

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY			
MEETING OF THE:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
DATE:	23 JULY 2026	REPORT NO:	MO/13/2627
PRESENTING OFFICER	MONITORING OFFICER, RIA GROVES		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	MONITORING OFFICER, RIA GROVES	REPORT AUTHOR:	MONITORING OFFICER, RIA GROVES
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, GED SHERIDAN STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT)		
TITLE OF REPORT:	SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PLAN 2026/2027		

APPENDICES:	APPENDIX A: SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PLAN 2026/27
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Purpose of Report

1. To request that Members review the Scrutiny Forward Work Plan for 2026/27

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that Members;
 - a) review the proposed Scrutiny Forward Work Plan 2026/27; and
 - b) recommend the Scrutiny Forward Work Plan in Appendix A be submitted to the Authority (or another Committee as appropriate) for approval

Introduction and Background

3. To support the development of the new Scrutiny Forward Work Plan for 2026/27, a Scrutiny Workshop was held on 8th July 2026 involving the Monitoring Officer and the Assistant Chief Fire Officer along with Members of the Scrutiny Committee. During the workshop, a range of potential scrutiny topics were discussed and assessed against the Authority's strategic priorities. The discussion informed the proposed Scrutiny Forward Work Plan presented for Members' consideration in Appendix A.
4. Further to the Annual General Meeting on 11th June 2026, Members also agreed the scrutiny topic of 'Management of Contaminants' would be carried over from the previous Scrutiny Forward Work Plan 2025/26.
5. The proposed Scrutiny Forward Work Plan 2026/27 therefore includes the carried forward scrutiny item relating to the management of contaminants, together with a

number of new scrutiny topics identified during the workshop. The Scrutiny Forward Work Plan is intended to provide Members with the opportunity to scrutinise key areas during 2026/27.

Equality and Diversity Implications

6. There are no direct equality and diversity implications for the proposed Scrutiny Forward Work Plan and no requirement for an equality impact assessment. However, the scrutiny topic itself may have an equality impact assessment or one will be drafted if necessary if the scrutiny topic is at inception stage.

Staff Implications

7. The staff from the relevant department would produce the report on the scrutiny topic for Members to scrutinise.

Legal Implications

8. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

9. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Risk Management and Health & Safety Implications

10. There are no direct risk management and health & safety implications arising out of this report. However, as the Scrutiny Forward Work Plan contains topics which may include actions taken by the Authority that can affect the Authority's risk management and health & safety, any potential impacts will be addressed within the relevant scrutiny topic as it is scrutinised.

Environmental Implications

11. Any potential environmental impacts will be addressed within the relevant scrutiny topic as it is scrutinised.

Contribution to Our Vision: *To be the best Fire & Rescue Service in the UK.*

Our Purpose: *Here to serve, Here to protect, Here to keep you safe.*

12. The Scrutiny Forward Work Plan provides a transparent and accountable framework for reviewing the Service's activities, supporting continuous improvement and helping to ensure Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service delivers its Vision and its purpose of serving, protecting and keeping communities safe.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NONE

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

NONE