

Implementation of recommendations from Scrutiny Operations and Functions Scrutiny Review

Recommendation	Implementation September 2019
<p>i. That the Health, Housing and Adult Social Care Policy and Scrutiny Committee be split into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Adult Social Care policy and Scrutiny Committee; • Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods Policy and Scrutiny Committee. 	<p>This has been done and both Committees have been operational since the start of the new Municipal Year for 2019/20.</p>
<p>ii. That the Economy and Place Policy Development and Scrutiny Committees are rejoined.</p>	<p>This has been done and one Scrutiny Committee covering Economy and Place has been operational since the start of the new Municipal Year covering 2019/20</p>
<p>iii. In support of the work undertaken by scrutiny, that the Executive continue to formally respond to all Scrutiny Reviews, implementing recommendations it considers appropriate and reporting back to Scrutiny on any it considers inappropriate, explaining its reasons.</p>	<p>The response to Scrutiny Reviews by the Executive will be monitored by the Scrutiny Team to ensure that communication on outcomes between the Executive and Scrutiny is effective.</p>
<p>iv. That the relevant Chief Officers attend appropriate Scrutiny Committee meetings as a matter of course.</p>	<p>The Head of Civic & Democratic Services, as Statutory Scrutiny Officer, has arranged to address CMT (Council Management Team) to ensure Corporate Directors are fully aware of this recommendation.</p> <p>Again, the Scrutiny Team will monitor compliance and keep relevant Chairs informed of any extenuating</p>

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	circumstances.
v. That the Chief Executive and other Chief Officers actively promote involving scrutiny in the development of policy to their teams and encourage that issue be brought early to scrutiny for discussion.	The Head of Civic & Democratic Services, as Statutory Scrutiny Officer, has arranged to address CMT (Council Management Team) to ensure Corporate Directors are fully aware of this recommendation
vi. That Executive Members are encouraged to attend relevant scrutiny committee meetings on a regular basis.	Arrangements have already been made to ensure Executive Members attend relevant Scrutiny Committees to discuss their portfolio and address their key priorities and challenges for the year ahead.
vii. That public engagement with scrutiny is reviewed to better promote its aims and outcomes.	Further work is required to define what is meant by public engagement in these terms. Much can be done from reviewing the way information is presented about scrutiny on the Council's website to reviewing more engaging topic selection. It is suggested that further involvement from Members in defining specific areas for review in this area would be helpful.
viii. That the Executive's Forward Plan be used to guide scrutiny as a matter of course and help inform its own work planning.	At a recent meeting of Scrutiny Chairs/Vice-Chairs, it was agreed to attach relevant extracts of the Forward Plan to the Scrutiny Committee Work Plan item on the agenda for public meetings.
ix. That Directorate priorities are shared with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the relevant scrutiny committees and that regular meetings take place between these members and the relevant Chief Officers in order to help inform the business of their Committees.	The Head of Civic & Democratic Services, acting as Statutory Scrutiny Officer, has contacted all Corporate Directors to explain what was required further to this recommendation and recommendation xiv below.

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<p>x. That scrutiny committee meetings are held monthly.</p>	<p>Monthly meetings have now been embedded within the calendar of meetings. Resources will, however, need to be reviewed as a result of the increase in workload for Democratic Services, arising from these extra scrutiny meetings, an additional Scrutiny Committee (with monthly meetings) and an additional Executive Member.</p>
<p>xi. That scrutiny committees be aware of relevant opportunities to scrutinise the activities of external bodies providing public services affecting the city and its residents (Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee already actively performing this role given its statutory obligations).</p>	<p>Scrutiny Officers, Chairs of Committees and supporting Chief Officers will need to monitor opportunities for engagement with external organisations. It is suggested that the reinstated meeting of Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs could be used to provide a forum for ongoing consideration of any such opportunities.</p>
<p>xii. That the Pre-Decision Call-In process be removed from the Constitution.</p>	<p>This has been done. Both Members and Senior Officers are aware that opportunities for early, pre-decision, engagement of scrutiny, should be identified as the part of effective scrutiny work planning.</p>
<p>xiii. That current scrutiny resource is reviewed with consideration being given to additional support for scrutiny to enhance support for Members and help improve the organisational quality of Scrutiny and its outcomes in the context of the wider governance review identified in the report</p>	<p>This is ongoing and to be addressed as part of the response to the recommendations of a recent independent review by the Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO) looking at the role of Democratic Services within City of York Council. In the meantime, some additional temporary support has been provided to the current scrutiny team.</p>
<p>xiv. That Scrutiny Members receive factual briefings on areas of chosen interest or review in relation</p>	<p>The Head of Civic & Democratic Services, acting as Statutory Scrutiny Officer, has contacted all Corporate</p>

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<p>to their Committees, to ensure they are better and adequately equipped to undertake allocated work.</p>	<p>Directors to explain what was required further to this recommendation and recommendation ix above.</p>
<p>xv. That the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee review the work and functionality of Scrutiny on an annual basis.</p>	<p>This will be incorporated within the work plan for this Committee as and when appropriate and in consultation with the Chair.</p>