

Scrutiny Task and Finish - Progress Updates and Next Steps (February 2018)

	Group Title	Progress update and next steps
1	Parks <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Romayne de Fonseca</i>	<p>The Group met on 11th December and focussed on the revised financial situation since the removal of the requirement to become cost-neutral by 2020, also an update on the ongoing public consultation. Discussion also centred around the merits of alternative models of service delivery. Representatives from the Parks Forum attended the meeting and partook in the discussion. The next meeting will be on 6th February and will include the Parks Forum briefing members on the details of the impending Nesta bid (“Rethinking Parks”) which is being made jointly by the Parks Forum and BCC.</p>
2	Council Commissioning & Contracts <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Louise deCordova</i>	<p>The Contracts and Commissioning task group met on 13 December and considered an annual review of the council’s application of the Social Value Policy Toolkit in procurement, which included stakeholder feedback and expert evidence from the voluntary sector (VOSCUR) and the Federation of Small Business (FSB). In addition, the group discussed the concept of using public services, through ‘anchor institutions’, to build better local economies. From the discussion, two work streams emerged:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A refresh of the Social Value Policy Toolkit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the understanding and the engagement of micro and small businesses with the Council’s procurement processes e.g. through plain English guidance, sample case studies, and a ‘bidder’s event’. • To share and develop the consideration of social value policy in procurement with other public sector ‘anchor’ institutions and city partners. 2. Make the case for collaborative procurement and encourage procurement-in-line-with-values in the city through Anchor Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate a process of consultation and engagement with the Mayor and Cabinet, anchor institutions and city stakeholders to consider the benefits of, and make the case for, collaborative procurement to build a better city economy. <p>Members will hold a joint session on 7 February, with the Adults and Children’s Social Services Task Groups to consider how elected members can have earlier engagement in the procurement and commissioning process. The session will be a dialogue with commissioners, considering lessons learned from previous commissioning processes and propose recommendations for future councillor engagement.</p> <p>Future meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/2/18 (joint session with the Adults and Children’s Social Care task groups)
3a	Demand on Social Services (Adults) <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i>	<p>Members agreed a joint session with Children’s Social Services and the Contracts and Commissioning Task and Finish Groups to consider how elected members can have earlier engagement in the procurement and commissioning process.</p>

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	<i>Louise deCordova</i>	<p>Future meetings will discuss Delayed Transfers of Care, consider social prescribing and explore the potential for use of assistive technology to transform services and save resources.</p> <p>Future meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/2/18 (joint session) • 19/02/18 • 26/02/18 (rescheduled from 22/1/18) • 19/03/18
3b	Demand on Social Services (Children) <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Louise deCordova</i>	<p>Members agreed a joint session with the Adult Social Services and the Contracts and Commissioning Task and Finish Groups to consider how elected members can have earlier engagement in the procurement and commissioning process.</p> <p>Future meetings will seek to carry out stakeholder activity with young people to understand how to prevent children and young people going into care; and develop subject knowledge/expertise.</p> <p>Future meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/2/18 (joint session)
4	Council Assets <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Jo Holmes</i>	<p>The Council Assets Group is now Chaired by Cllr O'Rourke. They met on the 26/01/18 at which the Interim Head of Asset Management provided an overview presentation on Asset Management, Best Practice, Developing a Property Strategy and what this means for Bristol City Council and the City.</p> <p>The aim of the meeting was to ensure that all members of the group are at a consistent level of understanding and reach a consensus of opinion on the direction and focus moving forward. The discussions focused on the approach being taken, what type of council Bristol aspires to be in the future. There was general agreement amongst members that for the time being the group would take a strategic view and follow the developmental process with property officers and then when the time is right they will likely select a specific strand of property to focus their attention on.</p> <p>The next meeting is currently being arranged for February where Colin Molton (Interim Executive Director: Growth and Regeneration) and Cllr Cheney (Cabinet Member for Finance, Governance and Performance) will also attend.</p>
5	Cribbs Patchway New Neighbourhood <i>Scrutiny Advisor: Jo Holmes</i>	<p>The group last met on the 11th January. This was a single agenda item meeting where Transport Officers briefed Members of the group on the current developments and outcome of the Network Rail report with regards to the options for the new Henbury train station.</p>

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		<p>Transport Officers have said that the modelling scenario information / results for the main transport corridors still isn't yet available. They are currently looking at ways to begin some of the outline preparation work in advance so that they can present this to Members fairly soon.</p> <p>The Scrutiny Advisor is regularly asking Transport Officers when they will be ready to take this forward with the group. Date of next meeting is TBC</p>
6	Air Quality & Pollution <i>Scrutiny Advisor: Jo Holmes</i>	<p>A meeting was held on the 8th January where Members were taken through content of the forthcoming February Cabinet Report which included the technical work undertaken for options for the development of a 'Clean Air Plan for Bristol'. This meeting was carried out with Members in advance of the Cabinet Report being published so that the Task and Finish Group's views could be taken into account and also included in the Cabinet report as 'feedback from Scrutiny'.</p> <p>Date of the next meeting and the details are yet TBC</p>
7	Children's Centres <i>Scrutiny Advisor: Romayne de Fonseca</i>	<p>An initial briefing with the Service Manager is to be arranged, to bring members up to speed on the new model currently under implementation and to agree what the outcome measures of the new model will be. Following this, the Group will start work in the early autumn to allow the new structure time to bed in.</p>
8	Libraries <i>Scrutiny Advisor: Romayne de Fonseca</i>	<p>The Conclusions of the T&F Group went to Cabinet on 4th December and a formal response was provided by the Mayor. This concludes Phase 1 of the Group's work, which now moves on to Phase 2. An engagement workshop for members led by Mutual Ventures consultants is planned for 7th February, subject to the agreement of the Chair. The T&F Group will decide about future meeting dates.</p>
9	Fire Safety in Council-owned High Rise Buildings <i>Scrutiny Advisor: Romayne de Fonseca</i>	<p>Proposed that this would take place after the government recommendations have been issued. The timescale for this is unclear at the present time.</p>
10	Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) / Budget <i>Scrutiny Advisor: Louise deCordova</i>	<p>Members held a meeting on the 5/1/18 and 16/1/18 to review the work of the group to date and consider the published Budget.</p> <p>Public meetings took place with OSMB on 18th and 22nd January 2018 to review the corporate strategy and budget consultation documents and proposals, and contribute to recommendations and comments to Cabinet.</p> <p>Future meeting dates to be considered in due course.</p>
11	Youth Council Priority	<p>There are no further up-dates since the previous one which is that Bristol City Youth Council (BCYC) have said that they</p>

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	<i>(this is not a Task & Finish Group)</i> <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Jo Holmes</i>	would welcome some support towards their priority of 'Education for Life - Current PSHE curriculum'. Details of what this is, how and when it will happen will be discussed and agreed at a meeting on Monday 5 th February (postponed from 8 th January).