

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Within the Terms of Reference of, and under the powers and authority delegated to, the Committee, to promote open and transparent decision-making by scrutinising Council policies; monitoring performance of Council services and other public bodies; and reviewing or scrutinising decisions made, or actions taken, by the Council's Committees.

2. CONSTITUTION AND POWERS

- (i) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will comprise 15 Members.
- (ii) Political balance will apply.
- (iii) The quorum of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be five Members.
- (iv) The Committee will discharge the functions conferred by Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 or by Regulations under Section 32 of the Local Government Act 2000.
- (v) No Member of the Executive Committee will be eligible for membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- (vi) The Council's representative on the Gloucestershire County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be one of the 15 Members of the Committee.
- (vii) The Council's representative on the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee will be one of the 15 Members of the Committee.
- (viii) The Committee may co-opt non-Councillors in a non-voting capacity to be involved in specific reviews.
- (ix) The Committee may require the attendance of the Chairs of the Executive and Regulatory Committees, Lead Members and Senior Officers to assist with any reviews, investigations or the development of any policy proposals.
- (x) When exercising the right of call-in, Members of the Executive Committee may be questioned by Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee but shall not otherwise be involved in the process.
- (xi) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may appoint Task and Finish Working Groups, the membership of which may include any Member of the Council, and which will report with recommendations to the Committee.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- (1) Review and/or scrutinise decisions made, or actions taken, in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions.
- (2) Make reports and/or recommendations to the Council or the Executive Committee in connection with the discharge of any functions.
- (3) Consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants.

- (4) Exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Executive Committee.
- (5) Assist the Council and Executive Committee in the development of its budget and framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues.
- (6) Conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options.
- (7) Consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options.
- (8) To fulfil the Council's duty in scrutinising the NHS.
- (9) Liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.
- (10) Scrutinise the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas.
- (11) Question Lead Members and/or other Councillors, officers of the Council and representatives of relevant partner authorities on issues and proposals affecting the area, decisions and performance.
- (12) Review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and request them to address the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to their activities.
- (13) To report annually to Council on the work of the Committee and future work programmes.
- (14) To act as a 'critical friend' to the Executive Committee and other Committees of the Council as appropriate (except in respect of quasi-judicial functions).
- (15) To receive reports from the Council's representatives on the Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel, Gloucestershire Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee.
- (16) On, at least an annual basis, to exercise the Council's duty in respect of reviewing/scrutinising actions taken by the authority in pursuit of its functions in relation to crime and disorder.

4. DELEGATED POWERS

Subject to the General Provisions, and Scheme of Delegation to Officers, to determine all matters within the Terms of Reference of the Committee.