



Plymouth City Council

Scrutiny Annual Report 2024 -25

Contents

Key Information About Scrutiny..... 3

1. The operation of scrutiny..... 3

2. Scrutiny’s role..... 3

3. Meetings..... 3

Snapshot of Scrutiny in 2024/2025 4

4. Changes to the Scrutiny Panel’s structure..... 4

5. Focusing on the issues that matter..... 4

6. Pre-briefings and work planning..... 5

Scrutiny in Numbers 2024/2025 6

Snapshot of Key Achievements 2024/2025 7

Select Committees..... 9

8. Select Committees in 2024/25 9

9. Select Committees identified for 2025/26..... 9

Call-in of Decisions 10

10. Call-ins 10

Community Involvement..... 11

11. Community involvement in 2024/25..... 11

12. How to get involved in scrutiny..... 11

Appendix I - Topic List 12

Scrutiny Management Board agenda items..... 12

Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel agenda items 12

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel agenda items 12

Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel agenda items 13

Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel agenda items 13

Appendix II - Key Recommendation Digest 14

Scrutiny Management Board recommendations 14

Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel recommendations 15

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel recommendations..... 16

Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel recommendations..... 17

Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel recommendations..... 17

Key Information About Scrutiny

The operation of scrutiny

1.1. In 2024/25 Scrutiny was undertaken by the:

- **Scrutiny Management Board**
Councillor John Stephens: Chair
- **Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel**
Councillor Lee Finn: Chair
- **Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel**
Councillor Pauline Murphy: Chair
- **Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel**
Councillor Zoe Reilly: Chair
- **Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel**
Councillor Ian Darcy: Chair

1.2. Scrutiny Panels met regularly, and were overseen by the Scrutiny Management Board.

1.3. Residents and stakeholders were able to get involved by:

- Attending public meetings;
- Giving evidence to one of the Panels or Boards;
- Submitting petitions for scrutiny debate;
- Sending in comments about a review.

Scrutiny's role

2.1. The aims of the scrutiny process are to:

- Add value to Council's business and decision-making;
- Hold the Cabinet to account;
- Monitor the budget and performance of services;
- Assist the Council in the development of policies and review the effectiveness of the implementation of these policies;
- Review relevant Central Government policy development and legislation to assess the impact on the City and make recommendations to Cabinet.

Meetings

3.1. Meetings of scrutiny panels:

- Are open to the public to attend, and are webcast live to [YouTube](#);
- Typically last 2-3 hours;
- Meet regularly (during the daytime and evenings);
- Have a formal structure, but are run in an accessible way;
- Papers are published on the [Council's website](#).

Snapshot of Scrutiny in 2024/2025

Changes to the Scrutiny Panel's structure

- 4.1. In 2024-2025, the Scrutiny Management Board was formally re-introduced as an addition to Plymouth City Council's other four Scrutiny Panels. The Board is comprised of 11 councillors, including the Chairs of each of the four panels. It has provided new direction and oversight of the Council's scrutiny function, ensuring scrutiny is appropriately scheduled and undertaken across all aspects of the Council's work. While acting as a platform for the strategic work-programming and coordination of scrutiny, the Board also has scrutinised pertinent items within its own Terms of Reference and hosted the annual Budget Scrutiny sessions.
- 4.2. Changes were made to the titles and remit of the four existing Scrutiny Panels. The changes aligned the new scrutiny structure and cabinet member portfolios. The following name changes were made:
 - Performance, Finance and Customer Focus Overview and Scrutiny Committee changed to **Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel**
 - Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee changed to **Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel**
 - Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee changed to **Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel**
 - Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee changed to **Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel**

Focusing on the issues that matter

- 5.1. The Scrutiny Management Board delivered oversight on finance, risk and policy, considering regular budget monitoring, financial strategy, and Corporate Plan performance reports, as well as the Strategic Risk Log. It played a key part in pre-decision scrutiny, e.g. examining pertinent ad-hoc issues within its terms of reference including the re-procurement of DELT Shared Services, the English Devolution White Paper and responding to motions on notice referred by City Council (MoN-Achieving Value for Money from Council Assets & MoN-Capital Funding for the Plymouth Airports Site). The Scrutiny Management Board also delivered the annual Budget Scrutiny function, conducting two thorough days of Budget Scrutiny on 21 and 22 January 2025.
- 5.2. The Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel have embraced their new remit, conducting pre-decision scrutiny of Bereavement Services, Homelessness and Household Waste/Recycling, and scrutinising corporate policy developments including the Customer Services Strategy. The Panel also scrutinised progress of the Central Park Ponds scheme following the receipt of a public petition, facilitating public engagement in scrutiny meetings.
- 5.3. The Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel closely monitored the performance of Children's Services, both in terms of outcomes for children, and the costs of the service. It scrutinised the progress of the Improvement Plan and service developments, including the Local Area SEND Improvement Plan, Children, Young People and Families Service Improvement plan, and Achieving Excellence (A Strategy for Children's Services 2024 – 27). The Panel also scrutinised topical issues such as Inclusive Practice to address exclusions and suspensions in Plymouth, Elective

Home Education, Early Help and the Young Female Violence Prevention Programme. Throughout the year, the Panel have welcomed attendance from Youth Parliament members ensuring children and young people are involved in service decisions which directly affected them.

- 5.4. The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel has continued to undertake its health scrutiny duty in the context of the NHS in recovery, providing oversight of health services in Plymouth and clinical services across the peninsula. The Panel played a pivotal role in the NHS' policy development during consultation on the Peninsula Acute Sustainability Programme, and has scrutinised preparations for winter capacity challenges, the Integrated Care Board's (ICB) financial position, Adult Social Care performance and risk, and the 'Right Care Right Person' initiative. The Panel also maintained its scrutiny of End of Life Care, and examined topical issues including Maternity and Neonatal Care, Primary Care, and Armed Forces General Practise (GP) and Dental provision.
- 5.5. In a busy year for city development and re-generation, the Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel continued to scrutinise key economic developments and programmes including the National Marine Park, Freeport, and Heat Networks Delivery. The Panel contributed to key strategies including the Creative Industries Plan, Culture Plan, Plymouth Ports Strategy and Plymouth Economic Strategy, and brought partners together to explore Weather Drainage and Wastewater Management Solutions. The Panel also scrutinised the Future Skills Strategy, promoting the expansion of high value jobs within the city.
- 5.6. A full list of the topics considered by scrutiny are available in Appendix I.

Pre-briefings and work planning

- 6.1. Regular briefings enabled strong member engagement and focussed debate along key lines of questioning. Appreciation is given to members and officers that have taken part in briefings on:
- Suicide Prevention
 - Right Care Right Person Initiative
 - Unauthorised Encampments
 - Brand Strategy
 - Elective Home Education
 - Unpaid Carers
 - Early Help
 - Child Exploitation

Scrutiny in Numbers 2024/2025

174 reports have been provided to the scrutiny panels from Council Officers and partners.
(A 26% increase on the 2023/24 municipal year).



Members have spent 61.15 hours at scrutiny business meetings, including Budget Scrutiny.
(An 11% increase on the 2023/24 municipal year).



48 formal recommendations have been agreed by the scrutiny panels (including Budget Scrutiny)

128 actions have been requested by scrutiny panels (including requests for further information, clarification or work programming).



Snapshot of Key Achievements 2024/2025

Net Zero Action Plan

7.1. The Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel scrutinised the draft Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP) 2025-2028, prior to its submission to the City Council on 17 March 2025. The plan identified actions to tackle the direct greenhouse gas emissions of the Council, with the target of becoming a 'net zero' organisation by 2030.

- The Panel agreed to endorse the Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP) 2025-2028, which was later endorsed by City Council;
- The Panel recommended that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change developed a Climate Communications Plan, and enhanced accessibility of this information via the Plymouth City Council Website;
- The Panel recommend that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change sought to secure ratchet funding in future years, and asked the Finance department to review any future caps to ensure that money was set aside, and could be increased.

Cycling and Food Delivery in the City Centre

7.2. The Scrutiny Management Board responded to public concerns around cycling behaviour and pedestrian safety in the City Centre, bringing partners together to identify the challenges and potential measures required to ensure a safe coexistence between pedestrians and food delivery riders.

- The Board agreed to support the ongoing education and enforcement operations undertaken by Devon and Cornwall Police, and to establish a Select Committee in the new municipal year to further explore the issues;
- The Board recommended that the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board engages with members of the City Centre Company and representatives from food outlets, businesses, and delivery riders, to encourage their attendance at the future Select Committee;
- The Board recommended that the Cabinet Member for Community Safety lobbies members of Parliament for the introduction of new measures to facilitate safer cycling in the City Centre.

End of Life Care

7.3. The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel continued to advocate for better End of Life Care provision in the city, scrutinising NHS Devon's End of Life Improvement Plan, and tracking progress against recommendations issued by the Panel in the previous year.

- The Panel identified positive progress, and agreed to support partners to deliver the continued improvement and development approach being undertaken within the city;

- The Panel agreed to promote Death Literacy, advocating the importance of openly discussing death and dying to support the development of Plymouth as a compassionate city, and to thank the staff across the system working to improve End of Life Care provision;
- The Panel agreed to continue to track the performance of End of Life Care provision in the new municipal year.

Central Park Ponds Project

7.4. The Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel delivered project accountability and public reassurance, scrutinising the progress of the Central Park Ponds Project in response to a public petition.

- The Panel agreed to recommend that a comprehensive communication plan was developed, to include regular updates via multiple channels, clear signage in affected areas, and an outline of the project plan so that residents could understand the scheduled works and timelines;
- The Panel agreed to add the project to their work programme for the 2025/26 municipal year, to enable continued scrutiny of the project's timelines.

Water and Drainage

7.5. The Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel continued progress made during the Water Quality Select Committee, bringing city partners and stakeholders together to scrutinise 'Drainage and Wastewater Management in Plymouth, Now and in the Future'.

- Having scrutinised responsibilities and innovative solutions, the Panel agreed to recommend that the relevant Cabinet Member explored options to install a digital display system for water quality in the three swimming zones in Plymouth, and worked with officers in Plymouth City Council and South West Water to ensure that there was clear and consistent dialogue about the city's growth plans and the resulting impact for infrastructure;
- The Panel recommended that South West Water shared the results of air quality impact assessments and strategies to reduce odours for all sewage treatment works with the local authority.

Plymouth City Council Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Sufficiency Plan 2024-2030

7.6. The Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel have continued to champion the voice of children and young people, inviting Youth Parliament members to attend and contribute to scrutiny of Children's Services and initiatives. The Panel played a key role in scrutinising the Plymouth Children's Services Improvement Plan, ensuring progress was sustained following removal of the Improvement Notice, and conducted deep dives into SEND sufficiency, School Suspensions, and Home Schooling.

Select Committees

Select Committees in 2024/25

8.1. There were no Select Committees in the 2024/25 Municipal Year however, additional meetings were undertaken by the Scrutiny Management Board, Housing and Community Services, and Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panels to consider additional pertinent issues.

8.2. Annual Budget Scrutiny was undertaken by the Scrutiny Management Board (See Appendix 2).

Select Committees identified for 2025/26

9.1. Two proposals for Select Committee reviews were agreed in 2024/25, to be undertaken in 2025/26:

- Cycling, E-bikes and Food Delivery in the City Centre (Scrutiny Management Board)
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing of Children (Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel)

Call-in of Decisions

Call-ins

10.1. There were no call-ins in during the 2024/2025 municipal year.

Community Involvement

Scrutiny panels engaged with a wide selection of individuals, groups, organisations and communities in 2024-2025. Opportunities were offered and welcomed from members of the public at meetings. Information gathered was used to further understand the concerns and needs from communities in the city.

Community involvement in 2024/25

11.1. In 2024/25, the Scrutiny Panels have welcomed contributions from:

- Healthwatch Devon, Plymouth and Torbay
- Plymouth Youth Parliament
- Health Partners
- Marie Curie
- St Luke's Hospice
- The Environment Agency
- South West Water
- Plymouth Culture
- Plymouth and South Devon Freeport
- Plymouth Sound National Marine Park
- Livewest
- Plymouth Community Homes
- Arts University Plymouth
- Schools & Colleges
- Devon and Cornwall Police
- The Voluntary and Community Sector

How to get involved in scrutiny

- **Attend meetings** – scrutiny meetings are open to the public, and the public is welcome to come along and listen to the debate and discussion. Members of the public can also watch the webcast live via the Council's [YouTube](#) channel. *Please note that reports may be considered in private if they contain confidential information.*
- **Request a review** – for matters that the public deem for scrutiny to look at, contact can be made to the Plymouth City Council's Scrutiny team [via this online form](#).
- **Submit a petition** – for petitions that include the names, addresses and signatures of at least 2500 persons who live, work or study in Plymouth, a request may be made for a formal response to be provided at one of the Council's scrutiny panels.
- **Consultation and participation** – residents may, from time to time, be asked for their views on an issue or be invited to provide specialist knowledge they might have by being a witness in a scrutiny review.

Appendix I - Topic List

Scrutiny Management Board agenda items

- Medium Term Financial Forecast 2024/25 – 2028/29
- Budget Scrutiny Planning: Annual Scrutiny Report 2023/24
- Corporate Plan Performance and Risk Report
- The King's Speech 2024
- Committee Chairs and Work Programme Updates
- DELT Services Re-Procurement
- Finance and Capital Monitoring Report
- Strategic Risk reports 2024/25
- Training- Productive Scrutiny Meetings
- Plan for Budget Scrutiny
- Monitoring Reports
- MoN- Achieving Value for Money from Council Assets
- MoN - Capital Funding for the Plymouth Airport Site
- English Devolution White Paper
- Budget Scrutiny - Key Lines of Enquiry
- Hybrid Working
- Cycling in the City Centre
- Budget Scrutiny

Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel agenda items

- Serious Violence Duty Action Plan & Funding Proposal
- Public Toilets Update
- Street Services Performance Update
- Bereavement Services Update
- Central Park Petition - Response Report
- Household Waste and Recycling
- City Centre Car Parks
- Homelessness Position 2024, including Families, Statutory Homeless Single People and those Rough Sleeping
- Improved Public Connectivity with Plymouth City Council
- Customer Services Strategy Update
- Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Update Jan 2025
- Child Poverty Plan (Building Bridges to Opportunity)
- Public Sector Equalities Duty Compliance

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel agenda items

- Quarterly Performance & Finance Reports for H&ASC
- Risk Monitoring Report for H&ASC
- Peninsula Acute Sustainability Programme (PASP) Draft Case for Change
- Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) Performance
- Right Care Right Person Initiative
- Winter Preparations and Planning
- End of Life Care, Update

- Integrated Care Board (ICB) Finances
- Policy Brief for H&ASC
- Livewell SW Performance Report
- Care Homes Commissioning Plan
- Maternity and Neonatal Care (UHP)
- Armed Forces Friendly GPs and Dental Surgery
- Progress and Performance Review: Urgent and Emergency Care 'One Plan' & Winter preparedness.

Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel agenda items

- Transitions and Preparing for Adulthood
- Local Area SEND Improvement Plan Progress
- Pupil Place Planning Report
- Q3 2024/25 Performance Report
- Children, Young People and Families Service Quarterly Improvement Update
- Family Homes for Plymouth Children
- Young Female Violence Prevention Programme
- 2023/2024 Education Attainment in Plymouth
- Educational Attendance in Plymouth
- Alternative Provision Assurance Report
- Q2 2024/25 CYPF and EPS Performance Report
- Child Exploitation and the Philomena Protocol
- Inclusive Practice to Address Exclusions and Suspensions in Plymouth
- Elective Home Education in Plymouth
- Children, Young People and Families Service Improvement Plan 2024-25
- Q1 Progress and Impact Report
- Family Homes for Plymouth Children
- Plymouth Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2023-2024
- Early Help
- Youth Justice Service
- Plymouth City Council Special Educational needs and Disabilities Sufficiency Plan 2024-2030
- Seeking Education, Employment and Training July 2024
- Achieving Excellence - A Strategy for Children's Services 2024 - 27
- Child Exploitation Update

Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel agenda items

- Economic Intelligence and Insight
- Plymouth City Centre Company BID (2025-30)
- The Box Annual Performance Review
- Plymouth Economic Strategy - Delivery Plans
- Plymouth Ports Strategy
- Bus Services Improvement Plan 3
- Heat Networks Delivery Approach
- Freeport Annual Update
- National Marine Park Update
- Culture Plan Annual Update:
- Refresh of Skills4 Plymouth Plan
- Draft Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP) 2025-28
- Creative Industries Plan Overview
- Visitor Plan 2030 and Brand Refresh Progress Report
- South West Water Drainage and Wastewater Management Now and in the Future

Appendix II - Key Recommendation Digest

Scrutiny Management Board recommendations

28 August 2024

- Recommended to the Cabinet, that a review of the Delt Shared Services contract be undertaken in twelve months and subsequently at years 2, 4, 6 and 8, in advance of contractual break clauses;
- Recommended to the Monitoring Officer, that a mechanism should be developed within the Governance Framework for the Family of Companies, to enable the scrutiny function to oversee the Council-owned companies;
- Recommended to the Cabinet, that issues of a significant nature, such as the Delt Shared Services contract, should be made available for scrutiny discussions at the earliest opportunity.

21-22 January 2025 (Budget Scrutiny)

Following two days of comprehensive Budget Scrutiny, the Panel agreed to recommend:

- That the Section 151 Officer undertakes a comprehensive review of the working balance threshold using CIPFA best practice guidance and comparisons against the Council's statistical neighbours to determine if 5% remains appropriate given current risks;
- Subject to the advice of the Section 151 Officer, Cabinet prepares a detailed plan to rebuild the reserves within two years to provide an adequate buffer against financial risks whilst implementing a clear strategy to reduce the Council's reliance upon use of one-off resources and reserves;
- That Cabinet updates the comprehensive Medium Term Financial Strategy when multi-year funding settlements are agreed, and submits to scrutiny for consideration before the council take a final decision;
- That all significant capital schemes have a detailed risk assessment of the impact of further interest rate changes on scheme viability before proceeding;
- That Cabinet consider a Council Tax Discount scheme for Service Personnel who are deployed more than six months, in a similar fashion to Single Person Discount;
- That 6 monthly updates are provided to the relevant Scrutiny Panel on delivery of planned savings within Homelessness Services, where £0.724m additional funding has been required;
- That planned work to bring together asset management plans is considered at a future meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board and that an asset register is provided for this purpose;
- The Council should develop a comprehensive communications strategy to inform residents who are not digitally enabled about face-to-face services. This information, including service locations and operating hours, should be distributed through non-digital channels, with primary distribution through the annual Council Tax bill;
- That Cabinet consider what additional funding may be available to commemorate Victory in Europe and Victory over Japan day;
- That clear communication should be in place to ensure that residents are aware that direct cremations are available at the Park Crematorium;
- That Cabinet review the effectiveness and sustainability of demand management approaches within Adult Social Care given the £12m of additional costs identified;

- That the relevant Cabinet member works with DELT Shared Services to ensure that internet connectivity is consistent across the PCC estate, particularly in libraries to enable residents to gain access to online services;
- The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel undertakes a review of the work undertaken in the Dental Health Taskforce;
- The Panel welcomes the additional funding to process Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and that a regular update on progress against this backlog is provided to the Children Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel;
- That Cabinet review the funding model for SEND transport to determine a sustainable long term solution, including consideration of independent travel training programmes where appropriate;
- That the appropriate cabinet member writes to the Government requesting a review of criteria in relation to home to school transport. Such a review should consider whether receipt of a Motability vehicle or higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independent Payments (PIP) can be included in the Local Authority assessment of transport needs;
- That Cabinet reviews the effectiveness and sustainability of demand management approaches within Children's Services given the £19m of additional costs identified and further accelerates the use of Council assets in the approach to reduce demand on high cost placements;
- That the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships establishes a robust monitoring framework to oversee the SEND capital programme ensuring clear accountability for project milestones and progress. This should form regular reports to the Children Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel;
- That the Leader writes to Government to request that notification of the Public Health Grant is received before the 31 December 2025 to enable adequate planning in the new year's budget.

27 March 2025

- Recommended that the final draft of the Hybrid Working Policy is brought back to the Scrutiny Management Board for consideration, following consultation with the Unions and staff, and integration with the 'Peoples Strategy' currently under development;
- Recommended that Plymouth City Council support the ongoing education and enforcement operations undertaken by Devon and Cornwall Police in relation to e-bikes and food delivery riders in the City Centre;
- Recommended that a Select Committee of the Scrutiny Management Board is convened to explore further the issues of e-bikes, food delivery and cycling in the City Centre;
- Recommended that the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board engages with members of the City Centre Company, along with representatives from food outlets, businesses, and delivery riders, to encourage their attendance at a future Select Committee;
- Recommended that the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Board, in partnership with the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, writes to members of Parliament to investigate current progress, and lobby for the introduction of safer measures to facilitate safe cycling in the City Centre, particularly relating to food delivery and e-bikes (This could include new laws; accreditation schemes; licensing schemes and/or training schemes).

Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel recommendations

26 July 2024

In relation to the Serious Violence Duty Action Plan & Funding Proposal, the Panel:

- Agreed to endorse the Reduction of Violence Action Plan;
- Agreed to write a letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner, to request that funding which was distributed through their office was passed to authorities as soon as possible and prior to the start date of future projects. This was intended to reduce delays, following a delay for the Reducing Serious Violence Plymouth Project.

04 December 2024

In relation to the Central Park Ponds Petition, the Panel:

- Agreed to recommend that a comprehensive communication plan was developed to enhance communication for the park works project. This plan should include regular (at least monthly) updates via multiple channels, clear signage in affected areas, and an outline of the project plan so that residents could understand the scheduled works and timelines;
- Agreed to add the project to the Panel's work programme for the 2025/26 Municipal Year, for reconsideration.

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel recommendations

16 July 2024

- Provided feedback on the Peninsula Acute Sustainability Programme to NHS Devon, relating to the health priorities, engagement, and future needs of Plymouth, for inclusion in the Case for Change;
- Agreed to continue to monitor developments and implementation of the Right Care Right Person initiative, to provide assurance of any risks and issues that emerged through the phased introduction.

22 October 2024

In response to End of Life Care update, the Panel agreed to:

- Note the improvements made in the provision and performance of End of Life Care in Plymouth;
- Support the continued improvement and development approach being undertaken within the city, and support partners with its delivery;
- Help raise awareness of death literacy and promote the importance of talking about death, to support the development of Plymouth as a compassionate city;
- Thank the staff across the system working to improve end of life care provision.

11 February 2025

- Agreed to recommend that Livewell Southwest performance data returns for regular monitoring, and incorporates an assessment of risk for those awaiting services, and that the Panel continue to monitor ongoing improvement efforts;
- Agreed to review the progress of the Dental Taskforce, and ongoing system efforts to improve dental hygiene in Plymouth;
- Agreed to request further information regarding members of the Armed Forces' access to General Practice and dental services, as well as prioritisation for hospital care.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel recommendations

18 July 2024

- Agreed to endorse the Plymouth City Council Special Educational needs and Disabilities Sufficiency Plan 2024-2030 and proposed options for expansion of special educational provision within Plymouth to meet increasing demand;
- Agreed to endorse the Children's Services Strategic Plan, Achieving Excellence;
- Agreed to endorse the proposed milestones for the delivery of the ten Strategic Priorities implemented in Children's Services.

10 October 2024

- Recommended that Plymouth City Council collaborates with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council in the delivery of in house residential provision of Family Homes for children;
- Recommended that the Fostering Service promotes information relating to the recruitment process for foster carers and to encourages them to be champions of Fostering;
- Recommended that the Chair of the Plymouth Children's Safeguarding Board writes to faith groups in the City, encouraging them to become part of the Board;
- Recommended that a member briefing on Early Help be arranged, providing information around the support and offer available within Plymouth's communities.

06 February 2025

- Recommended that ongoing Transitions work was discussed with the Plymouth Parent Carer Voice Service to ensure the work being undertaken was not to the detriment of children and young people in Plymouth, and would not overwhelm them;
- Recommended that discussions were undertaken between the Council and health colleagues to ascertain whether the Oliver McGowan training should become part of the mandatory training offered for SEND Practitioners;
- Recommended that a letter was written to the relevant minister, asking them to review why it was not a criminal offence to record and upload incidents of violence;
- Recommended that Children's services undertake a review of the Holiday and Food Programme to evaluate whether activities were sufficient.

Natural Infrastructure and Growth Scrutiny Panel recommendations

17 July 2025

- Agreed to support the principles and overall approach of the Plymouth City Centre Company BID and its draft Business Plan for 2025 to 2030.

29 October 2024

In relation to the Plymouth Economic Strategy Delivery Plans, the Panel agreeEndorse the approach and the titles of the 4 proposed delivery plans:

- a. Heart of the City
- b. The Waterfront and Maritime
- c. The North of the City
- d. Defence and Devonport;

- Endorse the approach that these delivery plans would be refreshed every 3 years in order to accurately reflect the current investment priorities of the city, and that they would prioritise projects already in train;
- Endorse that we will develop a pipeline and bring forward new projects.

In relation to the 2024 Plymouth Bus Service Improvement Plan, the Panel agreed to:

- Note the changes to the 2024 Plymouth Bus Service Improvement Plan and endorse the subsequent requirement to refresh the Plymouth Enhanced Partnership Plan;
- Endorse the proposed stakeholder engagement which would inform future Bus Service Improvement Plans.

In relation to the Heat Networks Delivery Approach, the Panel agreed to:

- Support the zonal approach to Heat Network roll out in Plymouth, as set out in the report, and approved by Cabinet on 9th September 2024;
- Support the procurement of a development partner to take forward these proposals to delivery through the Business Case;
- Support the application for Government Green Heat Network Fund grant towards this through the Business Case.

12 February 2025

In relation to the Plymouth City Council Net Zero Action Plan 2025- 2028, the Panel agreed to:

- Support and endorse the Plymouth City Council Net Zero Action Plan 2025- 2028;
- Recommend that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change develop a Climate Communications Plan, to include making information more accessible via the Plymouth City Council Website;
- Recommend that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change seek to secure ratchet funding in future years and to ask Finance to review any future caps to ensure the money was set aside and could be added to.

In relation to the Visitor Plan 2030 and Brand refresh, the Panel agreed to:

- Continue to support the work of Destination Plymouth to lead delivery of the Visitor Plan and emerging new brand strategy working with wider City stakeholders and partners;
- Support the continuing transition to a broader remit growing and positioning the City's 'place' brand going forwards;
- Recognise the continued significant achievements of the Destination Plymouth, Plymouth City Council, BID and partnership teams in supporting the sector and moving the brand strategy forwards;
- Endorse the adoption of a city-wide brand strategy and new narratives to position Plymouth as a place to 'live, work and visit';
- Ask the Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications to continue supporting Destination Plymouth by lobbying Government for continued funding.

2 April 2025

In relation to Drainage and Wastewater management in Plymouth, now and in the Future, the Panel agreed to:

- Recommend that the relevant cabinet member enquired about a digital display system for water quality in the three swimming zones in Plymouth following up on a similar recommendation made during Water Quality Select Committee;
- Recommend that the relevant cabinet member worked with officers at PCC and South West Water (SWW) to ensure that there was clear and consistent dialogue about the growth plans for the city and the possible impacts on SWW infrastructure;
- Recommend to South West Water that the results of air quality impact assessments and strategies to reduce odours for all sewage treatment works (if appropriate) were shared with the local authority (including Panel members).