

Report of the Monitoring Officer

CONTINUING EFFECTIVE SCRUTINY

1. Purpose of Report

To inform the Committee of their specific powers and to identify topics for scrutiny.

2. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to NOTE the process and forms for identifying topics for scrutiny.

3. Detail

This Committee has been appointed to scrutinise the actions of the Executive and to review the policies and practices of the Council. It has the power to inquire, research and report on matters within its remit and can determine which topics are selected for scrutiny. In addition, it can 'call-in' decisions of the Executive within three days of the publication of Cabinet minutes, enabling further consideration to be given to them. Chapter 2 Part 7 of the constitution is included at appendix 1.

It is suggested that, initially, topics for scrutiny be suggested by Councillors and Officers through the use of the Scrutiny Form at appendix 2. Topics that are to be investigated will then be scoped using the Scoping Form at appendix 3. Once an opening work programme is established, the aim is to allow members of the public to refer matters of concern to the Committee.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

There are no anticipated financial implications for the Council's approved budget.

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

The requirement for local authorities in England to establish overview and scrutiny committees is set out in sections 9F to 9FI of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended by the Localism Act 2011. This was to ensure Members of an authority who were not part of the executive could hold the executive to account for the decisions and actions that affect their communities.

6. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

Not applicable

7. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

Not applicable

8. Climate Change Implications

The comments from the Waste and Climate Change Manager were as follows:

Not applicable

9. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any [OFFICIAL (SENSITIVE)] information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment

As this is a change to policy / a new policy an equality impact assessment is included in the appendix to this report.

11. Background Papers

Nil