

Report of the Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee

October 2016

1. This report is submitted by the Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee (CSMC), in accordance with the constitutional requirements set out in Standing Order 8.3 (m) to update Council on scrutiny work and to set out any recommendations such as may be made to Council in relation to that work.

Finance and performance

2. Since the last report to Council on 21 July 2016, CSMC considered their end of year Finance and Performance monitoring report on 25th July 2016. Since then CSMC and the four standing scrutiny committees have all received the 1st quarter Finance and Performance monitoring reports.

Attendance of Executive Members

3. The Executive Member for Finance and Performance attended the July meeting of CSMC to inform Members of his priorities and challenges for the current municipal year while the Executive Leader and Deputy Leader attended the September CSMC meeting to update members on progress in implementing the 12-Point Policy Plan. The Executive Member for Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods attended the Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee meeting in September 2016 to outline his priorities and challenges for this municipal year.

Pre-Decision Call-ins

4. Only CSMC has considered a pre-decision call-in since the last report to Council. In October the committee considered a called-in item on Park & Ride Service Operator Procurement ahead of it going to the Executive.

Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee

Call-ins

5. Since the last report to Council CSMC has had one called-in item. In July 2016 Members considered a decision by the Executive Member for Transport and Planning over the Better Bus Area Fund – Clarence Street Bus Improvement Scheme. The decision of the Executive Member was confirmed.

Petitions

6. At each of its meetings, CSMC continues to receive its standing report on Council petitions providing details of new petitions received by the Council and the appropriate course of action.

Scrutiny Work

7. CSMC has met twice since the last report to Council. In July, the Committee received update reports on procurement activity and future ways of working in scrutiny and an overview report on electoral organisation. Members agreed to form a Task Group to carry out a scrutiny review into electoral organisation. In September the Committee considered two scoping reports – One Planet York and Peer Challenge – and agreed to appoint a Task Group to review ways of supporting the work of One Planet York.

Communities & Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee

8. The Committee has met once since the last report to Council. In September the Committee received a presentation from North Yorkshire County Council on the progress with developing Allerton Waste Recovery Park, and a presentation from the Environment Agency on the plans for upgrading the city's flood defences. In addition, work on the scrutiny review examining the allocation of ward budgets continues. The Task Group has consulted all Members on the process and the barriers which may have limited their progress to date with allocating funding. The Task Group also intend consulting with a range of community groups, voluntary organisations and other stakeholders in order to gather their views.

Economic Development and Transport Policy & Scrutiny Review

9. This committee has met once since the last report to Council. In September the York Business Improvement District (BID) manager attended to brief Members on the intentions and early successes of the scheme. Members agreed the final report into the Protecting Grass Verges Scrutiny Review and received an update on the scrutiny review into the Impact of the Arts and Culture Sectors on the Economy of York and a feasibility report on a modal shift to sustainable transport in the city.

Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee.

10. This Committee has met once since the last report to Council. In September Members received a report on change of services at Archways Intermediate Care Unit and an update report on the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group's turnaround and recovery plans. Members also agreed the final report and recommendations from the scrutiny review into the Bootham Park Hospital closure.

Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee

11. This Committee has also met once since the last report to Council. In September Members received their bi-annual update on the work of York's Safeguarding Board. They also received an interim report on their ongoing Tour de France Scrutiny Review, allocating a new member to the Task Group in place of Cllr Taylor. Finally, they considered progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations from their previously completed scrutiny review of disabled access to York's heritage & cultural offer.
12. In regard to the Committee's ongoing reviews, work continues on the Committee's scrutiny review of Play i.e. ways of improving play opportunities across the city and identifying ways of enabling communities to bring forward potential schemes. So far, the Task Group has examined a number of recently completed schemes, looking at the various ways in which those schemes were managed and progressed, and received initial feedback from a recent consultation undertaken by Shine examining what children, young people, parents and carers want in relation to play opportunities.