

Part 7 – Terms of Reference

SCRUTINY

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

The Council will appoint and determine the remit of at least one Scrutiny Committee.

1. Purpose

- 2.1 To scrutinise the budget-setting process, co-ordinate and allocate time limited panels, agree and co-ordinate with the relevant director(s) and portfolio holder(s) an annual work programme for agreement by full Council, review and advise scrutiny members on the Cabinet Forward Plan and to consider public consultation exercises and petitions.
- 2.2 To monitor and review the policies and practices of and services provided by the Council, its partners and contractors within the remit of the Committee.
- 2.3 To investigate how successfully Council policies deliver these services and to make recommendations on future policy development. To do this by scrutinising the effectiveness and appropriateness of Council policies, by focusing on the outcomes of policy, performance and service delivery and their impact on service users.
- 2.4 To scrutinise decisions of Cabinet that affect matters falling within the remit of each Committee.
- 2.5 To undertake particular reviews of services within the Committee's remit as may be requested from time to time by Council or Cabinet and to make reports or recommendations to Council or Cabinet on matters which affect these services in the Borough's areas.
- 2.6 To monitor and evaluate performance and receive reports on matters relevant to the achievement of the five key outcomes of the Children

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Act 2004 (stay safe, be healthy, enjoy and achieve, achieve economic well-being, make a positive contribution) by the Council and its partner organisations.

- 2.7 To make reference where appropriate to the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
- 2.8 To consider matters relating to Early Years and education, where appropriate.
- 2.9 In order to do so, a Scrutiny Committee may:
 - 2.9.1 Call for and receive reports on matters within the remit of the Committee;
 - 2.9.2 Require Members of the Cabinet and officers within all tiers of management to attend the Committee and provide written and oral evidence;
 - 2.9.3 Invite witnesses from within and from outside the Council to provide written and/or oral evidence;
 - 2.9.4 Make recommendations on policy, practice and service provision to the Cabinet and Council; and
 - 2.9.5 Establish time-limited scrutiny panels in pursuit of the purposes of the Committee.
- 2.10 To establish and oversee arrangements for the implementation of the Councillor Call for Action process under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (now contained in Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000)

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