

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD – 16th MAY 2014

2012/13-2013/14 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME – END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE MONITORING

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY TEAM

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to provide information to enable the Scrutiny Management Board to monitor the performance of the scrutiny function and scrutiny team in delivering the 2012-2014 scrutiny work programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Scrutiny Management Board note the report

2.2 That the Scrutiny Management Board make resolutions or recommendations arising from information contained in the report.

3. BACKGROUND

In July 2012 the Scrutiny Management Board agreed to set a two year work programme for the period 2012/13-2013/14. Issues for the work programme were selected in accordance with the process set out in the Scrutiny Handbook and in-year revisions were agreed by the scrutiny committees as deemed necessary to respond to changing circumstances or events.

In May 2013 the Scrutiny Management Board received an interim report to reflect progress at the mid-point. The 2012/13 Scrutiny Annual Report reflected the achievements of 2012/13 and was presented to Full Council in July 2013. This report presents performance monitoring information over the two year period with a focus on achievements during 2013/14.

4. 2012/13-2013/14 WORK PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE MONITORING

4.1 Delivery of the Work Programme

The table below shows the items selected for the 2012/13-2013/14 work programme and what was delivered in each year. Items in *italic* were added in-year and not included in previous reports.

Topic	2012/13	2013/14
SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD		
Holding the Executive to Account (standing item)	G	G
Scrutiny Chairs' Updates (standing item)	G	G
Changing the Council & Local Communities Together- the Co-operative Way	G	n/a
Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Police & Crime Panel (PCP) update and budgets	G	G

Topic	2012/13	2013/14
Domestic Violence	R	G
<i>Community Safety Plan</i>	n/a	G
Homelessness Strategy	R	G
Flood & Water Management	R	G
Appointment of Town & Parish Council co-optees	G	n/a
Scrutiny Recommendations Database	A	A
Managing cross-cutting issues	G	n/a
Changes to the Constitution and Scrutiny Handbook from changes to legislation	A	G
BUDGET & FINANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
Service & Financial Planning Strategy (budget proposals) (standing item)	G	G
Service & Financial Planning Report – 2011/12 Outturn	G	n/a
Local Government Finance: Business Rates Retention, New Homes Bonus etc.	G	n/a
Capital receipts (Audit Committee)	G	n/a
Savings proposals agreed September 2012	G	n/a
New Funding Formula for Schools	G	n/a
Welfare Benefit Reform policies (with Co-operative & Communities)	G	G
Safeguarding and Early Intervention Cost Improvement Plan, and Securing Permanency report	G	G
Items agreed for 2013/14: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget proposals • 2012/13 Outturn report • MD's response to comments on the budget 	R	G
<i>Opposition group alternative budget proposals</i>	n/a	G
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
Children in Care Placement Strategy (in-depth review)	G	n/a
Provision of Primary School Places (in-depth review)	A	G
Youth Offending Service	R	G
Ofsted action plan (Safeguarding and LAC)	G	G
Ofsted action plan (Fostering)	G	G
CIC Performance Monitoring Dashboard	G	G
Education attainment	G	G
Youth Unemployment (In-depth review Youth Services)	R	A
LCSB briefing	G	R
Early Intervention programmes (in-depth review)	R	R
<i>Leaving Care Grant</i>	n/a	G
<i>Care Placement Budget (with Budget & Finance)</i>	n/a	G
<i>Feedback from LGA Peer Review</i>	n/a	G
<i>Monitor implementation of recommendations incl:</i>	n/a	G

Topic	2012/13	2013/14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>IRO Annual Report</i> • <i>Outcomes from Queensway Care Contract</i> • <i>Missing children return interviews</i> 		
<i>School Improvement</i>	n/a	G
CO-OPERATIVE & COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
Co-operative Council updates	G	
Welfare Benefit Reforms: Council Tax Support Scheme Discretionary Housing Payments Local Crisis and Resettlement Assistance	G	G
Welfare Benefit Reforms: How the Council and partners are supporting people through changes	A	n/a
First Point for Business update	G	n/a
Impact of changes to leisure concessions policy	G	n/a
In-depth review of Co-operative Values and Employee Commission	A	G
Provision of debt advice, role of credit union, capacity of food banks	R	G
<i>Implications of the withdrawal the Local Crisis Assistance and Resettlement Assistance funding</i>	n/a	G
<i>Support for Adults with Learning Disability who have had their benefit sanctioned</i>	n/a	G
<i>Impact of recommendations on the Management of Community Centres</i>	n/a	G
HEALTH & ADULT CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
Continuing Healthcare	G	A
Meals on Wheels	A	G
Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	R	
Public Health Transition	A	A
Alcohol Strategy	R	G
Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Board Annual Report	R	G
Standing item: Health and Social Care Policy Developments (including changes to Health Scrutiny)	G	G
JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
Travel and Transport Plan	A	G
Stroke Review	A	G
West Midlands Ambulance Service and Make Ready	A	A
Reconfiguration of Hospital Services	A	G
111 Service	A	G
Ophthalmology	G	n/a
SaTH Foundation Trust Application	A	n/a

Topic	2012/13	2013/14
Relocation of Head and Neck Surgery	G	n/a
Children's Surgery	A	G
Emergency Department Review	A	A
End of Life Care	R	R
HOUSING, ECONOMY & INFRASTRUCTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
Waste Services Procurement process	A	G
Empty Properties and Private Landlords (in-depth)	A	G
S106 / CIL (<i>deferred</i> in line with Shaping Places)	R	R
Business Improvement Districts and attracting jobs to Telford & Wrekin (<i>deferred</i> to next municipal year)	R	R
Car Parking Enforcement and 20mph speed limits outside schools (<i>deferred</i> until 2016)	R	R
Questions to Cabinet member for holding to account session	G	n/a
<i>Shaping Places consultation process</i>	n/a	G

- G** Item has been to scrutiny including where further work was identified
A Item under way and partially completed
R Item outstanding or deferred beyond the period of the work programme

4.2 Scrutiny Meetings

The Scrutiny Management Board set a benchmark of six formal meetings per committee per year. The scrutiny committees hold as many meetings as possible in public session in the interests of transparency and public involvement. However, members may hold informal working group meetings to gather evidence as part of a scrutiny review.

The table below shows the number of meetings held by each committee in 2012/13 and 2013/14 and the total over the period. Joint meetings have been accredited to the lead Scrutiny Committee to avoid duplication of counting.

Committee	Benchmark total	Formal committee 2012/13	Working group 2012/13	Formal committee 2013/14	Working group 2013/14	Total
Scrutiny Management Board	12	6	0	4	2	12
Budget & Finance	12	7	0	7	1	15
Children & Young People	12	6	4	7	4	21
Co-operative & Communities	12	4	4	3	1	12
Health & Adult Care and Joint HOSC	12	8	11	7	4	30
Housing, Economy & Infrastructure	12	1	5	2	6	14
Total	72	32 ¹	24	30 ²	18	104

¹ 5 were joint meetings with other scrutiny committees

² 5 were joint meetings with other scrutiny committees

Not reported in the table are:

- Meetings carried out by individuals or groups of members to gather evidence for a review e.g.
 - over 30 staff interviews carried out by members of the Co-operative & Communities Scrutiny Committee
 - interviews with Meals on Wheels service users by members of the Health & Adult Care Scrutiny Committee
- Other council meetings attended by scrutiny members to avoid duplication of work e.g. Budget & Finance scrutiny members attended Audit Committee for an item on capital receipts.
- Chair's briefings with officers from partner organisations and NHS partners
- Scrutiny Chair "Keep in Touch" meetings with Cabinet Members and senior Council officers
- Regional and national scrutiny network meetings e.g. West Midlands Overview & Scrutiny Network, West Midlands Health Scrutiny Network, National Overview & Scrutiny Forum.

4.3 Outcomes from Scrutiny Reviews

The tables in the preceding sections are quantitative measures of activity. The table below attempts to show the qualitative outcomes of scrutiny work. The indicators used are all measures of effective scrutiny. The table includes work carried out during 2013/14 only. Outcomes from work carried out in 2012/13 were reported in the previous report and in the 2012/13 Annual Scrutiny Report. Items in *italic* are where outcome are not known at the time of writing this report.

Topic	Recommendations to Cabinet / Council	Recommendations to other organisation	Recommendations to service area	Contributed to policy development	Executive held to account	Performance monitoring	Report noted	Involvement of partners	Involvement of service users or public	Other
Scrutiny Management Board										
Holding the Executive to Account					Y					
<i>PCC and PCP update and budgets</i>										
<i>Domestic Violence</i>										
<i>Community Safety Plan</i>										
Homelessness Strategy				Y				Y		Responded to consultation
Flood & Water Management			Y			Y	Y			
Scrutiny Chairs' Updates						Y				(Scrutiny performance)

Topic	Recommendations to Cabinet / Council	Recommendations to other organisation	Recommendations to service area	Contributed to policy development	Executive held to account	Performance monitoring	Report noted	Involvement of partners	Involvement of service users or public	Other
Scrutiny Recommendations Database										Outstanding
Budget & Finance Scrutiny Committee										
Safeguarding and Early Intervention Cost Improvement Plan, and Securing Permanency report					Y	Y	Y			
Cabinet response to comment on the budget					Y					
MD's response to comments on the budget - the Way Forward			Y			Y	Y			
2012/13 Outturn report							Y			
Care Placement costs (with CYP)	Y					Y				
Service & Financial Planning Strategy 2014/15-2015/16 (budget proposals)	Y				Y					
Opposition group alternative budget proposals										Written response to Council
Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee										
Provision of Primary School Places (in-depth review)	Y					Y		Y	Y	
Youth Offending Service						Y				
Ofsted action plan (Safeguarding and LAC)						Y				
Ofsted action plan (Fostering)						Y				
CIC Performance Monitoring Dashboard						Y				
Education attainment						Y				
Youth Unemployment (In-depth review Youth Services)										On-going
LCSB briefing										Outstanding
Early Intervention										Outstanding

Topic	Recommendations to Cabinet / Council	Recommendations to other organisation	Recommendations to service area	Contributed to policy development	Executive held to account	Performance monitoring	Report noted	Involvement of partners	Involvement of service users or public	Other
programmes (in-depth review)										
Leaving Care Grant	Y		Y	Y		Y				
Feedback from LGA Peer Review					Y	Y				
Implementation of recommendations on care placement strategy incl: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRO Annual Report Outcomes from Queensway Care Contract Missing children return interviews 						Y				Good Scrutiny Award submission
School Improvement						Y				Further work to be agreed
Co-operative & Communities Scrutiny Committee										
Welfare Benefit Reforms (with Budget & Finance) Council Tax Support Scheme Discretionary Housing Payments Local Crisis and Resettlement Assistance	Y					Y				
In-depth review of Co-operative Values and Employee Commission	Y		Y			Y			Y	
<i>Provision of debt advice, role of credit union, capacity of food banks</i>										
<i>Support for Adults with Learning Disability who have had their benefit sanctioned</i>										
Monitoring implementation of recommendations on the Management of Community Centres						Y				Good Scrutiny Award submission
Health & Adult Care Scrutiny Committee										

Topic	Recommendations to Cabinet / Council	Recommendations to other organisation	Recommendations to service area	Contributed to policy development	Executive held to account	Performance monitoring	Report noted	Involvement of partners	Involvement of service users or public	Other
Continuing Healthcare	Y	Y			Y			Y	Y	
Meals on Wheels		Y	Y	Y				Y	Y	
Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)										Outstanding
Public Health Transition										Ongoing
Alcohol Strategy								Y		
Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Board Annual Report					Y					
Standing item: Health and Social Care Policy Developments (including changes to Health Scrutiny)	Y									
Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee										
Travel and Transport Plan					Y					
Stroke Review					Y					
West Midlands Ambulance Service and Make Ready					Y					
Reconfiguration of Hospital Services					Y					Good Scrutiny Award submission
111 Service					Y					
Ophthalmology										
SaTH Foundation Trust Application										
Relocation of Head and Neck Surgery										
Children's Surgery					Y					
Emergency Department Review										Incorporated into work of Future Fit Programme
End of Life Care										
Housing, Economy & Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee										
Waste Services Procurement process						Y				Input into development of service specification

Topic	Recommendations to Cabinet / Council	Recommendations to other organisation	Recommendations to service area	Contributed to policy development	Executive held to account	Performance monitoring	Report noted	Involvement of partners	Involvement of service users or public	Other
Empty Properties and Private Landlords (in-depth)	Y		Y					Y		
S106 / Community Infrastructure Levy										Outstanding due to deferral
Business Improvement Districts and attracting jobs to Telford & Wrekin (deferred to next municipal year)										Outstanding due to deferral
Car Parking Enforcement and 20mph speed limits outside schools										Outstanding due to deferral
Shaping Places consultation process			Y							

4.4 Scrutiny Recommendations

A key measure of success is the number of scrutiny recommendations accepted. The table below summarises the number of recommendations made, the number of recommendations accepted, partially accepted or rejected and a list of the formal responses submitted as part of consultations or policy development. Not shown in the table are the numerous informal suggestions made by scrutiny to Cabinet members or officers during discussions at meetings which are not monitored but may nonetheless have had an impact.

Summary of Recommendations 2012/13-2013/14						
Recommendation made to:	Made	Accepted	Rejected	Partially accepted	Awaiting response	Unknown
Cabinet	55	29 (53%)	2 (4%)	13 (23%)	11 (20%)	
SMT / service area	8	7	0	0	0	1
Employees	1	0	0	0	0	1
Scrutiny	2	2	0	0	0	
External organisations	25				25	
Total	91	38 (42%)	2 (2%)	13 (14%)	36 (40%)	2 (2%)
Formal responses to consultations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Tax Support Scheme • Discretionary Housing Payment Policy • Local Crisis Assistance and Resettlement Assistance • Council Tax Transition Grant • Service & Financial Planning Strategy 2013/14-2014/15 • Service & Financial Planning Strategy 2014/15-2015/16 • Main Opposition Group Budget Proposals 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness Strategy • Shaping Places Consultation Process • Quality Accounts for Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, West Midlands Ambulance Service, Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust and South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare Foundation Trust.
--	--

4.5 Regional and National Scrutiny Network

Telford & Wrekin is a member of two regional scrutiny networks:

a) West Midlands Overview & Scrutiny Network

The network is for members and officers across the region to exchange information on policy changes affecting scrutiny and to share views and experience on scrutiny related issues. The network has no formal standing as a joint scrutiny committee but has started to make its mark nationally for its pioneering work.

Cllr. Derek White was appointed Chair in 2013/14 and reappointed in 2014/15. His priority has been to increase the influence of the network (and local government scrutiny) at national level by linking into the Parliamentary Select Committees. Over the past 12 months the network has worked with the Parliamentary Outreach Officer to identify and develop routes to influence. In November 2013 Telford & Wrekin welcomed David Natzler, Director General of Chamber and Committee Services at Parliament, to a network meeting to discuss ways for the network to link into the work of the Select Committees. A submission from the network to a Health Select Committee Inquiry on Public Expenditure on Health and Social Care provided a useful case study to identify learning points for the future.

Cllr. White represents the regional network on the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) National Overview & Scrutiny Forum, taking the practice from the regional network into a national forum.

Cllr. White will continue to focus on this priority during 2014/15.

b) Regional Health Scrutiny Chairs and Officers Group

This is a mature network which has been operating for a number of years and meets quarterly. Its purpose is to provide a forum for national and regional health bodies and policy makers to inform scrutiny about proposals and consultations affecting health services in the West Midlands. It is also a forum for discussing and exchanging views between member authorities.

Cllr. Derek White attended all of the meetings in 2013/14. The information is used to inform the work of the Health & Adult Care Scrutiny Committee and the Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

4.6 Good Scrutiny Awards

The Scrutiny Management Board selected 3 pieces of scrutiny work for submission to the 2014 CfPS Good Scrutiny Awards. The Board selected work which it was felt reflected best the impact of scrutiny on services for local people. These are:

- a) Systems Leadership by the Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

- b) Scrutiny of the children in care placement strategy including costs, and care leavers, by the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee with Budget & Finance
- c) The impact of the scrutiny recommendations on the Management of the Community Centres by the Co-operative & Communities Scrutiny Committee.

Shortlisted submissions will be announced on 19th May and the Board will be updated by e-mail.

4.7 Call-in and Key Decisions

a) Call-in

Call-in is a way for scrutiny members to examine a decision taken by Cabinet, or by officers under delegated authority, before the decision is implemented. The rules for calling in decisions are set out in the Council's Constitution and in the Scrutiny Handbook.

There were no Call-in requests during 2013/14.

b) Key Decisions

Provisions in the Localism Act 2011 require that:

- Where a Key Decision is not published with 28 clear working days notice, the relevant Scrutiny Chair must be notified of the decision to be taken, or
- Where a Key Decision is not published with 5 clear working days notice, consent must be sought from the relevant Scrutiny Chair for the decision to be taken, or
- Where a decision contains information exempt under legislation and at least 28 clear days notice has not been given, consent must be sought from the relevant Scrutiny Chair for the report to be exempted.

One request was made during 2013/14:

- Notification of exemption of Cabinet report 30th January 2014, Voice, Data and Wide Area Network Procurement. Cllr. Derek White was notified as chair of the Scrutiny Management Board.

5. SCRUTINY TEAM

There were no changes to the Scrutiny Team during 2013/14.

Report prepared by:

Fiona Bottrill, Scrutiny Group Specialist: 01952 383113

Stephanie Jones, Scrutiny Officer: 01952 383114