

REPORT TO BUDGET AND CORPORATE SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

10 July 2019

Subject:	Scrutiny Review
Director:	Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Suky Suthi-Nagra Democratic Services Manager 0121 569 3479

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board:

1. consider and comment upon the process for the Scrutiny Review.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 Officers will provide the Scrutiny Management Board with an update on the review of the scrutiny function for consideration and comment.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR VISION 2030

- 2.1 Each of the Council's ten ambitions are aligned to scrutiny activity across all Boards and Work Groups. The focus of scrutiny work is to support and contribute to the Sandwell Vision 2030.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Article 6 of the Council's Constitution sets out the framework for Scrutiny Boards, specifying their terms of reference, general role and specific functions. Article 6.03(d) of the Council's Constitution requires that Scrutiny reports annually to the Council on its work.
- 3.2 The review of the scrutiny function would ensure that activities and outcomes arising from scrutiny activity would contribute to the Sandwell Vision 2030.
- 3.3 Scrutiny Boards deliver the work programme using a variety of methodologies. A range of witnesses from the Council, partner organisations, service users and providers will be engaged in scrutiny activities.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 Government statutory guidance on overview and scrutiny was published in May 2019. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). [Overview and scrutiny: statutory guidance for councils and combined authorities.](#)
- 4.2 The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) [Good Scrutiny Guide](#) was published in June 2019. The good scrutiny guide was prepared to compliment the statutory guidance.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 Members, Officers and other stakeholders will be consulted as part of the review.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 Alternative ways of working will be considered and benchmarking with other Local Authorities will be considered.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no strategic resource implication arising directly from this report.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Scrutiny Boards discharge the functions conferred by section 12 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the subsequent legislation.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 There are no equality implications arising directly from this report.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

10.1 There are no data protection implications arising directly from this report.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

11.1 There are no crime and disorder implications arising directly from this report.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

12.1 The scrutiny function should be reviewed regularly to ensure working practices are fit for purpose.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising directly from this report. Scrutiny reports and reviews consider added value when scoping topics and items to be considered.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

There is no impact on any Council managed property or land arising directly from this report.

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 The Scrutiny Management Board will receive an update on the Scrutiny Review and is invited to consider and comment upon the process for the review.

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