

Transport, Infrastructure & Strategic Housing Scrutiny Panel

DATE	3 rd March 2026
REPORT OF	Statutory Scrutiny Officer
SUBJECT	Transport, Infrastructure and Strategic Housing Scrutiny Panel - Work Programme
STATUS	Open

CONTRIBUTION TO OUR AIMS

The scrutiny panels act as a reviewing mechanism for decisions made relating to the strategic policy, performance and resources required to deliver the ambitions of the council and its key partnerships. The aim of the scrutiny process is to make sure decision making is robust by providing constructive challenge. This contributes to the council being effective and efficient, and therefore it is integral to the delivery of the council priorities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report reflects on the 2025/26 municipal year, and the work undertaken by the Transport, Infrastructure and Strategic Housing Scrutiny Panel. The panel will also consider, within its terms of reference, suggestions to be included in the 2025/26 work programme ahead of confirmation of the work programme at the first meeting of this panel in the new Municipal Year.

MATTER(S) FOR CONSIDERATION

The panel is invited to reflect on the 2025/26 work programme, noting any matters it would like to highlight within the Annual Scrutiny Report, and consider any suggested items for inclusion in next year's work programme.

1. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

- 1.1 This report and its appendix summarises the 2025/26 agreed work programme and the panel's timetable of activities to undertake this work.
- 1.2 During the course of the year, the panel has considered the following issues: -
 - Significant changes to the Corporation Bridge project during 2025 prompted the panel to request more frequent in-depth updates. Members insisted where possible for updates to be heard in open session as they sought transparency for residents and local businesses. A special meeting was held in October 2025 with recommendations forwarded to Cabinet for consideration.
 - The panel received a number of Cabinet reports allowing for pre-decision scrutiny. These included the Review of Subsidised Bus services; Draft Local Plan; the Grimsby West Development Masterplan; Grimsby to Walpole National Grid Electricity Line and the Concessionary Fares Scheme. The panel's recommendations were duly considered by Cabinet.

- A joint meeting with the Communities Scrutiny Panel was called to enable members to receive a report from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport proposing the introduction of a Selective Licensing scheme for parts of the East Marsh ward. The joint panel supported the proposed scheme but recommended to Cabinet that steps be taken to expand it into other wards. The joint panel was subsequently reconvened to consider a call-in of Cabinet's decision. The panel agreed to free-up the decision for implementation but did raise concerns with Cabinet around the potential impact on charities and requested that the equalities impact assessment be revisited.
- A Cabinet report on the Statement of Community Involvement was considered by the panel at its July meeting; the panel's request for additional information around Section 106 Agreement funding was followed up with a detailed briefing note. It was resolved that a meeting be held between the Chair of this panel, Chair of planning and relevant officers to consider how ward councillors could be kept informed of major planning developments where Section 106 funding may be available.
- The panel considered the final Equans performance report and continued to receive the council's quarterly performance reports, seeking assurances on areas of concern. Issues raised around housing were addressed at a joint meeting held with the Communities Scrutiny Panel where the Director of Adult services gave a detailed update.
- The panel was also kept updated on the following matters:
 - The Electric Vehicle Strategy
 - Local Transport Grant
 - GLCCA Transport Functions
 - Response to the Government Consultation on Reform of Planning Committees
 - East Marsh Housing Retrofit scheme
 - Alexandra Dock Regeneration
 - The new Grimsby Town Centre Transport Hub.
- A report on the work and conclusions of the traffic management co-ordination working group and its presentation of the subsequent Streetworks Charter was considered by the panel and it was resolved that the charter be endorsed for agreement by Cabinet subject to the report being strengthened to make clear expected standards within the wording on reinstatements.
- During the final panel meeting of the year, members are expecting to receive updates on the Asset Management Plan, Electrification of Buses, Car Parking Strategy and a further update on the Corporation Bridge project.
- The panel also received a number of questions for the portfolio holder

during the year. These were on a variety of issues - the Corporation Bridge Restoration Project, Cleethorpes Regeneration Scheme parking and loading bay issues, the safety of women and girls and anti-social behaviour issues surrounding the new Grimsby Town Centre Transport Hub development, and bus service improvements.

- 1.3 The Annual Scrutiny Report is due to be submitted to the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2026 and will include a full summary of the work undertaken by this panel during the current year. If panel members wish to highlight particular work within this report, then they are invited to do so.
- 1.4 The panel will also have an early opportunity to consider any topics it may wish to retain in or add to next year's work programme.

2. RISKS, OPPORTUNITIES AND EQUALITY ISSUES

Any actions which the council may undertake as a result of recommendations made by scrutiny will be the subject of further reports, which will include risk assessment(s) by the author(s) concerned.

3. REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

The work programme demonstrates the breadth of matters considered by scrutiny.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations included within this report.

5. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct implications for children and young people arising from the content of this report.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE, NATURE RECOVERY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no impacts on climate change and the environment as a direct result of this report. Any actions which the council may undertake as a result of recommendations made by scrutiny will be the subject of further reports, which will include climate change, nature recovery and environmental implications by the author(s) concerned.

7. PUBLIC HEALTH, HEALTH INEQUALITIES AND MARMOT IMPLICATIONS

There are no impacts on public health, health inequalities and Marmot as a direct result of this report.

8. MONITORING COMMENTS

In the opinion of the author, this report does not contain recommended changes to policy or resources (people, finance or physical assets). As a result no monitoring comments have been sought from the Council's Monitoring Officer, the Section 151 Officer or the Assistant Director People and Organisational Development.

9. WARD IMPLICATIONS

May impact on all wards

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Annual report of scrutiny 2024/25

Panel tracking reports

11. CONTACT OFFICER(S)

Helen Johnson – Scrutiny and Committee Advisor

JOANNE ROBINSON

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – POLICY, STRATEGY AND RESOURCES
(STATUTORY SCRUTINY OFFICER)

SUMMARY WORK PROGRAMME: Transport, Infrastructure and Strategic Housing Scrutiny Panel 2025/26 [Appendix A](#)

15 July 6.30 p.m.	21 July Selective Licensing Scheme 5:30 p.m.	16 September 6.30 p.m.	7 th October 6:30 p.m.	October 29 th Oct 6:30 p.m.	18 November 6.30 p.m.	13 January 6:30 p.m.	3 March 6.30 p.m.
<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Joint Communities/ TISH</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Joint Communities/TISH</i>	<i>Special</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Plan Year End Performance & Provisional Financial Outturn Report • Equans Performance Report • Response to Government Consultation on Reform of Planning Committees • Statement of Community Involvement • Transport Hub Consultation • Panel Work Programme 2025/26 • Corporation Bridge Update (Closed Session) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selective Licensing Scheme- Joint work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q1 Quarterly Finance and Council Plan Monitoring (inclusive of Equans data) • Electric Vehicle Strategy Update • Review of Subsidised Bus Services • Corporation Bridge (Verbal update) • Local Transport Grant • Grimsby West Masterplan • Grimsby to Walpole Power Routing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Options Project/Social and Affordable Housing Update – Joint work • Call in Selective Licensing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporation Bridge-Special meeting (Open/ Closed?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Programme (Update 2025/26) • Q2 Quarterly Finance and Council Plan Monitoring • Traffic Co-ordination Charter • Draft Local Plan- (Invite Economy panel members) • S106 Agreement Funding • Corporation Bridge (Verbal Update) • GLMCCA Transport functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandra Dock Update • East Marsh Retrofit Scheme Update • Corporation Bridge Update • Council Plan Refresh • Transport Hub (pre-Cabinet) • Concessionary Fares (pre-Cabinet) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q3 Quarterly Finance and Council Plan Monitoring • Work Programme Review • Asset Management Plan Update • Electrification of Buses • Corporation Bridge Update • Car Parking Strategy

Suggestions for 2026/27:

- Grimsby West Master Plan
- Corporation Bridge
- Affordable Housing Performance information
- Selective Licensing

