

Report for the Scrutiny Leadership Board Scrutiny Assembly Meeting, 12th October 2009

- The Scrutiny Assembly Meeting with the Leader and Chief Executive has been confirmed for 12th October, 6.00-8.00pm in the VIP Suite. Cllr. Andrew Eade and Victor Brownlees have confirmed their attendance.
- The Scrutiny Assembly has been advised of the details and asked to confirm attendance.
- The meeting will take a “Question Time” format, chaired by Cllr. Derek White. There will be no formal presentations.
- The meeting will include asking 4 or 5 pre-agreed questions with an opportunity for members to ask supplementary questions. In addition the session will also allow for additional questions on other issues to be raised by members attending on the night. The Scrutiny Assembly have been invited to put forward their suggested questions for consideration and selection by the Scrutiny Leadership Board.
- The idea behind agreeing questions in advance is to make sure that the questions put are of a sufficiently strategic and challenging nature and to avoid the pitfall of questions being too parochial or relating to individual ward issues. The combination of pre-agreed and open questions should focus the meeting on issues of future strategic importance while allowing scope for members to ask questions about issues of concern to them.
- The suggested layout is theatre style to minimise distracting talk across tables and so that everyone is facing the panel.
- The Scrutiny Leadership Board will need to decide the following:
 1. Whether they are happy with the format as outlined above and whether they have any other suggestions.
 2. Whether the pre-agreed questions should be given in advance to Andrew Eade and Victor Brownlees. The advantage of doing this is to allow them to prepare relevant information in advance to give a more substantive answer to questions.
 3. To select the questions they would like to ask. If there is insufficient response from the Scrutiny Assembly members, then the SLB will need to agree some questions themselves.