

# Scrutiny Bulletin 2017/18

edition 5, January 2018

## Scrutiny is...

- A critical friend to decision makers
- A means to hold the cabinet to account for the decisions it is making
- A sounding board for when proposals are being developed

## Why is Scrutiny important?

- It is an important part of transparent decision making - a check and balance - that leaves the party politics at the door
- It provides a fresh pair of eyes on issues of major concern
- It is one way of making sure the views of local people are considered
- It can help improve the decisions that are made

## What's coming up?

### Next Panel Meetings

 <b>Jan 12 2018</b> Corporate Scrutiny Panel	 <b>Jan 15 2018</b> O&S Management Committee	 <b>Jan 16 2018</b> Health & Adult Social Care Panel	 <b>Jan 18 2018</b> Economy & Neighborhoods Scrutiny Panel	 <b>Jan 29 2018</b> Children's Scrutiny Panel
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### Agenda Issues

<b>Corporate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Financial Monitoring</li><li>• Access to Services</li><li>• A further update on the Transformation Programme</li></ul>
<b>OSMC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flood Risk Management Plan ( progress against action plan)</li><li>• Inclusion and Diversity Strategy – implementation update</li></ul>
<b>Health &amp; Adult Social Care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on Financial Position of CCGs and CHFT</li><li>• TB in Kirklees (written update only)</li><li>• Wheelchair Services (Opcare)</li></ul>
<b>Economy &amp; Neighborhoods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transport Links – Rail</li><li>• Followed on 15 February by Transport Links – Road</li></ul>
<b>Children's</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School Transport (proposed January)</li><li>• Partnership update</li><li>• Outcomes of Ofsted Monitoring Visit</li><li>• Q2 performance</li></ul>

For more information on what's coming up, please contact the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny, Cllr. Julie Stewart-Turner or the Governance Team **01484 221000** visit [www.kirklees.gov.uk/committees](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/committees)

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## Highlights so far

The Children's Panel received an update on PHSE and Prevent and was satisfied with work being carried out. The Panel considered the minutes of the Children's Services Improvement Board and suggested amendments to the approach to ensure that the voice of front line social workers is captured.

The Corporate Panel had a visit to the Customer Service Centre to look at the service offer. The panel was impressed by the seamless processes. A scanning system developed by the Council has been successfully sold to other Local Authorities. The Panel also had a demonstration of the new Citizen Account and provided feedback. Other areas of scrutiny have included financial performance monitoring and looking at the progress of the Transformation Programme.

Economies and Neighbourhoods had an informative overview of current housing issues. The Panel decided to focus on the availability and demand for supported housing; the review of the Housing Allocations Policy; Improving the availability of affordable homes for purchase or rental.

The Health and Adult Social Care Panel has looked at the robustness of the Adult Social Care and the Health Optimisation Programme. The issues raised by the Panel regarding Health Optimisation were discussed by the Lead Member with Clinical Commissioning Groups and Public Health. In respect of Adult Social Care the Panel put forward suggestions and recommendations to help improve the approach that is taken to engaging and consulting on proposed changes to services. In November the Panel considered proposed changes to Podiatry Services and looked at proposed interim changes to inpatient Elderly medicine, Cardiology and Respiratory Services.

## Scrutiny reports to council:

<b>September</b>	- Adult Mental Health Assessments
<b>October</b>	- Bus Gates Decision making process
<b>November</b>	- Scrutiny Annual Report
<b>November</b>	- Bereavement Support in Schools

## A new Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel

- In November the OSMC set up an Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel to look at aspects of Elective Home Education. Currently a hot topic nationally the work will include:
- Understanding why some parents and carers choose to home educate
- Scrutinising the Local Authority's responsibilities for home educated children
- Looking at how the LA identifies, supports and ensures the safety and wellbeing of home educated children

The Panel will be chaired by Cllr Cahal Burke

## Joint Health Scrutiny... the latest position

### Calderdale and Kirklees JHSC

The Committee is still waiting for the Secretary of State to seek advice from the IRP following the JHSC's referral in July. A follow up letter was sent on 24 November 2017 requesting that the referral was progressed as soon as possible.

### West Yorkshire JHOSC

The Committee met on 28 November 2017 to receive an update on the development of the proposals to determine the optimal service delivery models for specialist stroke services across West Yorkshire and Harrogate. The Committee also received a progress update on the West Yorkshire and Harrogate (WY&H) Health and Care Partnership.

A forward work programme for the Committee is currently being scoped out and a development session will take place in January 2018 focussing on the key areas of work emerging from the WY&H Health and Care partnership.

