

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

	Group Title	Progress update and next steps
1	Parks <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Romayne de Fonseca</i>	<p>The Group met on 6th February. Items included a session led by the Parks Forum on the impending Nesta bid (“Rethinking Parks”) which is being made jointly by the Parks Forum and BCC. The Forum was seeking the support of the T&F Group, which it received. Provisional outcomes of the recently ended public consultation were also discussed, and it was noted that further conversations about implementation of these proposals would be required. There was debate as to whether the next meeting should be a special budget session, further guidance is being sought from members on this. Further discussion is also required to review the aims of the T&F Group and confirm the long and short term objectives.</p>
2	Council Commissioning & Contracts <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Louise deCordova</i>	<p>The Contracts and Commissioning task group held 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 was a dialogue with commissioners, considering lessons learned from previous commissioning processes and proposed recommendations for future councillor engagement and opportunities for joint working.</p>
3a	Demand on Social Services (Adults) <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Louise deCordova</i>	<p>Members held a joint session on 7 February, with the Contracts and Commissioning and Children’s Social Services Task Groups to consider how elected members can have earlier engagement in the procurement and commissioning process. The session was a dialogue with commissioners, considering lessons learned from previous commissioning processes and proposed recommendations for future councillor engagement and opportunities for joint working.</p> <p>On 19 February, the group met to explore the potential for use of assistive technology to transform services and save resources.</p> <p>The next meeting will discuss Delayed Transfers of Care and consider social prescribing.</p> <p>Future meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19/03/18
3b	Demand on Social Services (Children) <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Louise deCordova</i>	<p>Members held a joint session on 7 February, with the Contracts and Commissioning and Adult’s Social Services Task Groups to consider how elected members can have earlier engagement in the procurement and commissioning process. The session was a dialogue with commissioners, considering lessons learned from previous commissioning processes and proposed recommendations for future councillor engagement and opportunities for joint working.</p> <p>Future meetings will consider the following:</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To test that the Early help offer from the Council is meeting the needs of families • To scrutinise the demands being placed on statutory services and whether future transformation work will improve outcomes at reduced cost • To consider offer to young people provided by the new targeted youth service <p>Future meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14/3/18
4	Council Assets <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Jo Holmes</i>	<p>The group last met on the 26th January when the Interim Head of Asset Management gave a presentation on 'Asset Management and what this means for Bristol City Council and the City'.</p> <p>Following on from this the Interim Executive Director: Growth and Regeneration has requested that he and the Interim Program Manager (Property - Asset Strategy) attend the next meeting. This will now be on the 9th March, 10.30am. This meeting will be to take a closer look at some of the data that's being gathered and timelines for the current processes.</p>
5	Cribbs Patchway New Neighbourhood <i>Scrutiny Advisor: Jo Holmes</i>	<p>The group last met in January when they were briefed on the current developments and outcome of the Network Rail report with regards to the options for the new Henbury train station.</p> <p>The Scrutiny Advisor has been in touch with Transport Officers, who are still waiting for the traffic modelling information from the consultants that will help to inform the traffic mitigation measures on the A4108.</p> <p>Date of next meeting TBC.</p>
6	Air Quality & Pollution <i>Scrutiny Advisor: Jo Holmes</i>	<p>The last meeting was held in January where Members were taken through content of the forthcoming February March 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:</i> <i>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>

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8	Libraries <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Romayne de Fonseca</i>	The Conclusions of the T&F Group went to Cabinet on 4 th 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 was held on 7 th February. The T&F Group is holding its next meeting on 1 st March which has been organised by the Chair, not the Scrutiny Team. The further direction of the group is to be confirmed.
9	Fire Safety in Council-owned High Rise Buildings <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Romayne de Fonseca</i>	Proposed that this would take place after the government recommendations have been issued. The timescale for this is unclear at the present time.
10	Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) / Budget <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Louise deCordova</i>	It was agreed that further engagement and feedback at key stages of the budget cycle should continue to take place throughout the year with a view to gain clear oversight of the Council's financial governance processes and budgets. The schedule for future meeting dates to be considered in due course.
11	Youth Council Priority (this is not a Task & Finish Group) <i>Scrutiny Advisor:</i> <i>Jo Holmes</i>	<p>Prior to the Bristol City Youth Council (BCYC) meeting February 5th some Members who'd previously expressed an interest in this priority met at fairly short notice to discuss what the approach should be moving forward. It was highlighted how difficult it is for scrutiny to have a direct impact the BCYC's priorities. So it was proposed at the pre-meeting that support to the BCYC it's approached slightly differently in future, and it was provisionally agreed that the aim would be to have one named Cllr at from each party to support the YC however they wished to make use of them. It was recognised that this will need be discussed and confirmed at OSMB. For info: this proposal was briefly discussed by those at the pre-meeting with Martin James that evening who also agreed this would be a good way forward.</p> <p>There were two actions identified at the PHSE sub-grp meeting afterwards which were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllrs who are also school governors to help ensure there is a contact in every school for the BCYC as this network is still very patchy. This would ideally be the head teacher or a deputy or, if in place, the designated teacher dealing with PSHE. • The BCYC are planning a select committee / inquiry day in the autumn on PHSE. Some of the planning of this began on 5th Feb and the young people have said that they would appreciate some future support from scrutiny on the planning of and the event itself.