

# Communities Scrutiny Commission 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020



**Report of:** Service Director, Legal & Democratic Services

**Title:** Communities Scrutiny Commission Annual Business Report 2020/2021.

**Ward:** N/A

**Officer Presenting Report:** Bronwen Falconer, Scrutiny Advisor

**Contact Telephone Number:** 07584640086

## Recommendations

1. To elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the 2020/2021 municipal year
2. To note the Scrutiny Commission's Terms of Reference
3. To note the membership of the Commission for the 2020/2021 municipal year
4. To confirm the 2020/2021 meeting dates for the Scrutiny Commission



## **1. Context and Proposal**

### **1.1 Terms of Reference of the Commission**

At its meeting on 21 May 2020 Full Council established this commission with the following terms of reference:

#### **COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

##### **Terms of reference - Overview**

The role of the Commission is the overview and scrutiny of matters relating to the Communities Directorate including; Customer Services, Housing & Landlord Services (including housing options, private sector housing, and estate management) Crime and Disorder (including the Statutory Scrutiny Function), recycling, waste and environmental issues, neighbourhoods, sport, leisure and physical activity and Area Committees.

##### **Functions**

1. 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.
2. To action the Annual Work Programme set by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board using the following framework:
  - (a) Scrutiny of corporate plans and other major plan priorities within its remit, 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 scrutinise 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.
3. 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.

4. 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.
5. To report to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on progress against the work programme and on any recommendations it makes.

### **1.2 Membership:**

Cllr Jo Sergeant  
Cllr Estella Tincknell  
Cllr Jon Wellington  
Cllr Don Alexander  
Cllr Barry Clark  
Cllr Graham Morris  
Cllr Matt Melias  
Cllr Martin Fodor  
Cllr Carla Denyer  
Cllr Anthony Negus

### **1.3 Chair's casting vote:**

If there are equal numbers of votes for and against, the chair will have a second or casting vote.

### **1.4 2020-2021 Meeting Dates**

- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020, 10am
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 5pm
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021, 2pm

## **2. Policy**

N/A

## **3. Consultation**

N/A

#### 4. Risk Assessment

N/A

#### 5. Public Sector Equality Duties

1. 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.
- ii) 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.

#### 6. Legal and Resource Implications

N/A

**Appendices:**

None

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**Background Papers:**

- Full Council, 21 May 2020