

Scrutiny Report to Council October 2012

Report of the Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee

1. This report is submitted by the Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC), 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.

Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC)

Scrutiny Budget

2. In accordance with its constitutional role to consider what budget might be appropriate for undertaking scrutiny reviews, CSMC made a recommendation to Budget Cabinet in February 2012 for scrutiny to be provided with a small budget of £5k for 2012/13. This was approved, and each of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees has been allocated an equal share for their use in supporting work on their individual scrutiny reviews. CSMC plan to monitor the spending of this budget and if necessary will reappportion the budget to enable ongoing reviews to be carried out effectively.

3. Call-ins

Since the last report of this kind in March 2012, SMC and subsequently CSMC has considered the following call-ins and decided in each case that having had the opportunity to look the issues in more detail, not to refer the issues back to the Cabinet for further consideration,:

- (i) Neighbourhood Working a New Approach;
- (ii) Water End / Clifton green Junction – Options for reinstating a separate left turn traffic lane on the Water End approach;
- (iii) Changes to Eligibility Criteria for Adult Social Care

4. Scrutiny Reviews

Having received detailed officer presentations on a number of new corporate strategies (Financial Inclusion, Community Engagement, and Customers), CSMC have agreed to carry out a scrutiny review on 'Improving Customer Engagement'. A Task Group has been formed to

scope the work on the review and will be reporting back on this to the next meeting of CSMC in November.

Standing Overview & Scrutiny Committees

Finance & Performance Monitoring

5. Each of the standing Overview & Scrutiny Committees received a 2011/12 year end finance and performance report in July, and a first quarter report for 2012/13 at the September round of overview & scrutiny meetings.
6. **Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee** has met three times this municipal year. They have been consulted on a draft Hate Crime Strategy for the city, and some long term proposals on animal health, safety and enforcement. They have also considered again, issues around CCTV provision and have agreed to look at this in more detail once the new system at West Offices is up and running, and embedded. In addition, a Task Group has been formed and work is underway to carry out a scrutiny review on Domestic Waste Recycling, and the Committee has agreed to scope out another potential review around adapting to climate change with a focus on how the city plans for an increase in localised surface water flooding (not river).
7. In regard to ongoing crime and disorder issues, the committee has met with Safer York Partnership (SYP) and North Yorkshire Police and received their bi-annual performance report.
8. **Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee** has met three times so far, this municipal year, and has received bi-annual SLA performance updates from both York Museums Trust and York Theatre Royal.
9. In consideration of a number of possible topics for review, the Committee has received information on CYC Parks and carried out a tour of Hull Rd Park and Rowntree Park. They have also received presentations on York's libraries, Safeguarding Children, and Careers Education Information and Guidance (CEIG). As a result, the Committee has agreed to carry out a review on the potential use of libraries as community hubs for the provision of other services. They plan to follow this with a review of CYC's provision of CEIG etc later this municipal year.
10. Meanwhile, work on their YMT Collections review has been ongoing and the Task Group carrying out the work will be providing its draft final report to the next full Committee meeting in November.

11. **Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ECDOSC)** has met three times this new municipal year and at their first and second meetings considered reports on a variety of potential scrutiny topics. After careful consideration they initially agreed to progress two new topics to review; namely a review around E-planning Facilities and a Review around Youth Unemployment. Both of these reviews are being undertaken by a small Task Group and are being carried out over a series of informal meetings. The E-Planning Facilities Task Group has consulted widely amongst both Planning Panels and Parish Councils and gathered a wealth of evidence. The Task Group are due to complete the review fairly soon and present their final report to ECDOSC in November 2012 and then to Cabinet in December 2012.
12. The Youth Unemployment Task Group is still ongoing and they have received a variety of background information from officers within the Council. They have also made visits to Job Centre Plus, Pertemps and Prospect Training. They will be presenting an interim report to the November meeting of ECDOSC, which will include information gathered to date and their proposed next steps.
13. They have also received a further update report on their 'Reducing the Carbon Footprint in the Privately Rented Sector' Review which had been put on hold until further information on the 'Green Deal' was available. This review is due to recommence in October/November time.
14. The Committee have also identified several other scrutiny topics that they hope to start in the New Year or on completion of one of the three that are already ongoing.
15. In addition to this they have also received reports on Local Enterprise Partnerships, six monthly updates on major development schemes in York and major transport initiatives as well as an update on the implementation of recommendations arising from the Water End Councillor Call for Action. The Leader of the Council also attended the July meeting of the Committee to update them on his priorities and challenges for the forthcoming year.
16. **Health Scrutiny Overview & Scrutiny Committee** has met four times this municipal year and continues to work with partners in a positive way. They have received and discussed reports on the following with a variety of key health partners working within the city:
 - Update on the previously undertaken Carer's Review
 - Regular updates on establishing a local HealthWatch
 - An update from Yorkshire Ambulance Service into complaints received

- A report from NHS North Yorkshire and York in relation to a review of services for homeless patients at Monkgate Health Centre
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Assurance report
- A presentation on the Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Update on the Regional Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee's work around Children's Cardiac Services and the national consultation around how and where services will be provided in the future
- Progress briefing on the major trauma network
- Proposal to redesign older people's mental health services and enhance provision of community care and support

17. The Committee have also responded to two national consultation documents, the first around Local Health Authority Scrutiny and the second around mandate to the NHS Commissioning Board.
18. In addition to this they have also heard from the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services in relation to her priorities and challenges for the forthcoming year.
19. In relation to scrutiny review work, the Committee's End of Life Care Review is still ongoing but well on its way to being completed. On 6th August 2012 the Committee held a meeting attended by numerous key health partners across the city. At the meeting they considered the information received to date as well as some new information from the Out of Hours Service. All of the information is currently being pulled together into a final report, however there is still a small amount of work to do around formulating the recommendations arising from the review and looking at the implications that these may bring. It is hoped that the Committee will be able to consider the final report in its entirety at their November meeting.
20. The Committee have also identified two new scrutiny reviews they would like to undertake. The first around the Personalisation Agenda and the second around community Health Services in the Care of Adolescents. Meetings are currently being arranged to decide an exact focus, scope and remit for these reviews. These will be presented to the December meeting of the Committee and once agreed will commence shortly thereafter.
21. **City Centre Access Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee** – This Committee have met informally several times this municipal year. However for various reasons this review has not progressed as well as the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee would have wished. A report is currently being compiled with a full explanation as to what has happened throughout this

review and this will be presented to the next meeting of Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee (November 2012), being the parent body of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Siân Wiseman
Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee