

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEES – REVISED NAMES AND REMITS

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### 1. Summary

This paper presents the revised Scrutiny Committee names and remits to Council following their agreement of the recommendations of the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. The implementations of all of the agreed recommendations will continue over the coming months as the Scrutiny develops to compliment the Council becoming a Commissioning Council.

### 2. Recommendations

- A. That the Committee Titles and remits set out in this report are endorsed
- B. That the political balance is relaxed for all Task and Finish Groups
- C. That the statutory powers for Health Scrutiny are delegated to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee
- D. That the named members of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee are confirmed as members for the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

## REPORT

### 3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 There are no direct risks or equalities issues associated with the paper. Scrutiny has a role in supporting the Council's approach to Risk Management through its work and consideration of issues including the impact or commissioning decisions.
- 3.2 Each report to Scrutiny Committees and each specific scrutiny review will include assessments of risk, equalities impacts, the environment, and any consultation that has been undertaken or will need to be undertaken.

#### 4. Financial Implications

4.1 The recommendations in this report will all be delivered within the existing budgets and support arrangements for the Council's proposals for the Scrutiny Committees.

#### 5. Background

5.1 At their meeting of the 16 May 2013 Council considered the report of the Scrutiny Review Task and Finish Group and agreed to the recommendations. Work is underway through the Scrutiny Chairs Group to identify the shape of Scrutiny and the actions to implement the recommendations.

#### 6. Additional Information

6.1 The Scrutiny Committees are beginning to discuss their work programmes and the relationships they will need to have with the respective Portfolio Holders who will be making decisions within their areas of responsibility.

6.2 There is a strong link to commissioning which is expected to be key feature of Scrutiny's development over the coming months and years. Sometimes this may involve supporting decision makers with proactive scrutiny and evidence, or it could focus on consideration of the impact of commissioning decisions on achieving outcomes. The setting of the work programmes and the direction for Scrutiny will be supported by the agreement of the recommendations in this report

6.3 The current Scrutiny Committee titles, new titles and new remits are set out in the table below, along with the linked Portfolio Holders.

<b>Current Committee Title</b>	<b>New Committee Title</b>	<b>New Committee Remit</b>	<b>Linked Portfolio Holder(s)</b>
Safe and Confident Communities Scrutiny Committee	Young People's Scrutiny Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young People &amp; Children's Services Transformation &amp; Safeguarding</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• MYPs</li> <li>• Youth Services</li> <li>• Young People and Children's Health</li> </ul>	Cllr Ann Hartley
Healthy Communities Scrutiny Committee	Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health – including Public Health (Health Prevention), Acute Primary and Secondary Health provision.</li> <li>• Working with the Health and Wellbeing Board.</li> <li>• Statutory Health Scrutiny powers</li> <li>• Adult Services – Transformation &amp; Safeguarding.</li> </ul>	Cllr. Karen Calder  Cllr. Tim Barker
Enterprise and Growth Scrutiny Committee	Enterprise and Growth Scrutiny Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Growth</li> <li>• Built Environment – Strategic Planning, Planning, Housing</li> <li>• Highways/Transport/Commissioning</li> </ul>	Cllr. Steve Charmley Cllr. Mal Price  Cllr. Claire Wild

Protecting and Enhancing our Environment Scrutiny Committee	Environment & Services Scrutiny Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural Environment</li> <li>• Waste Management</li> <li>• Public Protection</li> <li>• Social Housing</li> <li>• Drugs &amp; Alcohol Misuse</li> <li>• Leisure and Libraries</li> </ul>	Cllr. Gwilym Butler
Performance and Strategy Scrutiny Committee	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth, Profitability and IP&amp;E</li> <li>• Corporate Issues Finance &amp; Audit, Performance</li> <li>• Reputation management and communications</li> <li>• Police and Crime Commissioner</li> <li>• Voluntary and Community Sector</li> </ul>	Cllr. Lee Chapman Cllr. Mike Owen  Cllr. Keith Barrow

6.3 Over the past few years Task and Finish groups have been politically balanced. However the Scrutiny Review found that this had the potential to restrict the involvement of Members who have relevant knowledge and experience and /or were interested in the topic. The relaxation of political balance for all Task and Finish groups would significantly enable this to be overcome and would support the effective involvement of Members to maximise their impact through Scrutiny. A protocol setting out the appointment of Members to Task and Finish Groups is attached to the report at Appendix 2.

6.4 There are some specific powers to undertake the statutory Health Scrutiny function conferred on the Council as set out in Part 5 (section 190) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012. For Shropshire the recommendation is for these powers to be delegated to the Council's Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee.

6.5 As part of the statutory requirements for Health Scrutiny, Councils should establish Joint Health Scrutiny Committees where health related issues affect more than one Council.

6.6 Shropshire Council and Telford and Wrekin Council share the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital Trust. There has been a long standing Joint Health Scrutiny Committee in place, and following the new Council, membership of the joint Committee needs to be confirmed. There are three seats which reflect political balance. Two are Conservative and one is Liberal Democrat. The following members have been nominated and to the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee:

Gerald Dakin	Conservative (Chairman)
Simon Jones	Conservative
Tracey Huffer	Liberal Democrat

## 7. Conclusions

7.1 Following the start of the new Council, their agreement of the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group recommendations, and the journey to becoming a Commissioning Council, there is an exciting time ahead for Scrutiny at Shropshire Council to refresh how it fulfils its role and remit.

7.2 A strong emphasis on engaging with communities, customers and partners, and a clear view of the impact of the tough commissioning decisions that will need to be made by the Council over the coming years will all be a significant feature of Scrutiny in the future.

**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

Report of the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group, Council 16.05.2013

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)**

All

**Local Member**

All

**Appendices**

Appendix 1- Scrutiny Committee Titles and Remits.

Appendix 2 – Scrutiny Task and Finish Group – Protocol on Appointing Members