

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

December 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 20 October 2016, The Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee considered the 2nd Quarter Finance and Performance Monitoring Report at its meeting on 30 November 2016. CSMC and the three other standing scrutiny committees will consider their 2nd Quarter reports in January. This is because the Executive, in order to have a more balanced reporting cycle over the financial year, decided not to receive its budget monitoring report until its meeting on 24 November 2016 and the monitoring reports are not usually available for consideration by scrutiny until the Executive has had the opportunity to first consider its quarterly budget monitoring.

Attendance of Executive Members

3. No Executive Members have attended CSMC or any of the four standing scrutiny committee meetings since the last report to Council.

Pre-Decision Call-ins

4. Only CSMC has considered a pre-decision call-in since the last report to Council. In November the committee considered a called-in item on York Central – Consultation on Highway Access Options, ahead of it going to the Executive. Members agreed to recommend the following to the Executive:
 - (i) High level, ongoing engagement across the City in relation to the access route for York Central be undertaken, with particular regard being given to residents most directly affected; and
 - (ii) Arrangements be made to ensure that any further consultation processes, in relation to the route and site, clarify the current status of Access Route E as being part of the package to unlock funding from the West Yorkshire Transport Fund (WYTF).

5. Taking into account the views of CSMC, the Executive has agreed to undertake further consultation on the access route for York Central as part of a future York Central planning strategy, with high level, ongoing engagement across the City in relation to the access route, with particular regard being given to residents most directly affected;
6. I am keen to ensure that, as an organisation, we properly and fully engage with early scrutiny so that the Executive is fully informed by cross party Member view before it makes key important decisions on matters like York Central. As Chair of CSMC, I have already indicated that I would expect pre-decision call-ins to be properly supported sufficiently in advance of Executive decision making. This early engagement is fundamental to whatever structure we adopt in the future too.

Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee

Post-Decision Call-ins

7. There have been no post-decision call-ins since the last report to Council.

Petitions

8. 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.

Performance Monitoring & Review Work

9. CSMC has met once since the last report to Council. In November the committee considered an update report on the Peer Review Action Plan and a briefing paper on the administration of Section 106 agreements. Reporting of the Peer Review Action Plan will now be embedded into quarterly performance monitoring from Quarter 3. Members also received a brief update on the status of the committee's three scrutiny reviews: E-Democracy; One Planet York and Electoral Arrangements.
10. At the Committee's next meeting it will receive feedback from the Groups on the proposals for changes to the scrutiny committee structure being considered as part of the Scrutiny Function review being led by the Committee.

Communities & Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee

11. The Committee has met once since the last report to Council. In November the Committee received a presentation from North Yorkshire

Fire & Rescue Service on their contribution to the work of the Safer York Partnership, together with an update from the Fire Authority. They also received an annual update on the work of the Operation Erase (Saturday daytime alcohol-related disorder) and AVANTE (Alcohol, Violence and Night-time Economy) Task Groups. Finally, the Committee received an update on the implementation of the council's Hate Crime Strategy for 2013-16 and agreed to proceed with a review to participate in the development of a refreshed Hate Crime Strategy for 2017-19. Work also continues on the scrutiny review examining the allocation of ward funding. The Task Group has consulted all Members on the process and the barriers which may have limited their progress to date with allocating funding they have also consulted with a number of recipients on their experiences.

Economic Development and Transport Policy & Scrutiny Review

12. This committee has met once since the last report to Council. In November the committee received its half-yearly update report from the Managing Director of Make it York, an update report on local delivery and national roll-out of Universal Credit and its six-monthly update report on major projects, including major developments within the city and major transport initiatives. Work on the scrutiny review into the impact of the arts and culture sectors on economic development in the city is continuing with the Task Group undertaking this work involved in consultations with representatives from arts and cultural organisations and the business community.

Health & Adult Social Care Policy and Scrutiny Committee.

13. The Health & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee has met twice since the last report of this nature. In October the committee received the annual report of the Chief Executive of York Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and an update on actions against York Hospital Action Plan resulting from an inspection by the Care Quality Commission. They also received a report and presentation by Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust – One Year On in York. In addition members considered reports circulated outside the committee on the re-procurement of community services and wheelchair services and the merger of GP practices in Front Street and Beech Grove, Acomb.
14. In November the committee considered a report and presentation on ambulance cover in York and proposed changes to shift arrangements across the county, a report on the implications of Sustainability and

Transformation Plans (STP) for the Humber, Coast and Vale footprint and an update report and presentation on the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group's turnaround and recovery plans. A report on Urgent Care and Systems Resilience Schemes for winter 2016/17 was circulated to members outside the committee.

Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee

15. This Committee has also met once since the last report to Council. In November Members received bi-annual updates from the Theatre Royal, York Explore and York Learning Services. They also considered a draft of the updated Skills Strategy for the city, an update on school improvement and an Ofsted update on schools performance. Finally the Committee considered York school's response to the Government's White Paper.
16. In regard to the Committee's ongoing reviews, work on the ongoing Tour de France Scrutiny Review is drawing to a close and the draft final report is due to be considered in early 2017. Work also 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.

Councillor Daf Williams
Chair, CSMC Committee