

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1st June 2017

PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY – RESPONSE FROM BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Relevant lead Councillor	Councillor , Chair of the Performance Scrutiny Working Group
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Ward(s) Affected	No specific ward relevance.
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

This report outlines the response received from Bromsgrove Overview and Scrutiny Board to recommendations made by the Redditch Overview and Scrutiny Committee in respect of performance scrutiny.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that

the report be noted.

3. KEY ISSUES

Background

- 3.1 The Performance Scrutiny Working Group was established in June 2016. The purpose of this group was to identify items that were suitable for scrutiny from the Council's measures dashboard.
- 3.2 Also in June 2016 Bromsgrove District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board established the Measures Dashboard Working Group. The purpose of the Measures Dashboard Working Group is similar to that of the Performance Scrutiny Working Group.
- 3.3 At the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 28th March Members reviewed the operation of the working group and agreed that it should continue to form a part of the Council's scrutiny process. As agreed by Members the working group in 2017/18 will have a focus on the measures for the Council Plan.
- 3.4 Members also believed that there might be opportunities for Redditch Members to learn from Bromsgrove Members and vice versa in terms of scrutinising performance measures in the most effective manner. For this reason the Committee resolved that, subject to the agreement of Bromsgrove District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board, informal meetings should be arranged between members of both groups in 2017/18.

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- 3.5 Members were also aware that there might be occasions when both the Redditch Performance Scrutiny Working Group and the Bromsgrove Measures Dashboard Working Group would choose to investigate the same measures in detail. When this occurs Redditch Members suggested that the option to undertake joint scrutiny meetings should be explored further, subject to the agreement of Bromsgrove District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board.
- 3.6 The Bromsgrove Overview and Scrutiny Board considered these proposals from the Redditch Overview and Scrutiny Committee at a meeting on 24th April 2017. Bromsgrove Members agreed that there might be opportunities for Redditch and Bromsgrove Members to learn from each other and to share best practice during informal meetings. The Board therefore agreed that informal meetings between members of the two working groups should be organised to take place twice a year.
- 3.7 The Board also considered the proposal in respect of holding joint scrutiny meetings in cases where the same items had been identified as suitable for further scrutiny on the dashboard. Whilst the Bromsgrove Members recognised the constructive intentions of this proposal Members highlighted that, due to delays in accessing the dashboard on their iPads, the Measures Dashboard Working Group was at a different, earlier stage in reviewing the performance of Council services than the Redditch Performance Scrutiny Working Group. For this reason Bromsgrove Members did not feel that joint performance scrutiny meetings would be appropriate at this stage.

Financial Implications

- 3.8 There are no specific financial implications.

Legal Implications

- 3.9 No specific legal implications have been identified.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.10 There are no specific service or operational implications.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.11 No specific customer, equalities or diversity implications have been identified.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

No specific risks have been identified.

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5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Bromsgrove Overview and Scrutiny Board held on Monday 24th April 2017.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Performance Scrutiny Working Group – Update Report and Annual Review, report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 28th March 2017

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