



Management Response

Local Authority: Newport City Council

Report title: Overview and Scrutiny: Fit for the Future?

Issue date: August 2018

Document reference: 770A2018-19

Ref	Proposal for Improvement	Intended outcome/ benefit	High priority (yes/no)	Accepted (yes/no)	Management response	Completion date	Responsible officer
P1	<p>The Council's scrutiny function could be strengthened by;</p> <p>Providing a structured and timely member development programme to improve members' scrutiny skills and improve their understanding of their scrutiny role.</p>	<p>Members' understanding of their overview and scrutiny role increases.</p>	Yes	Yes	<p>Covered by the Scrutiny Annual Report – 18/19 Action 2: Ensure an effective member development programme is implemented to support Scrutiny Members to undertake their roles. This will need to include feeding into</p>	<p>Establish training needs September 2018 through reissuing the training and development questionnaire to Members, continue development of programme ongoing throughout the</p>	<p>Scrutiny and Governance Manager</p>

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					to an overall member development programme and providing comprehensive support to Members.	year.	
P2	Effectively holding Cabinet members to account for service performance when invited to scrutiny meetings.	Ensure that the Council has arrangements to enable scrutiny to hold Cabinet members to account more effectively and ensure Cabinet Members are equipped and prepared to be held accountable for the roles they hold.		Yes	Covered by the Scrutiny Annual Report – 18/19 Action 3: Review the arrangements for Cabinet Member attendance at Scrutiny in light of changes to the performance reporting. To enable the Committees to effectively hold Cabinet Members to account for Service Performance, when invited to scrutiny Committees and	November 2018 (to align with the Committees considerations of the Service plans and the CM attendance at these meetings.	Scrutiny and Governance Manager / Cabinet Office Manager

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					utilise Cabinet Member time effectively at the meetings.		
P3	Improving the planning and links between the forward work programmes of scrutiny committees and Cabinet.	Work programmes are coordinated in order that Scrutiny can engage in pre-decision scrutiny.		Yes	<p>Covered by the Scrutiny Annual Report – 18/19</p> <p>Action 4: Improve the planning and links between the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme and the Cabinet.</p> <p>And Action 5: To continue regular meetings of the Chairs of Scrutiny, the Scrutiny Officer Team to ensure a positive relationship continues, and workloads are</p>	Ongoing	Scrutiny and Governance Manager / Cabinet Office Manager

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					coordinated effectively. This will include meetings with the Executive.		
P4	Providing further training for scrutiny members on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act to improve their understanding and consideration of the Act when undertaking scrutiny activity.	The principles of the Act are more familiar to members and those are applied during scrutiny processes		Yes	Covered by the Scrutiny Annual Report – 18/19 Action 2: Ensure an effective member development programme is implemented to support Scrutiny Members to undertake their roles. This will need to include feeding into to an overall member development programme and providing comprehensive	Establish training needs September 2018 through reissuing the training and development questionnaire to Members, continue development of programme ongoing throughout the year.	Scrutiny and Governance Manager

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					support to Members.		
P5	Reviewing the impact of the new scrutiny structure and arrangements in driving improvement.	Ensure that the new structure and arrangements are achieving the intended outcomes.	Yes	Yes	Covered by the Scrutiny Annual Report – 18/19 Action 6: Review the impact of the new scrutiny structure and arrangements in driving improvement to include a repeat of the Scrutiny Self Evaluation and Peer review exercises	April 2019	Scrutiny and Governance Manager
P6	Improving the public's engagement with the scrutiny function by using a wider range of engagement methods.	Ensure that there are greater opportunities for the public to help to influence scrutiny forward work programmes		Yes	Covered by the Scrutiny Annual Report – 18/19 Action 1: Redevelop the Public Engagement Strategy to ensure arrangements are put in place to support	December 2018 / January 2019	Scrutiny and Governance Manager

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					<p>public involvement and participation within scrutiny is encouraged. To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilising social media to promote Committee work. - Encourage public participation and involvement. <p>Improving the public's engagement with the scrutiny function by using a wider range of engagement methods.</p>		