
**Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management
Committee**

12 June 2017

Report of the Assistant Director of Governance & ICT

Draft Annual Scrutiny Report 2016-17

Summary

1. This Draft Annual Scrutiny Report summarises the work of the five Policy & Scrutiny Committees for the municipal year June 2016 – May 2017, and asks Members to agree the report prior to its presentation to Council in July 2016.

Background

2. This committee is charged with monitoring overall performance in relation to scrutiny work and providing an Annual Report to Full Council. The last Annual Report for the period June 2015 – May 2016 was presented to this Committee on 13 June 2016 and to Council on 21 July 2016.

Consultation

3. Consultation was not required for the production of this Annual Report. However, consultation is an important element of scrutiny and is regularly carried out in support of all scrutiny reviews.
4. The final reports produced for each of the reviews completed during the period June 2016 – May 2017 detail all of the work undertaken, including any consultation carried out. Those final reports and all supporting information can be viewed in full at:

<http://modgov.york.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13029&path=13028>

Scrutiny Reviews in 2016-17

5. In the last municipal year Members of the **Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee (CSMC)** initiated two scrutiny reviews.

6. One Planet York.

In early September 2016 CSMC considered a scoping report on One Planet York and members agreed there would be value in undertaking a scrutiny review to support this work. CSMC agreed the review should focus on ensuring a balance between economic, social and environmental needs that is right for York; ensuring key decisions and strategic plans take account of economic, social and environmental factors and ensuring decisions and strategic plans are informed by both short-term priorities and anticipated longer-term impacts. After a series of meetings and presentations the Task Group was able to assess what leading sustainable cities and those similar to York are doing in seeking to balance economic, social and environmental needs; examine how the One Planet York framework can benchmark York with other cities; have a wider understanding about what makes cities resilient and sustainable and review statutory and local decision making tools, engagement and collaboration methods to help cities balance economic, social and environmental needs. The Task Group made a series of recommendations which were endorsed by CSMC on 8 May 2017.

7. Electoral Arrangements.

In late July 2016 CSMC considered an overview report on electoral arrangements, and while Members acknowledged that overall the current arrangements in York were working effectively, they agreed to carry out a scrutiny review to examine ways of maximising the number of people eligible to vote and improving the performance of the count while maintaining a high standard of accuracy. The Task Group has held two meetings to date, firstly to consider the impact of Individual Electoral Arrangements and to examine creative solutions to improving the performance at the count and, secondly, to consider information from the Electoral Commission regional manager and the Electoral Services manager from Sheffield City Council. A third scheduled meeting was cancelled at short notice due to the unavailability of the registration officer from the University of York. Since then one of the Task Group Members has been made an Executive Member and a second has resigned his seat. In May 2017 CSMC agreed to select new members for the Task Group after the annual Council meeting.

8. **The Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee** carried out two reviews during 2016-17.

9. Protection of Grass Verges. In March 2016 EDAT agreed to look at how the Council can work in partnership with residents to improve and protect the condition of grass verges from damage caused by motor vehicles. A Task Group received significant input from residents who were concerned about this issue and had a number of meetings which led to a

series of recommendations which were endorsed by EDAT in September 2016 and by the Executive in November 2016.

10. Impact of the Arts and Culture Sectors on the Economy of York.
In July 2016 EDAT considered a feasibility report on the impact of the arts and culture sectors on the economy of York and agreed it was a topic worthy of review. The aim is to understand the value and impact of the arts and culture sectors on the economy of York and examine how they can further increase their impact on economic development and create additional high-value jobs in the city. The objectives are to promote cultural amenities in the city for the purpose of attracting economic investment, leading to an increase in high-value jobs and the retention of high-quality employees; examine the City Council's role within these sectors and assess what further interventions the Council could undertake to support these sectors and to identify ways to facilitate more and better joint working among cultural organisations. The Task Group has consulted widely with leading arts and culture organisations and the business community and in February presented an interim report to EDAT when the Committee agreed the review could run into the next municipal year with a view to presenting a final report in late summer 2017.
11. The **Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee** was also involved in two reviews during 2016-17.
12. Public Health Grant Spending.
In July 2015 the Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee appointed a Task Group to undertake a scrutiny review on public health grant spending. The review aimed to identify a comprehensive understanding of York's public health outcomes and spend, and establish a knowledge base for joint use with the Health & Wellbeing Board. The review stalled slightly while revised figures from the Department of Health were confirmed so it was not possible to conclude the review during the 2015-16 municipal year. However, after meetings in 2016 and early 2017 the Task Group presented their recommendations in a final report in March 2017 when they were endorsed by the full committee.
13. Bootham Park Hospital Closure
Bootham Hospital was closed following an unannounced inspection of the psychiatric inpatients services by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on 9 & 10 September 2015 when the CQC reaffirmed it was not fit for purpose and all clinical services had to be relocated from 30 September 2015. In November 2015 the Committee agreed to carry out its own review *"To understand the circumstances leading to the closure*

of Bootham Park Hospital, to establish what could have been done to avoid the gap in services in York, particularly for in-patients and their families, and identify any appropriate actions for relevant partners". The review utilised the support of an Independent Expert Adviser, who provided his services pro bono, and NHS England who were carrying out their own lessons learned review. Scrutiny worked closely with NHS England throughout the process and NHS England published its own report via scrutiny in April 2016. It was publicly discussed for the first time at a Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee on 25 April 2016. The Committee was unable to complete its review during the 2015-16 municipal year as it needed action plans from partner organisations before any final recommendations could be. The recommendations in the final report were endorsed by the full committee in September 2016 and by the Executive in November 2016.

14. During 2016-17 the **Communities & Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee** completed one review.

15. Ward Funding.

In June 2016 the Committee received a detailed report on the Council's new approach to community engagement through the establishment of revised ward committees, and the progress to date in embedding them in working practices. This highlighted some areas of operation where there were issues, so it was agreed it would be helpful if the Scrutiny Committee were to undertake a review to assess achievements to date and ambitions for the future for a number of areas which still needed refining. To help achieve their objectives the Task Group agreed to consult with all councillors on their experiences. After this consultation, and a series of meetings, the Task Group made a number of recommendations which were endorsed by the Committee in January 2017. These were subsequently endorsed by Executive in March 2017 in order to facilitate further improvements to the neighbourhood working model.

16. Finally, the **Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee** was involved in two reviews during 2016-17.

17. Play Opportunities

In July 2016 a Task Group was formed to undertake a scrutiny review with the aim of developing improved play opportunities across the city and identifying ways of enabling communities to bring forward potential schemes. During the course of the review the Task Group recognised the limited opportunities available for York teenagers. They also recognised that the active involvement of children and young people was essential in the development of play opportunities, and that it works best

when there is a visible commitment to their involvement, and their involvement is valued. On that basis, and after a series of meetings, the Task Group made a series of recommendations which were endorsed by the Committee in January 2017 and by the Executive in March 2017.

18. Tour de France

In January 2016 a Task Group was formed to consider the appropriate planning, promotion, and delivery of future major events to ensure all associated risks can be managed effectively, including Health & Safety and reputational risk. The review focussed on the Tour de France Grand Departy, and the provision of the entertainment Hubs and camping sites, and included consideration of feedback on individual elements of the delivery programme, including management of the event, its financial implications, and the lessons learned for the future. The review was still ongoing at the end of the 2015/16 municipal year and so the Task Group was reformed in June 2016 to conclude its investigation. The new Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to receive the review draft final report in July 2017, prior to its consideration by the Executive in September 2017.

Supporting the Council Plan 2015-19

19. All of the reviews carried out during 2016-17 (identified above) took account of the Council's need to be inclusive and ensure equality in accessing the services being reviewed. Each review also supported a number of the council's other improvement priorities and direction statements:
20. The following reviews were directly linked to the 'Prosperous City for All' element of the Council Plan:
 - Impact of the Arts and Culture Sectors on the Economy of York;
 - One Planet York
 - Tour de France
21. The following reviews were directly linked to the 'Focus on Frontline Services' element of the Council Plan:
 - Public Health Grant Spending;
 - Bootham Park Hospital;
 - One Planet York
 - Play Provision
22. The following reviews were directly linked to the 'Council That Listens to Residents' element of the Council Plan:

- Bootham Park Hospital;
- Grass Verges;
- One Planet York
- Ward Funding
- Play Provision

Finance & Performance Monitoring

23. Throughout 2016-17 the Policy & Scrutiny Committees received regular quarterly monitoring reports relating to the council's performance and finance management, in service areas specific to their individual remits.
24. In addition, they also received other monitoring reports specific to their individual terms of reference, as detailed below:
25. **Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee** considered a Schedule of Petitions at each meeting and other overview and updates reports throughout the year i.e.:
- Electoral organisation;
 - Guildhall Project;
 - Procurement activity;
 - Future ways of Working in Scrutiny;
 - One Planet York;
 - Peer Review Challenge and Action Plan;
 - Administration of Section 106 agreements;
 - Scrutiny Revenue Support Budget;
 - Customer Relations Management System;
 - The Annual Scrutiny Report for 2015-16;
 - Air Quality.
26. The **Communities & Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee** received updates on:
- Riverside Improvements;
 - Consultation on Draft Alcohol Strategy;
 - Allerton Park Waste Recovery Treatment Centre;
 - Updates on CYC Flood Defences Action Plan;
 - Update on Environment Agency Flood Action Plan;
 - Report on Mixed recycling and Waste Collection
 - Update report on Housing and Planning Bill
27. The Committee welcomed the attendance of officers from North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and

throughout 2016-17 it received a number of updates in support of its responsibility for the discharge of the functions conferred on the Council by sections 19 & 20 of the Police & Justice Act 2006, in relation to the scrutiny of community safety issues, the Police and the work of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP). These included:

- Bi-annual performance reports from Safer York Partnership (SYP);
- An update on the work of AVANTE (Alcohol, Violence & Night-Time Economy);
- Updates on Domestic Violence and Drug Related Crime and Disorder;
- An update on the Community Safety Plan;
- An update on the Hate Crime Action Plan

28. The **Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee** welcomed the attendance of the Managing Director of Make it York on two occasions and received briefings/updates on:

- Major projects within the city including major developments and major transport initiatives and issues arising from them;
- York Economic Dashboard;
- Modal shift in transport in the city
- Universal Credit
- York Central project
- Castle Gateway project
- York Access Fund project
- Air Quality
- Progress against actions in the Economic Strategy.

29. The Committee also received presentations from the York Business improvement District (BID) manager, the Guild of Media Arts and York Civic Trust on its proposed transport policy for the city.

30. The **Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee** has a statutory role to review and scrutinise the impact of services and policies of key partners on the health of the city's population. As such it received updates on:

- York Health and Wellbeing Board;
- Safeguarding Arrangements;
- Carers' Strategy;
- Residential, Nursing and Home Care Services;
- Healthy Child Services;
- Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Services;
- Re-procurement of community services and wheelchair services

- Sustainability and Transformation Plans
- Elderly Persons' Homes;
- Winter pressures;
- Safeguarding Adults Board Peer Review and Action Plan;
- York Hospital winter experience;
- Delayed transfer of Care;
- Continuing Health Care;
- Partnership Commissioning
- Access to NHS Services
- Public Health Services Commissioned by NHS England – vaccinations, immunisation and screening.

31. The Committee were also consulted on a number of issues:

- Proposed new mental health hospital for York;
- Change of services at Archways Intermediate Care Unit;
- Vale of York CCG turnaround and recovery plans;
- Actions against York Hospital Action Plans;
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service CQC Inspection;
- New Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy.
- The merger of medical practices in York – Front Street / Beech Grove.

32. Finally, they received a number of reports and presentations i.e.:

- Be Independent monitoring reports;
- Healthwatch Performance Updates;
- Annual report of the Chief Executive of Yorkshire Ambulance Service;
- Annual report of the Chief Executive of York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust;
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys FT – One Year in York.
- CCG turnaround and recovery Plans
- Ambulance cover in York;

33. The **Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee** also received a range of reports and updates on the following, which included:

- Bi-annual Partnership Delivery Plan updates from York Museums Trust;
- Bi-annual Service Level Agreement Performance updates from York Theatre Royal;
- Bi-annual Service Level Agreement Performance updates from Explore York Libraries & Archives;
- Bi-annual updates on the work of York Safeguarding Board

- Bi-annual progress reports on Safeguarding and Looked After Children;
- Update Reports on York Trial for 30 House Free Childcare for Working Families;
- A Report on the Draft Skills Strategy;
- An Update Report on School Meals;
- Update on implementation of Local Area Teams;
- School improvement updates and an Ofsted update on Schools Performance;
- A Learning Services Self-Assessment Overview Report
- SACRE's Annual Report & Review of York Schools' agreed syllabus;
- Update on Schools Response to White Paper – Educational Excellence Everywhere.

34. In addition the Committee received presentations from the Chair of York @ Large and the Chair of Learning City York on their ongoing partnership work with the Council. They also met with the Chair of York Safeguarding Board.

Acting as Critical Friend

35. During the municipal year 2015-16 each of the Policy & Scrutiny Committees met with the relevant Executive Members to hear about their challenges and priorities for the year. They also met with some of the council's appropriate statutory partners to hear about their priorities and challenges.

Monitoring Previous Recommendations

36. Finally, each of the committees received bi-annual updates on the implementation of the approved recommendations arising from their previously completed scrutiny reviews. Those deemed to be fully completed were signed off.

Calling – In (post decision)

37. Throughout the municipal year 2016-17 there were three Executive/ Executive Member decisions called-in for consideration by CSMC. The decision of the Executive was confirmed in each instance. They were:

- Better Bus Area Fund – Clarence Street Bus Improvement Scheme.
- Park & Ride Service Operator Specification

- Disposal of Land to English Heritage for a Clifford's Tower Visitor Centre

Pre-decision call-in

38. At its meeting in August 2015, the Executive agreed some operational guidelines for enabling and supporting a pre-decision call-in process. This supplements the pre-existing arrangements for post-decision call in and is intended to provide all backbench and scrutiny Members with opportunities to comment upon relevant upcoming Executive or Executive Member decisions.
39. During the 2016-17 municipal year there were four pre-decision call-ins:
 - CSMC: PARK & Ride Service Operator Procurement
 - CSMC: York Central – Consultation on Highway Access
 - CSMC: Yearsley Pool Review
 - Learning & Culture: Arboricultural Policy for the management of Public Trees and Woodland

Options

40. Having considered the draft Annual Report, Members may choose to:
 - Agree any amendments required to the report
 - Approve the report for presentation to the meeting of Full Council in July 2017.

Implications

41. There are no known legal, HR and financial implications associated with the recommendation within this report.

Risk Management

42. There are no known risks associated with the recommendation in this report.

Recommendations

43. Having considered the information within this report, Members are asked to approve this Annual Scrutiny Report which covers the period between June 2016 and May 2017.

Reason: To enable its presentation to Full Council in July 2017, in line with Constitutional requirements.

Contact Details

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Report Approved

Date: 5 May 2017

Specialist Implications Officer(s) - None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the authors of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes: None

Abbreviations:

AVANTE – Alcohol, Violence And the Night Time Economy

CDRP – Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership

CQC – Care Quality Commission

CRM – Customer Relations Management

CSMC – Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee

CYC – City of York Council

EDAT – Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee

HR – Human Resources

NHS – National Health Service

NYBEP – North Yorkshire Business Education Partnership

SYP – Safer York Partnership

YMT – York Museums Trust