
ARTICLE 6 - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

1 Role and Function of Overview and Scrutiny

1.1 Effective scrutiny offers non-executive members the opportunity to propose policy changes, suggest improvements, commend good practice, involve communities and **take a leadership role on issues of significant concern in local areas**. The Council will appoint the following Policy Overview and Scrutiny bodies to discharge the functions conferred by section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000:

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- Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management & Policy Committee

Standing Policy & Scrutiny Committees

- Economy & Place Policy and Scrutiny Committee
- Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee
- Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee
- Housing & Community Safety Policy & Scrutiny Committee
- Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

1.2 The common functions and individual terms of reference for each of the Policy & Scrutiny Committees are set out in Part 3C of this Constitution.

1.3 All Councillors, except Members of the Executive, may be members of a scrutiny committee. However, no Councillor may be involved in scrutinising a decision in which he or she has been directly involved.

1.4 Any efficiency reviews undertaken by a Standing Policy & Scrutiny Committee should:

- **be outcome focused and reflect the Council's corporate priorities;**

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- challenge assumptions about the Council's operational processes;
- ensure all feasible options for the future delivery of services are explored and appraised;
- encourage the involvement of interested parties and external partners;
- make relevant recommendations to the Executive or Council

1.5 For further information on how scrutiny fits into the Council's committee structure see Part 1 of this Constitution ~~or the 'How City of York Council Makes its Decisions' leaflet.~~

2 Impartiality

2.1 When considering any matter as a member of a Scrutiny body the party whip will not be exercised.

Note: the Party whip is defined as any instruction given by or on behalf of a political group to any Councillor who is a Member of that group as to how that Councillor shall speak or vote on any matter before the Council and any committee or sub-committee or the application or threat to apply any sanction by the group in respect of that Councillor should he or she speak or vote in any particular manner.