

Place Scrutiny Commission

24th July 2017



Report of: Service Director, Legal & Democratic Services

Title: Place Scrutiny Commission Annual Business Report 2017/18

Ward: N/A

Officer Presenting Report: Johanna Holmes – Scrutiny Advisor

Contact Telephone Number: 0117 90 36898

Recommendation

- (1) To elect a Vice Chair for the municipal year 2017-2018
- (2) To note the Place Scrutiny Commission Terms of Reference
- (3) To confirm the next meeting date set for 2017/18.
- (4) To note the topics that were selected as priorities for Scrutiny at the OSMB workshop on 26th June 2017



Context and Proposal

1. Terms of Reference of the Commission

- I. **As the** Overview and Scrutiny Management Board is currently undertaking a review of the Council's scrutiny arrangements it is proposed that the current scrutiny structure is retained, pending the outcome of the scrutiny review.
- II. The recommendations from the review, including recommendations on a future scrutiny structure, **will therefore be** reported to a future Full Council meeting.
- III. In the interim and at the meeting on 23rd May 2017 Full Council established the Place Scrutiny Commission with the following terms of reference:

PLACE SCRUTINY COMMISSION

Terms of Reference

Overview

The role of the commission is the overview and scrutiny of matters relating to the Place Directorate including property, planning and place strategy, highways and transport management development and regeneration, and the statutory flood risk management scrutiny function.

Functions

- I. To ensure that overview and scrutiny directly responds to corporate and public priorities, is used to drive service improvement, provides a focus for policy development and engages members of the public, key stakeholders and partner agencies.
- II. To develop an annual work programme within the total of ten meetings per year allocated to the Commission which concentrates on limited areas for in depth review (including the use of time limited task and finish groups to facilitate this e.g. Select Committees, Working Groups, Inquiry Days) using the following framework:
 - (a) Scrutiny of corporate plans and other major plan priorities with particular reference to those areas where targets are not being met or progress is slow;
 - (b) Input to significant policy developments or service reviews;
 - (c) Review and scrutiny of decisions made, or other action taken in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the Mayor/Executive, functions which are not the responsibility of the Executive, and functions which are the responsibility of any other bodies the Council is authorised to scrutinise.
- III. To make reports and recommendations to Full Council, the Mayor/Executive and/or any other body on matters within their remit and on matters which affect the authority's area or the

inhabitants of that area and to monitor the response, implementation and impact of recommendations.

- IV. To work in collaboration with the Mayor/relevant Executive Member and receive updates from that member on key policy developments, decisions taken or to be taken and progress against corporate priorities.
- V. To report on a quarterly basis to the Overview and Scrutiny Board on progress against the work programme and on any recommendations it makes.

The Commission is asked to note its terms of reference as agreed by Full Council Recommendation 2)

2. Confirm the date of the next meeting as: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm 28th September 2017

The commission is asked to confirm its next meeting date in 2017/18 (Recommendation 3)

3. The Commission is asked to note the following topics that were selected as priorities for Scrutiny at the OSMB workshop on 26th June 2017. The next steps are for these to be scoped out to enable decisions to be made as to methodology, timescale and resource allocation.

- Parks (becoming cost neutral) – Lead by Cllr Charlie Bolton, Jude English and Gill Kirk
- Council Commissioning and Contracts (to include Social Value) – Lead by Cllrs Graham Morris, Don Alexander, Tom Brook.
- Reducing Demand on Social Services (adults & children’s) - lead by Cllr Brenda Massey and Gill Kirk.
- Council Assets (including strategy, community asset transfer and an acknowledged link to libraries and children centres) – Lead by Cllrs Jude English, Anthony Negus and Brenda Massey, Graham Morris
- Cribbs Patchway New Neighbourhood - lead by Cllrs Tom Brook, Brenda Massey and Geoff Gollop
- Air Quality & Pollution – Lead by Cllrs Gill Kirk, Charlie Bolton and Tom Brook, Jude English
- Children’s Centres – lead by Cllrs Anna Keen and Brenda Massey
- Libraries – lead by Cllrs Anthony Negus, Brenda Massey, Geoff Gollop and Charlie Bolton
- Tower Block Fire Safety – lead by Cllr Charlie Bolton
- MTFP – Lead by Cllr Geoff Gollop, Graham Morris & Don Alexander
- Youth Council – Cllrs Anna Keen and Tom Brook to speak to Youth Council and establish if and how Scrutiny can support them

The Commission is asked to note the topics that were selected as priorities for Scrutiny at the OSMB workshop on 26th June 2017 (Recommendation 4)

Policy

1. N/A

Consultation

2. **Internal**
N/A

3. **External**
N/A

4. **Other Options Considered**

N/A

5. **Risk Assessment**

N/A

6 **Legal and Resource Implications**

N/A

7. **Public Sector Equality Duties**

Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:

- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
- ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);

- encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.

Appendices:

None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None.