



Notice of meeting of

Scrutiny Management Committee

To: Councillors Galvin (Chair), Runciman (Vice-Chair),

Barnes, Cunningham-Cross, King, McIlveen, Steward

and Williams

Date: Monday, 28 November 2011

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: The Guildhall

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, Members will be invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on the agenda.

2. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2011.

3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Committee's remit can do so. The deadline for registering is 5:00 pm on Friday 25 November 2011.

4. Edible York Scrutiny Review - 6 Month Feedback and Update (Pages 7 - 12)

This report informs SMC of the progress in implementing the Edible York Ad Hoc Scrutiny Review recommendations.

5. Scrutiny Review Support Budget (Pages 13 - 16)

This report sets out the current position in relation to available council funding for overview and scrutiny work. The report also consults SMC on any recommendations it may wish to make to Cabinet prior to the budget setting process for 2012/13.

6. Role of Overview and Scrutiny in relation to the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011, and other Regional Responsibilities (Pages 17 - 38)

This report provides information on the expected changes to the role of overview and scrutiny as a result of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, and an update on the work of the Yorkshire and Humber Members Regional Scrutiny Network.

7. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer:
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For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details are set out above.

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Further information about what's being discussed at this meeting

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Holding the Cabinet to Account

The majority of councillors are not appointed to the Cabinet (39 out of 47). Any 3 non-Cabinet councillors can 'call-in' an item of business from a published Cabinet (or Cabinet Member Decision Session) agenda. The Cabinet will still discuss the 'called in' business on the published date and will set out its views for consideration by a specially convened Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC). That SMC meeting will then make its recommendations to the next scheduled Cabinet meeting in the following week, where a final decision on the 'called-in' business will be made.

Scrutiny Committees

The purpose of all scrutiny and ad-hoc scrutiny committees appointed by the Council is to:

- Monitor the performance and effectiveness of services;
- Review existing policies and assist in the development of new ones, as necessary; and
- Monitor best value continuous service improvement plans

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City of York Council	Committee Minutes
MEETING	SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
DATE	26 SEPTEMBER 2011
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS GALVIN (CHAIR), BARNES, CUNNINGHAM-CROSS, KING, MCILVEEN, STEWARD, WILLIAMS AND REID (SUBSTITUTE FOR COUNCILLOR RUNCIMAN)
IN ATTENDANCE	COUNCILLOR GILLIES (ITEMS 1-4)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLOR RUNCIMAN

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the SMC meeting held on

4 April 2011 be confirmed and signed as a

correct record.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was reported that there were no registrations to speak under the council's Public Participation Scheme.

4. PROPOSED SCRUTINY TOPIC - CITY CENTRE ACCESS

Members received a report that asked them to consider whether they would like to set up an ad hoc scrutiny committee to undertake a review into the proposed scrutiny topic on city centre access.

Councillor Gillies, who had submitted the topic, was in attendance and gave details as to the reasons why be believed that a scrutiny review on this topic would be worthwhile.

Members discussed the difficulties in respect of enforcement and suggested that the review should also consider whether the current footstreet policy was working effectively or if amendments were required.

Consideration was given to the proposed make up of the ad hoc scrutiny committee, as detailed in paragraph 8 of the report.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That an ad hoc scrutiny committee be set up to undertake a review of City Centre Access.
- (ii) That the ad hoc scrutiny committee be made up of 5 scrutiny members (3 Labour Members, 1 Conservative Member and 1 Liberal Democrat Member) and that these Members be drawn from any of the standing scrutiny committees or from SMC.

REASON: To progress this scrutiny topic.

ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2010-11

Members considered the annual scrutiny report, which summarised the work of the five Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the period June 2010 – May 2011.

The following amendments to the report were agreed:

- Paragraph 5 to be amended to read "Full Council in October"
- Paragraph 26 to be amended to read "York Museums Trust"

Some Members commented on the need to improve the scrutiny function within the Council, including ensuring that Members were fully engaged with the process. It was noted that a wider review of the committee structure would be taking place and this would also provide an opportunity to consider issues in respect of the scrutiny arrangements.

RESOLVED: That, subject to the agreed amendments, the

Annual Scrutiny Report covering the period between June 2010 and May 2011 be

approved.

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REASON: To enable its presentation to Full Council, in

line with Constitutional requirements.

Councillor J Galvin, Chair [The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 6.00 pm].

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Scrutiny Management Committee

28 November 2011

Report of the Assistant Director (Environment)

Edible York Scrutiny Review – 6 month feedback and update

Summary

 This report is to inform the Scrutiny Management Committee of the progress in implementing the Edible York Ad Hoc Scrutiny Review recommendations.

Background

- 2. In December 2010 an Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee was formed to investigate the role the council plays, or could play, in supporting communities to grow food locally. The committee set itself the following key objectives:
 - "i. To develop an information page on City of York Council's website which provides information and links to organisations involved in food growing initiatives
 - ii. To identify the barriers to communication between City of York Council and voluntary organisations
 - iii. To identify potential areas of land in the city suitable for food growing
 - iv. To consider how best to enable and encourage individuals and groups to grow food
 - v. To encourage schools to participate in local food growing initiatives"
- 3. Having met and interviewed interested parties the committee published its recommendations in March 2011 which were subsequently accepted by the Executive on 12 April 2011. An update on each of the recommendations is provided below.

Updates

4. <u>"Recommendation 1</u> – That a collection point is established at the Hazel Court Household Waste Site for garden tools, and Council officers investigate and implement a suitable system for collection,

- storage and distribution of the tools (including exploring the possibility of working with the Community Furniture Store to distribute these). This should be for a trial period of 6 months and if successful then permanently implemented. (Fourth key objective)"
- 5. This has not been started as officers have concentrated on the other recommendations. A further update on this recommendation will be provided at the meeting.
- 6. <u>"Recommendation 2</u> That the Council website be updated to include more and clearer information about food growing opportunities, food growing information and links to voluntary sector organisations. (First key objective)"
- 7. This has been developed see

 http://www.york.gov.uk/environment/Parks and open spaces/Allot ments/community food growing/
 - Within the pages are contact details of key groups and organisations operating or supporting work in the city Edible York, British Trust for Conservation Volunteer, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and York Council for Voluntary Services (CVS), as well as local and national organisations who can offer advice e.g. The Society of Ancient Florists and The Royal Horticultural Society.
- 8. <u>"Recommendation 3</u> That the Council actively promotes local food growing by providing information and encouragement by using: The Council's website, existing publications (Your Ward, Your City, Allotments Newsletter, Housing Tenants Newsletter) Providing a link on the Council website to an appropriate York based 'Green Portal' should this be established in order to provide information to residents on food growing opportunities as well as to generally promote the food growing agenda within the city. (Overall aim and fourth key objective)"
- 9. Articles on local food growing have featured in at least two ward publications Micklegate, and Dringhouses and Woodthorpe. The council has continued to support Edible York with a new bed being opened at Peasholme Green this spring and both this and the Barbican bed were entered into the Yorkshire in Bloom competition. See

http://www.york.gov.uk/environment/Parks and open spaces/yorkinbloom/Yorkshire in Bloom/ The Peasholme bed also featured in the city's Britain in Bloom entry contributing to the Silver Gilt award. The national judges said..."The introduction and encouragement of the innovative Edible York project is to be commended ..."

- 10. <u>"Recommendation 4</u> That the Head of Parks & Open Spaces clarifies and coordinates the provision of information (internally & externally) in relation to food growing on City of York Council land. (Second key objective)".
- 11. To date all food growing requests appear to be coming through this route; web content, liaison with key partners and licence applications are managed through the Head of Parks and Open Spaces.
- 12. <u>"Recommendation 5</u> That a register of mentors be set up through advertising in the Allotments News for mentors for schools, community groups and individuals. (Fourth & fifth key objectives)".
- 13. York CVS already provide a volunteer coordination role and have agreed to continue to act as a coordinator in this area. To publicise the need for volunteers and mentors, the autumn edition of the allotment newsletter contained a large article publicising volunteering opportunities. The newsletter was sent to 1,200 allotment tenants and is available as a download on the council website.
- 14. <u>"Recommendation 6</u> That City of York Council policies relating to green space management including amenity and communal housing areas should reflect a broad presumption in favour of it being suitable for food growing unless demonstrated otherwise e.g. potential harm to nature conservation or biodiversity, presence of utilities and services, sports use. (Overall aim and second key objective)"
- 15. To date no licence applications have been turned down. Two licences have been granted for council land both of which are adjacent to but not on the highway. One licence application is under consideration for multiple sites along on residential road verge and a further request has been received for use of small area of amenity land. Licenses are also being prepared several sites for British Trust for Conservation Volunteer and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.

- 16. <u>"Recommendation</u> 7 That the Schools Forum be asked to continue funding the Advanced Skills Teacher (AST) post that supports the Sustainable Schools Strategy and that possible ways of strengthening the local food-growing element of the Sustainable Schools Strategy be looked at. (Fifth key objective)"
- 17. The Schools Forum did agree to allocate funding for the AST post for the 2011/12 academic year (i.e. through to August 2012). Any future funding will be considered by the Forum when it discusses the Schools Budget for 2012/13 in February 2012.

Cross cutting projects.

- 18. In addition to the specific actions outlined above, Parks and Open Spaces are supporting both the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) to deliver two food growing initiatives.
- 19. BTCV has received a Lottery award for three years for their "Get Growing" project. BTCV will be supporting communities and schools throughout the city to grow and learn about food; and current projects include Haxby Road and Westfield Primary schools. Parks and Open Spaces have provided a one off grant of £6k in 2011/12 as part of BTCV's matched funding contribution.
- 20. YWT has received a Big Lottery Fund award for three years for their "Dig in" project. YWT will be working with families to design food growing areas, often in or close to play areas, within Clifton, Hull Road, Acomb, Westfield and Heworth wards. Parks and Open Spaces are supporting the project ½ day a month through the Park Ranger service as part of YWT's matched funding contribution
- 21. Finally, the council's allotment service has a number of plots which are used by community organisations and where the produce shared, including YUMI, Lollipop, Scarcroft School, foster cares, youth service, mental health groups and Low Moor Community Kids who archived Gold in Yorkshire in Bloom.

Consultation

22. This report is for information and there is no consultation to consider.

Options

- 23. Members may choose to do one, some, or all of the suggestions below:
 - a) Sign off those recommendations where implementation has been completed;
 - b) Request a further update be brought to the Committee in six months time on any outstanding recommendations'

Analysis

- 24. This review was completed in April 2011 and this is the first update on the recommendations arising. Members are asked to consider the updates contained within paragraphs 4 to 17 of this report and consider which, if any, of the recommendations they would like to sign off as complete.
- 25. If there are any recommendations outstanding after consideration of the report then Members are advised to request a further update in 6 months time.

Corporate Priorities

- 26. The actions set out in the report contribute to the following Corporate priorities
 - Building stronger communities
 - Protecting the environment

Implications

- 27. The report has no additional implications relating to:
 - Finance
 - Human Resources
 - Legal
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Information Technology

Risk Management

28. In compliance with the council's risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendations

- 29. Members are asked to:
 - Note the update report and agree which, if any of the recommendations arising from the Edible York Ad Hoc Scrutiny Review they would like to sign off as complete
 - Request a further report to be brought to them in 6 months time to update them on any outstanding recommendations

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations still to be implemented.

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Authors: Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Dave Meigh John Goodyear

Head of Parks Assistant Director (Environment)

And Open Spaces

Ext. 3386 Report Approved Date 11.11.11.

Wards Affected: All ✓

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Edible York Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee 22.03.11

Annexes

Worddoc/reports/scrutiny/food growing update



Scrutiny Management Committee

28 November 2011

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance & ICT

SCRUTINY REVIEW SUPPORT BUDGET

Summary

- 1. This report sets out the current position in relation to available Council funding for overview and scrutiny review work.
- 2. Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) has a constitutional right, under its delegated authority "to consider and recommend to Cabinet a budget for scrutiny". This report seeks to consult SMC on any recommendations it may wish to make to Cabinet prior to the budget setting process for 2012/13.

Background

- 3. For the 2010/11 financial year, this Committee decided not to recommend any change to its then existing base scrutiny support budget, which stood at £15k. The Budget Council meeting, however, in February 2011, agreed to cut that support budget, as part of a savings exercise.
- 4. The Budget Council decision was taken against an understanding that there had, in reality, been little spend against the scrutiny support budget for the previous 3 to 4 years. This was with the notable exception of a consultation survey undertaken in relation to a scrutiny review into traffic congestion and its impact.

Analysis

- 5. SMC should be aware that, as a result of the Budget Council decision in February 2011, there is no longer a scrutiny support budget dedicated to undertaking research or consultative work associated with scrutiny reviews. The only remaining budget in connection with scrutiny is operational, ie. paying staff.
- 6. There has been no noticeable impact on scrutiny in York as a result of the budget saving. Clearly, there being no budget provision, no money has been spent in 2011/12 on marketing or research support, externally, for scrutiny reviews. That has not prohibited scrutiny reviews taking place. Following a combined working planning session with Cabinet and Scrutiny Members in the

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summer, the Scrutiny Committees are proceeding with the following scrutiny reviews during the year:

Effective Organisation

Sickness Absence Review

Options for Future Use of the Guildhall

Health

End of Life Care – use and effectiveness of DNACPR form

Healthwatch Procurement Monitoring

Community Safety

Anti-social behaviour

Waste Review

Leisure & Culture

Demographics in Schools

Corporate Parenting

York Museums Trust

Economic & City Development

Reducing carbon footprint in privately rented sector

Ad-Hoc Scrutiny

City Centre Access

In addition, the Committees continue with a range of overview activities. In the case of Health and Community Safety, these Committees are also continuing with their statutory overview responsibilities in relation to health and crime and police affairs.

7. Members should also be aware that spend against this budget, when it was available, has historically been very little over the last 3 years. During these years, the combined spend against 'external consultancy' and 'market research' for scrutiny was:

2007/8 - £93

2008/9 - £620

2009/10 - £41 + £17k

2010/11 - £380

- 8. In 2009/10, a special carry forward to the budget was agreed by Council for the specific purpose of undertaking a public consultation survey in relation to an ongoing review at the time relating to traffic congestion.
- 9. Largely speaking, between 2007-2010, the amounts itemised above were spent on external site visits, venues and consultative meetings in communities. None of these however minimal have been possible in 2011/12 due to the lack of budgetary provision.

Consultation

10. No consultation is required on this report at this stage, given that it provides SMC with their constitutional opportunity to consider making a recommendation to Cabinet for a budget for scrutiny.

Options

- 11. (i) Having regard to the analysis section in this report, to note the information and make no further recommendation to Cabinet about re-instating a budget to specifically support external research and consultancy for scrutiny; or
 - (ii) to recommend Cabinet to re-instate budgetary support for external research and consultancy work, whilst providing a reason for making the request

Council Plan 2011-2015

12. Whilst this report does not in itself materially affect how the work of scrutiny can support and develop the Council's overall priorities set out in the Council Plan 2011-2015, how scrutiny organises itself, selects and conducts its reviews could have a significant impact on contributing to the Council's identified priorities.

Implications

- 13. **Financial** There would, of course, be a financial impact on the Council were SMC to recommend reinstating a budget for scrutiny and if Cabinet supported that proposal. The degree of impact would depend upon any budget level set and what other 'priorities' the Cabinet, and ultimately Full Council, had to put to one side in order to provide the scrutiny budget support recommended.
- 14. There are no Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, ITT, Crime & Disorder or other implications associated with this report. Constitutionally, SMC has the right to 'recommend to Cabinet a budget for scrutiny.'

Risk Management

15. Clearly, this Committee needs to address what it believes the current and future needs of scrutiny may be, taking into account the actual history of spend in the area concerned and the impact (if any) on performance. Based on previous years level of spend in this area, there is a risk that any budget allocation made in the future could largely remain unused. That could, of course, have a reputational impact on the scrutiny function.

Recommendations

16. Members are asked to consider whether they wish to make a recommendation to Cabinet for a scrutiny support budget for use on external consultation/market research, and if so, to what level.

Reason: To address the constitutional right of SMC to comment to

Cabinet on setting a scrutiny budget

Contact Details

Author: Dawn Steel Democratic Services Manager Tel No. 01904 551030	Chief Officer Responsible for the report: Andy Docherty Assistant Director Governance & ICT			
	Report Approved	Date	16 Nove	mber 2011
Specialist Implications Officer Debbie Mitchell Principal Accountant Tel: 01904 554161	r(s)			
Wards Affected:			All	V
For further information please	contact the aut	hor of the report		
Background Papers:				
None				
Annexes				
None				



Scrutiny Management Committee

28 November 2011

Report of the Assistant Director of ITT & Governance

Update on the role of Overview & Scrutiny in relation to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, and other Regional Responsibilities

Summary

1. This report provides information on the expected changes to the role of overview and scrutiny as a result of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, and an update on the work of the Yorkshire & Humber (LGYH) Members Regional Scrutiny Network. Members are encouraged to attend the forthcoming Members Regional Scrutiny Network event to be held here in York on 2 December 2011.

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

- 2. In October 2011 a Stakeholder Event hosted by the North Yorkshire Police Authority (NYPA) was held in Northallerton, to raise awareness of the government's forthcoming introduction of legislation which will allow the appointment of publicly elected Police and Crime Commissioners by May 2012, replacing Police Authorities. The election of North Yorkshire's Commissioner is to be managed by City of York Council's Electoral Services team, and the public voting arrangements will be based on the existing framework for Local Government and Parliamentary elections.
- 3. The role of a Police and Crime Commissioner will be to:
 - Ensure representation and engagement of all those who live and work in the communities in the force area and identify their policing needs;
 - Agree a local strategic plan;
 - Holding the Chief Constable to account;
 - Set the force budget and setting the precept;
 - Appointment and removal where necessary of the force Chief Constable.
- 4. In addition, the government intend to establish a new 'Police and Crime Panel' who will act as a advisory body to the Commissioner in

developing policing plans and setting budgets and consider annual performance through a 'state of the force report'. The panel will consist of local elected councillors from constituent wards along with independent and lay members. At the event, stakeholders received a presentation on the changes this will bring to the role of Overview and Scrutiny and how it will fit into the new landscape – see Annex A.

- 5. The government's aspiration is that the reforms underlying the proposed new approach will enable and encourage greater public cooperation with the police and increased involvement tackling neighbourhood crime. As part of the changes, the Government expects to revoke a number of the current regulations for Community Safety Partnerships while maintaining the central statutory duty on key partners to work together.
- 6. Further information on the recent Stakeholder Event and the other presentations provided, can be accessed via the NYPA website at: http://www.nypa.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=7665

Yorkshire & Humber (LGYH) Members Regional Scrutiny Network

- 7. In December 2009, the Yorkshire & Humber (LGYH) Members Regional Scrutiny Network was established, and terms of reference and a protocol for undertaking joint working were agreed. The legal basis for regional scrutiny lies in the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act (2009) whereby part 2 deals with governance in local authorities in relation to their overview and scrutiny arrangements. In summary, the purpose of the Network is to provide:
 - a forum for elected members who have a role within the scrutiny function to meet, make useful contacts with other members and officers, and to share 'experiences'.
 - a mechanism to share information, for example: scrutiny best practice; outcomes of scrutiny investigations; benchmarking; service planning; performance indicators; conference feedback and funding streams.
 - a mechanism to facilitate personal and professional development.
 - two way communications between Members of the Yorkshire & Humber authorities and public regional bodies; e.g. the Local Enterprise Partnerships;
 - · opportunities to:

- work jointly with City Regions where appropriate;
- > share ideas for improving scrutiny processes and enhancing effectiveness.
- share up to date information with the Centre for Public Scrutiny.
- 8. Development of the network was put on hold during the run up to the elections in May 2010. In light of the resulting fundamental shifts in national policy, it was agreed that a Regional Member Network Event would be held in September 2010, with the objective of establishing Members' consensus for continuing the work. A number of sub-regional meetings were held in the lead up to the event to fine tune the agenda and ensure that the outcomes of the event met expectations. Meetings were held at Grimsby, Bradford & North Yorkshire Councils with representation across from the sub regions at each meeting.
- 9. The Network event held in September 2010 was a well attended and as part of the event a number of workshops were held to update Members on the following key issues affecting the work of Overview & Scrutiny, as detailed in Annex B:
 - The Future Role of Scrutiny
 - Local Enterprise Partnerships
 - The Health Service
 - Climate Change
 - Policing, Community Safety & Accountability
- 10. More recently, scrutiny officers have been meeting across the region to prepare for the next Members regional scrutiny network event which is due to be held here in York on 2 December 2011. The event will focus on the Localism Bill and the Health and Social Care Bill which are currently completing their final legislative stages through Parliament. There is an expectation that Royal Assent is imminent in respect of the Localism Bill. The legislation, coupled with major policy changes including those associated with tourism and other government initiatives to restructure public service provision (including the Open Public Services White Paper) present both challenges and opportunities for Overview and Scrutiny.
- 11. The event will provide the opportunity for Members to consider the rapidly changing political and institutional landscape for local authorities and public service providers and the potential impact on the work of Overview and Scrutiny committees. The event will consider:
 - The changes associated with tourism across the region.

- The impact of the government's programme, including the most recent developments in the localism and health legislation.
- The challenges that this poses for Overview and Scrutiny.
- What activities scrutiny members might most usefully focus on in addressing these challenges?
- 12. The trainer Catherine Saltis, is a former Head of Scrutiny & Member Services at Rotherham Borough Council. She has supported members in their scrutiny and other roles through research, member development and delivery of programmes. Catherine is the Regional Advocate for Yorkshire and the Humber and the North East. She works as a trainer and consultant with local authorities and is an Associate of LGYH and the Centre for Public Scrutiny. The full programme for this regional event is attached at Annex C and all Members are encouraged to attend.

Council Plan 2011-2015

13. In an effort to embed truly effective overview and scrutiny within the Council and to show their collective commitment to the function, all parties i.e. Scrutiny Members, Cabinet Members and Chief Officers came together in July this year to identify some key joint priorities for scrutiny work for this municipal year. A number of topics were identified for each of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees that would support the Council's overall priorities as identified within the new Council Plan for 2011-15, and work is currently ongoing on a number of those reviews. In doing so, it was agreed that this would not preclude the review of other scrutiny topics identified by Members as and when appropriate, regardless of whether they fall outside of the priorities identified with the Council Plan.

Implications

14. There are no other known implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Risk Management

15. There are no known risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

Recommendations

16. To ensure Scrutiny Members are fully informed of legislative changes affecting the role of Overview & Scrutiny and of regional scrutiny activity, Members are recommended to:

- i. Note the information within this report;
- ii. Attend the forthcoming Members Regional Scrutiny Network Event on 2 December 2011, and encourage other Members to do so

Reason: To ensure the future work of Overview & Scrutiny in York reflects fully the forthcoming changes and remains robust and fit for purpose.

Contact Details

Author: Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Melanie Carr Andrew Docherty

Scrutiny Officer Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services

Scrutiny Services

Wards Affected:

All

Specialist Implications Officer(s) - None

For further information places contact the author of the report

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes:

Annex A – Presentation on the changing role of Overview & Scrutiny as a result of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

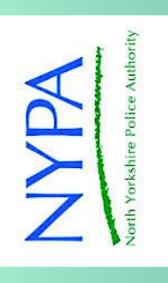
Annex B – Summary of Workshops held at Members Regional Scrutiny Network Event held in September 2010

Annex C – Agenda for Forthcoming Members Regional Scrutiny Network Event to be held in York in December 2012

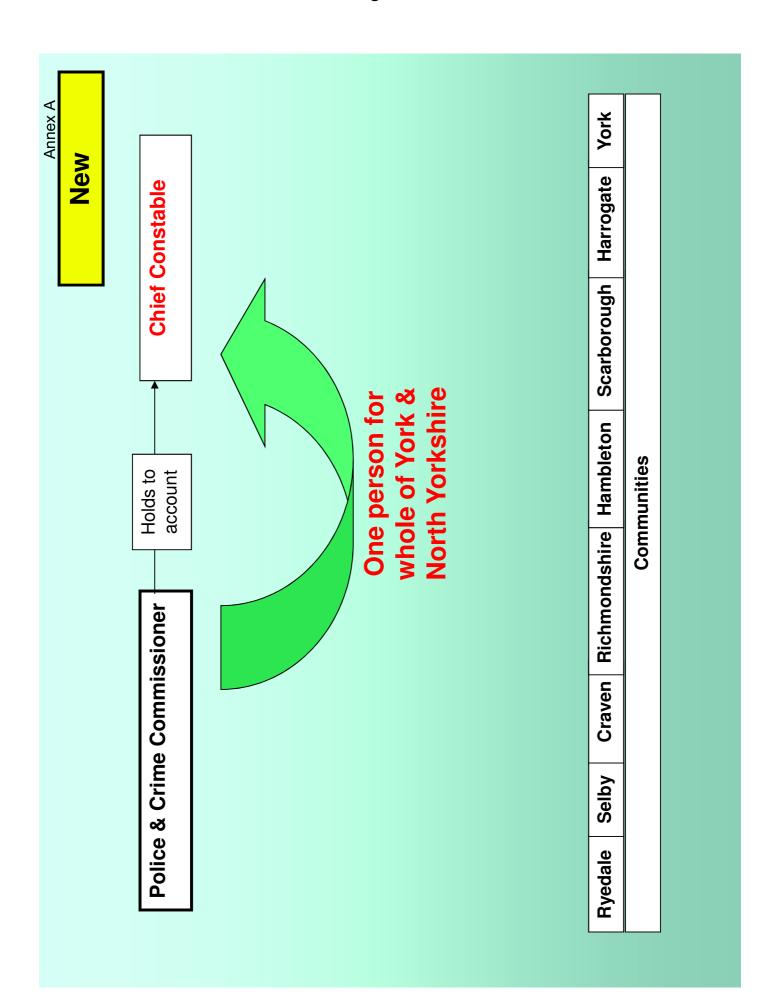
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Police Reform and Social Responsibilities Act 2011

A Role for Crime & Disorder Overview & Scrutiny Committees?



Stuart Pudney, Deputy Chief Executive



County Council, City of York and District Councils

"to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions" (s.19(1a))

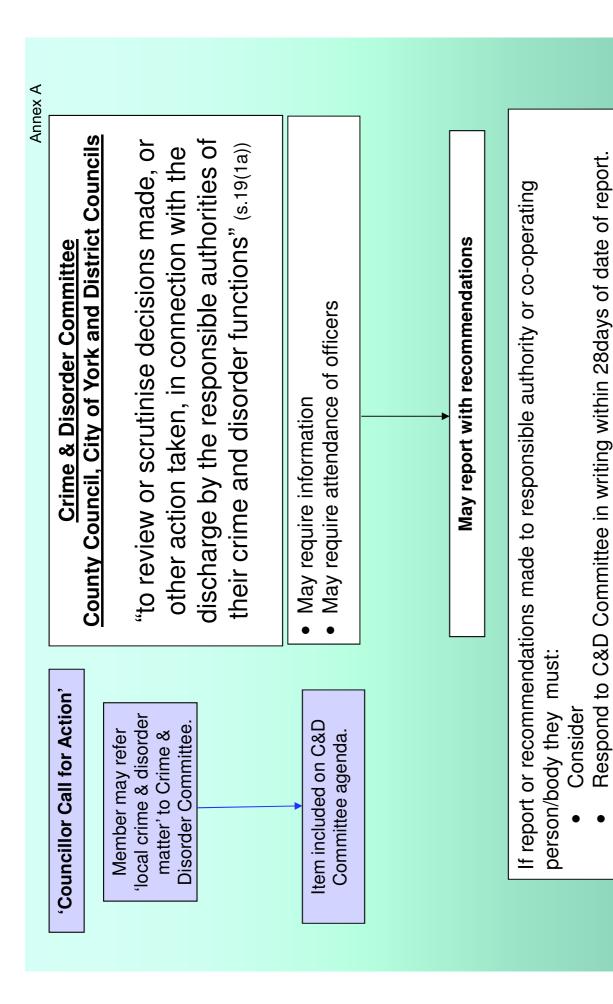
- "to review decisions & actions taken"
- "to scrutinise.....decisions & actions taken"
- "in connection with the discharge their crime & disorder functions"

crime/ASB/dring & alcohol/repeat offenders)

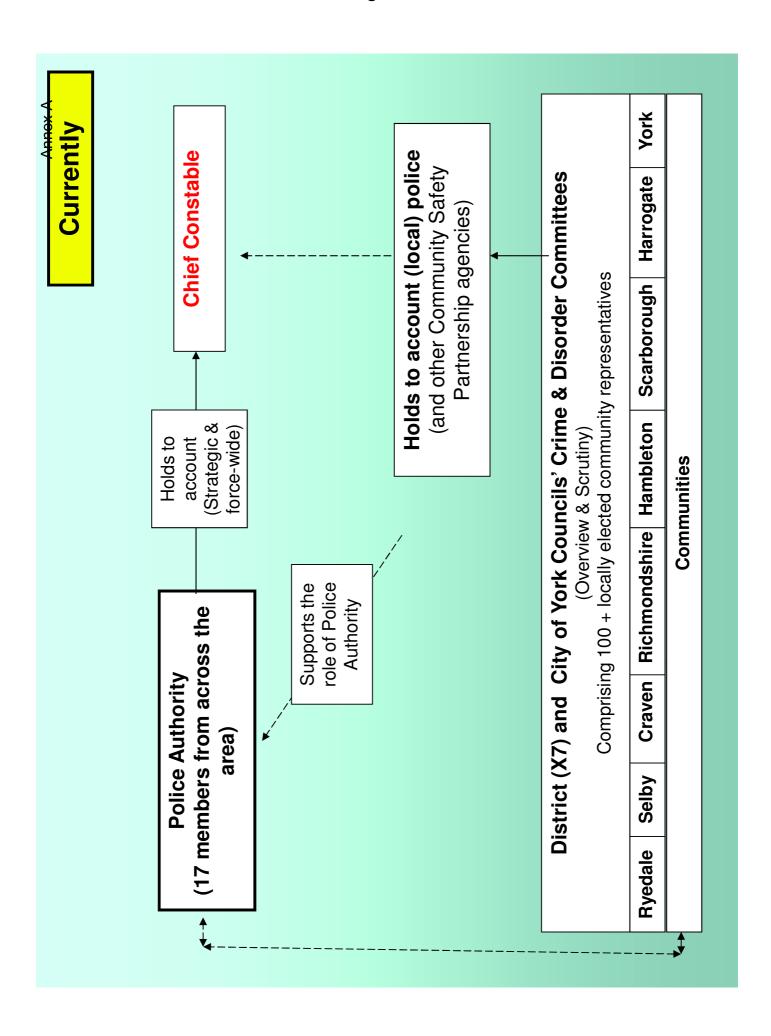
(crime/ASB/drugs & alcohol/repeat offenders)

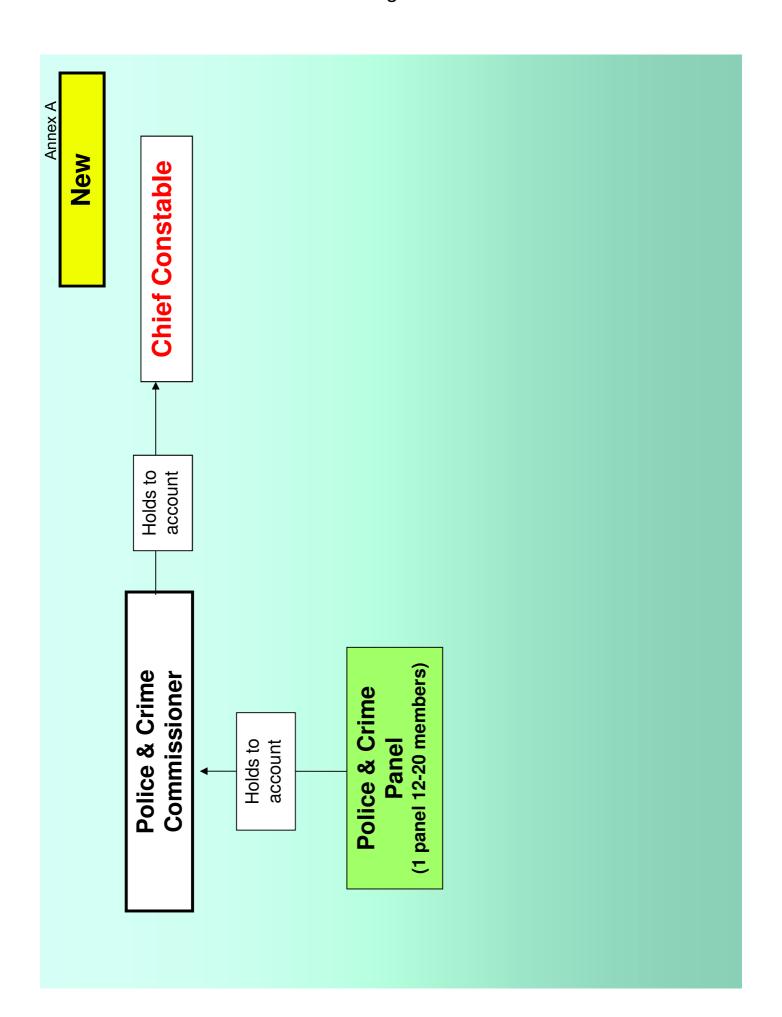
(CC & Dist. Councils, Police, Police Authority, Health, Probation, Fire) "by responsible bodies"

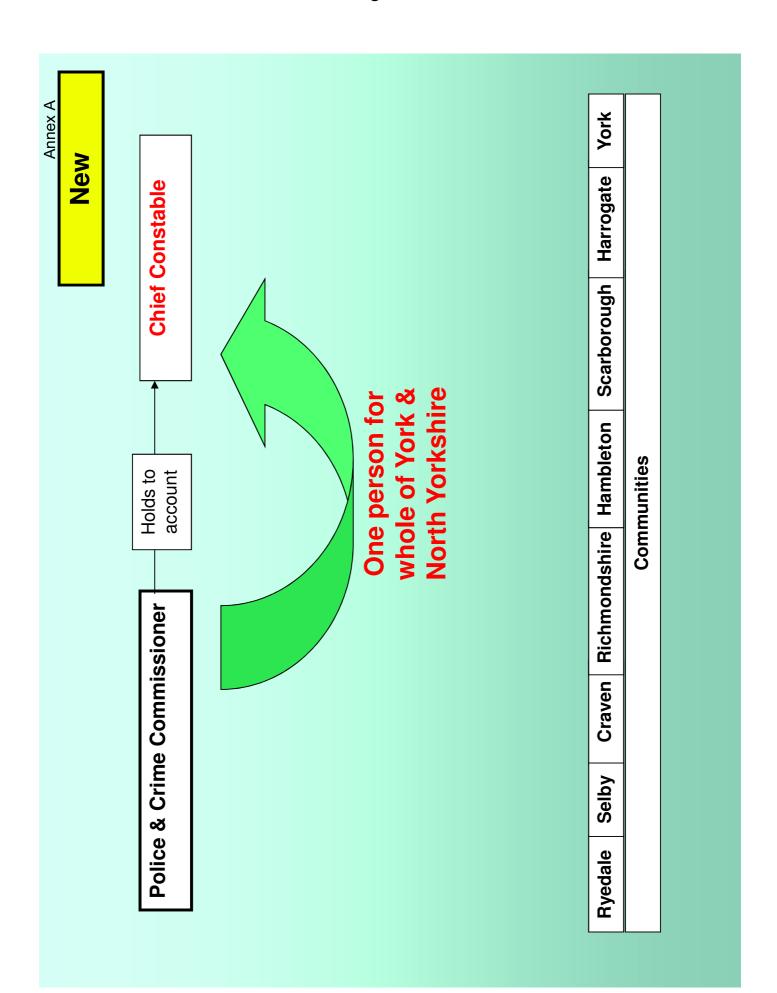
NOT decision making

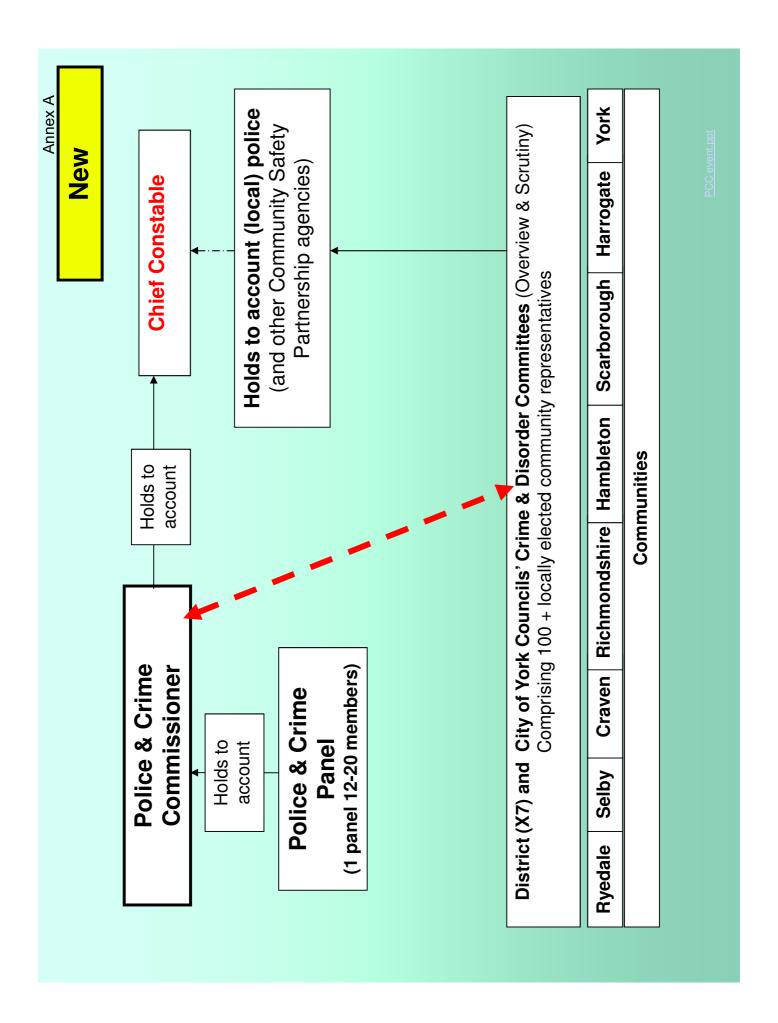


Have regard to in exercising functions









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Members Regional Scrutiny Network Event

Held 29 September 2010

As part of the event, Members participated in a number of workshops on the following topics:

The Future Role of Scrutiny

Members recognised that following the Comprehensive Spending Review and the changes to legislation governing how the public sector operates, those involved in local accountability would need to know and understand what the changes were likely to mean for them. They agreed the challenge ahead would be to understand and adapt to:

- The government's plans for accountability at national and local level, and how the localism, transparency and decentralisation agenda will affect this;
- What the abolition of the Audit Commission and other inspection regimes will mean for local accountability and scrutiny;
- How can locally based scrutineers work can together regionally/sub regionally to meet the challenges ahead.

Local Enterprise Partnerships

Following the disestablishment of the Joint Regional Board in July 2010 (set up to oversee regional economic and spatial development) and the announcement that the RDA (Yorkshire Forward) would cease to function by 2012, Members received information on the Coalition Government's introduction of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). These strategic public/private partnerships based on economic geographies (e.g. City Regions), will oversee economic development. Members considered the dual role of the City Region/functional sub region partnerships/LEP – i.e. joint working & decision making between the private & public sectors and discussed concerns around the following:

- the potential for getting it wrong in terms of boundaries, representation & governance;
- the lack of consultation due to short timescale for submissions;
- the 'core' cities in each city region/functional sub region leading/dominating the LEP;
- Scrutiny's role in reviewing their 'local' LEP to ensure it meets the needs of the local economy & community;
- The selection of political representation on the LEP

Having reached a consensus on the issues, Members agreed to send a delegation to attend the LGYH Executive meeting on 21st October 2010 to discuss with the LGYH Executive the Network's concerns.

The Health Service

Members received information on the White Paper 'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS', detailing how power will be devolved from Whitehall to patients and professionals, with the objective of freeing professionals to focus on improving health outcomes so that these are amongst the best in the world. As a result of the changes, the NHS will be streamlined with fewer layers of bureaucracy and the Strategic Health Authorities and Primary Care Trusts will be phased out by 2012. Members heard how under the new plans, patients will be able to choose which GP practice they register with, regardless of where they live, and choose between consultant-led teams. Also, GP Consortia will be given freedom and responsibility for commissioning care for their local communities with more joined up services, supported by a new role for Local Authorities to support integration across health and social care.

The key proposal in the White Paper is for local authorities to establish a statutory partnership, the 'Health and Wellbeing Board' which would have four main functions:

- To assess local need and lead on Joint Strategic Needs Assessments
- To promote integration and partnership across the NHS, social care and public health
- To support joint commissioning and pooled budget arrangements
- To undertake a scrutiny role in relation to major service re-design.

Climate Change

Members received information on the *Climate Change Act 2008* which set out the legal framework for adaptation policy in the UK and established an Adaptation Sub-Committee (ASC) of the Committee on Climate Change. The Act tasks the ASC with providing independent, expert advice to the UK Government and devolved administrations on the preparations for climate change and progress in implementing the National Adaptation Programme. In order to improve preparation and ensure that decisions made today do not close off options and make it harder to adapt in the future, the ASC identified the following five priority areas for immediate action:

land use planning

- providing national infrastructure
- managing natural resources
- designing and renovating buildings
- emergency planning

Members noted that adaptation will more often than not, comprise local responses to locally specific climate risks and opportunities, and that Local Authorities (LAs) will be essential to delivery. Along with public sector agencies, regulators, businesses and relevant professional bodies, LAs will need to invest in capacity building to improve planning, decision making, implementation and monitoring in relation to the issues.

Policing, Community Safety & Accountability

Members were informed of the government's plans for police reform some of which became part of the 'Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill'. The proposals put forward were based on three key principles:

- Transferring power back to the people through the introduction of directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners
- Transferring power away from national government through reducing bureaucracy
- Shifting the focus of government through the creation of a new crime agency.

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Local Government Yorkshire and the Humber Members Regional Scrutiny Network

Localism: Tourism & Health

Friday 2nd December 2011 - 9.30 a.m. - 2.15 p.m.

The Guildhall - City of York Council

Programme		
9.30 a.m.	Arrival and Registration with Refreshments Available	
10.00 a.m.	Welcome and Introduction Councillor John Galvin - Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny, City of York Council	
10.10 a.m.	Welcome to Yorkshire Clare Morrow – Chair, Welcome to Yorkshire	
10.30 a.m.	Question and Answer Session	
10.40 a.m.	Destination Management Organisation - Working Practice Councillor Caroline Bayliss, Harrogate Borough Council	
10.50 a.m.	Question and Answer Session	
11.00 a.m.	The Localism Bill Councillor Steve Eling - Deputy Leader, Sandwell Borough Council & Catherine Saltis, LGYH & Centre for Public Scrutiny	
12.00 noon	Health and Social Care Bill Catherine Saltis, LGYH & Centre for Public Scrutiny	
12.30 p.m.	Lunch Break	
1.00 p.m.	Workshops - Implications for Local Government and Scrutiny	
* *	Standards and Governance - Melanie Carr, City of York Council Community Assets & Planning - Councillor Steve Eling, Sandwell BC Tourism - Joan Binns, Business Consultant Health and Well Being Boards - Catherine Saltis, LGYH/CfPS Public Health - Bronwen Moss, Rotherham MBC	
1.45 p.m.	Feedback and Plenary	
2.10 p.m.	Closing Remarks - Councillor John Galvin	
2.15 p.m.	Close of Event	

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