

# **Scrutiny Report to Council 17 July 2014**

## **Report of the Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee**

1. This report is submitted by the Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee, in accordance with the constitutional requirements set out in Standing Order 4.3(l) 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 & Performance Monitoring**

2. Throughout July, CSMC and each of the standing Overview & Scrutiny Committees are scheduled to receive their end of year finance and performance monitoring reports.

### **Attendance of Cabinet Members**

3. In recent months a majority of the Cabinet Members have attended a meeting of the relevant scrutiny committees to provide an update on their priorities and challenges for 2013-14 and to talk about their priorities for this municipal year.

### **Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC)**

#### Call-ins

4. Since the last report of this kind in March 2014, there have been two call-ins: City of York Local Plan Further Sites Consultation and Improving City Centre Competitiveness. The decisions of the Cabinet were upheld in both cases and neither was referred back for further consideration. The Local Plan decision was however subject to inclusion of housing site numbers in the consultation documents, as delegated to the Director of City and Environmental Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member.

#### Overview & Review Work

5. Since full Council in March 2014, CSMC has met four times. In early April CSMC received an update on CYC's Wellbeing Staff survey, and Learning & Culture's final report from the Night-Time Economy Scrutiny Review, together with a report from the Office of the Chief Executive on

their supporting work. During April a CSMC Task Group met to collate all the findings from the individual Night–Time Economy’ scrutiny reviews, and in late April they presented their draft final report to CSMC for sign off. The final report has since been presented to Cabinet and the recommendations were all approved.

6. In May CSMC met again to receive an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from two of their previous scrutiny reviews - ‘Managing Staff Sickness Absence’ and ‘Community Engagement’. They also signed off the draft Annual Scrutiny Report for 2013-14 to enable its presentation at this meeting of Full Council. Finally, they received a procurement update on work being undertaken to engage local businesses in procurement activity for the Council.
7. In June CSMC received a report on proposals for a new Corporate Review Topic for 2014-15. They also received a report requesting a change to the terms of reference for two of the Scrutiny Committees.
8. Work continues on CSMC’s Equalities Review. The Task Group has met a number of times to progress their work on the review culminating in a Consultation event at the Mansion House in late June 2014.

#### Annual Scrutiny Work Planning Event

9. CSMC agreed to host an annual work planning event in early May 2014. The event was well attended by scrutiny Members and their views were sought on the many topics under proposal by the individual scrutiny committees. In addition, following some debate ‘Supporting Elderly People’ was identified as suitable for corporate scrutiny review in this municipal year. CSMC formally agreed the theme at its meeting on 23 May 2014.

#### **Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

10. The Committee has met twice since the last meeting of Full Council. In April they considered a number of possible topics for this municipal year and received updates on their ongoing reviews. Both the committee’s Domestic Waste Task Group Review, and the A-Boards Task Group Review are in their final stages, and their final reports should be ready for sign off by September 2014.
11. In early June the Committee received an update on the embedding of the council’s Taxi Licensing Policy as a follow up to their previously completed scrutiny review. They also received an introductory report on their proposed scrutiny review topics and agreed to proceed with a

review on Commercial Waste Discretionary Charges. In addition they agreed their contribution to the new corporate scrutiny review would centre around loneliness and social isolation / fear of crime.

### **Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

12. This Committee has also met twice since the last meeting of Full Council. In April they considered a number of possible topics for this municipal year ahead of the planned scrutiny work planning event held in early May.
13. The met again in June to receive a partnership delivery plan bi-annual update from York Museums Trust, an overview report on CYC's Stonewall Challenge, and a scoping report on their potential review topics. The Committee agreed to proceed with reviews on Disabled Access to the Culture Sector and Entrepreneurial Skills in School, and are still investigating their contribution to this year's corporate review.

### **Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

14. The Committee has met twice since the last report to Council. In April 2014 considered a verbal update on the Online Business / E-Commerce scrutiny review, including the responses from a city-wide online survey, and a scoping report on a possible scrutiny review into higher value jobs. Members agreed that the starting times of committee meetings be put back from 5pm to 5.30pm.
15. In June, Members received an update on youth unemployment statistics following a previously completed scrutiny review into youth unemployment, an interim report on the Online Business / E-Commerce Scrutiny Review and a verbal report on the Higher Value Jobs Scrutiny review. They also discussed three potential topics proposed at the scrutiny work planning event. In addition they agreed the Committee's contribution to the corporate scrutiny review would focus on exploring how economic growth benefits older people.
16. **Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee** – has met three times since the last report to Council. In April the Committee received the annual report of the Health and Wellbeing Board and an update report on the framework for working relationships between the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the Health and Wellbeing Board and Healthwatch York. Members received reports on the Practice Merger between York Medical Group and Minster Health and the Terms of Reference for new Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee congenital heart disease review and updates on the Place of Safety at Bootham Hospital, the review of St Andrew's counselling and psychotherapy services and

Residential, Nursing and Home Care Standards. They also received a presentation on the formation of Vale of York GP Federation and agreed the recommendations in the Personalisation Draft Final Report.

17. In May 2014 Members considered a report on the development of Be Independent, a new Community Interest Company, and how it provides community equipment loan and telecare service and heard a presentation by City of York Council Head of Transformation about her work around Adult Social Care. Members also discussed possible topics for scrutiny review during the Municipal Year.
18. In July 2014 the Committee received the annual Carers' Strategy report and the annual Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults report and update reports on the five-year strategy for Integrated Health Care in York and plans for alternative premises at Bootham Park Hospital. They also set up a Task Group to consider the Committee's contribution to this year's corporate review.

**Councillor John Galvin**  
**Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee**