – and this also allows for flexibility to accommodate issues that arise as the year progresses.
- 3.5 At this meeting the Committee is asked to review its work programme and make amendments to this programme as appropriate.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Communities and Environment Work Programme 2023/24

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Nottingham City Council Constitution

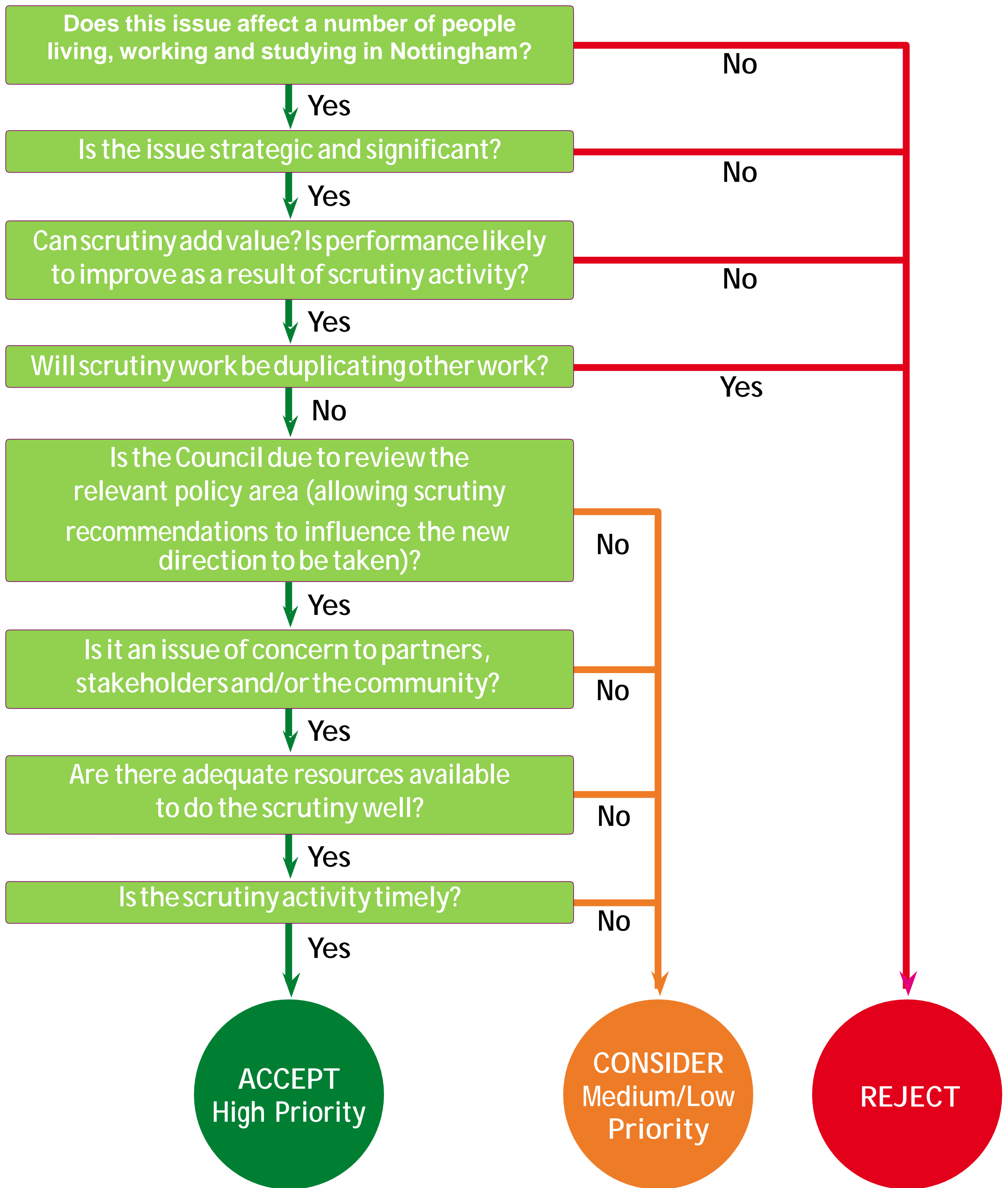
7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

- 8.1 Kate Morris, Scrutiny and Audit Support Officer
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Nottingham City Council Scrutiny Prioritisation Process



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Communities and Environment Scrutiny Committee 2023/24 Work Programme

Date	Items
6 October 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference and Expectations • Waste Strategy To scrutinise the implementation of the waste strategy, to feed into consideration of options available in relation to domestic waste collection, green waste, and recycling • Impact of implementing the Strategy and Mitigations To review the wider implications of the strategy on services • Work Programme 2023/24
8 November 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Value Review – Community Resilience To review the outcomes of the best value review and feed into the options regarding implementation of the findings • Best Value Review – Environmental Services To review the outcomes of the best value review and feed into the options regarding implementation of the findings • Work Programme 2023/24
6 December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events To review the impact of a whole range of events across the city, their environmental impact, and tourism and economic impact. • Work Programme 2023/24

24 January 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of the Proposed 2024/25 Budget on Communities Environment & Resident Services – Highways, Transport and Planning, Neighbourhoods, Safety and Inclusion, and Energy, Environment and Waste Services and Parks To scrutinise the impact of the proposed budget on services within the committee’s remit • Work Programme 2023/24
7 February 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of the Proposed 2024/25 Budget on Communities Environment & Resident Services – Leisure and Culture To scrutinise the impact of the proposed budget on services within the committee’s remit • The Castle To review the work undertaken since the reopening of the Castle and to consider any risks and opportunities identified • Work Programme 2023/24
6 March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety/ Commercial and Environmental Regulation To review the performance of the Council’s commercial and environmental regulation services, the challenges the services are facing and the impact these services have on the Council’s revenue budgets • Community Safety Partnership To review the performance of the Community Safety Partnership, fulfilling the Committee’s statutory duty. • Work Programme 2023/24
3 April 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CN28 To review the Council’s performance against the pledge to become carbon neutral by 2028. • Heat network options To scrutinise the options for the heat network • Work Programme 2023/24

To Schedule:

- **Best Value Review – Community Resilience**
To receive the outcomes of the best value review and feed into the proposed options regarding implementation of the findings
- **Best Value Review – Environmental Services**
To receive the outcomes of the best value review and feed into the proposed options regarding implementation of the findings
- **Green space strategy**
To feed into the development of the green space strategy
- **Green space maintenance**
To review the policy approach to green space maintenance

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