



Local Government Act 1972

I Hereby Give You Notice that an **Ordinary Meeting** of the **Durham County Council** will be held in the **Council Chamber - County Hall, Durham** on **Wednesday 18 July 2018** at **10.00 a.m.** to transact the following business:-

1. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2018 (Pages 3 - 8)
2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members
3. Chairman's Announcements
4. Leader's Report
5. Questions from Area Action Partnerships
6. Questions from the Public
7. Petitions
8. Report from the Cabinet (Pages 9 - 18)
9. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/18 - Report of Director of Transformation and Partnerships (Pages 19 - 42)
10. Motions on Notice

Councillor L Brown to Move

This council notes that the Control of Pollution Act 1974 empowers local authorities to serve a notice imposing requirements as to how construction works should be carried out to minimise noise and nuisance.

This council further notes that the majority of councils across the UK impose the following limits on working hours on building sites:

- *Monday-Friday, 8am-6pm*
- *Saturdays, 8am-1pm*
- *No work on Sundays or bank holidays.*

This council therefore resolves (without prejudice to its capacity vary such conditions as and when advisable) to formalise the standard condition on hours of working to be applied to planning consents across County Durham as follows:

- *Monday-Friday, 8am-6pm*
- *Saturdays, 8am-1pm*
- *No work on Sundays or bank holidays.*

11. Questions from Members

And pursuant to the provisions of the above-named act, **I Hereby Summon You** to attend the said meeting

Dated this 10th day of July 2018



Helen Lynch
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

To: All Members of the County Council

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At an Ordinary Meeting of the County Council held in the Council Chamber - County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 20 June 2018 at 10.00 a.m.**

Present:

Councillor J Lethbridge in the Chair

Councillors E Adam, J Allen, J Atkinson, P Atkinson, B Avery, A Bainbridge, B Bainbridge, A Batey, A Bell, D Bell, J Bell, R Bell, H Bennett, J Blakey, G Bleasdale, L Boyd, D Boyes, P Brookes, D Brown, J Brown, C Carr, J Carr, J Chaplow, J Clare, J Clark, M Clarke, I Cochrane, J Considine, K Corrigan (Vice-Chairman), P Crathorne, M Davinson, S Dunn, D Freeman, J Grant, N Grayson, O Gunn, T Henderson, S Henig, D Hicks, A Hopgood, K Hopper, L Hovvels, P Howell, I Jewell, O Johnson, P Jopling, B Kellett, L Kennedy, A Laing, K Liddell, L Maddison, J Maitland, J Makepeace, R Manchester, C Marshall, L Marshall, C Martin, I McLean, O Milburn, S Morrison, A Napier, H Nicholson, J Nicholson, P Oliver, R Ormerod, A Patterson, C Potts, L Pounder, S Quinn, G Richardson, J Robinson, S Robinson, A Savory, E Scott, K Shaw, A Shield, M Simmons, T Smith, W Stelling, J Stephenson, B Stephens, L Taylor, P Taylor, O Temple, F Tinsley, T Tucker, J Turnbull, A Watson, A Willis, C Wilson, M Wilson, S Wilson, D Wood and R Yorke

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Bell, L Brown, J Charlton, R Crute, G Darkes, S Durham, A Gardner, D Hall, C Hampson, K Hawley, S Hugill, E Huntington, S Iveson, C Kay, H Little, E Mavin, L Mavin, S McDonnell, M McGaun, M McKeon, A Reed, J Rowlandson, P Sexton, J Shuttleworth, A Simpson, H Smith, D Stoker, A Surtees, K Thompson, M Wilkes and S Zair

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chairman of the County Council with great sadness reported the death of former Derwentside District Councillor and Alderman Bob Gardner. Bob had the unique record of being the only Derwentside District Councillor who was born in the USA and was first elected to Consett Urban District Council in 1970. He held the seat for Ebchester Ward which later became the Ebchester and Medomsley Ward until 1985 when ill health forced him to stand down from public office. Bob was a former teacher and was head teacher of Marley Hill Junior School and then Consett Junior School.

The Council stood for a moments silence as a mark of respect.

1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2018 were confirmed by the Council as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

3 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed those members of the public present at the meeting. While welcome to attend and observe the meeting, the Chairman asked that they did not disturb the meeting.

The Chairman was pleased to report that Councillor Peter Brookes and colleagues had cycled 243 miles in 20 hours and 17 minutes from County Durham to reach Belleek, the most westerly point in the United Kingdom. Despite recent settled weather, Storm Hector moved in with 100 mph winds during the event taking place. As at 17 June over £1,000 had been raised in donations to the Royal British Legion.

The Chairman informed the Council of events he had attended as Chairman since being appointed to office.

4 Leader's Report

The Leader referred Members to the Celebrating Durham message walls, which were on display in the Durham Room. The message walls were created at four locations over half term week at the end of May and beginning of June and now formed one huge artwork. Over 1,500 people submitted their comments for the wall and it was those messages that formed the basis of the well-known County Durham locations which made up the artwork. It was a very special artwork that would tour suitable locations both locally and further afield. Last week it was sited at Locomotion in Shildon where the Science Museum Group held its first 'meet the museum' evening to give residents the opportunity to view development plans for the museum.

Another famous Durham artwork, the Zurburan paintings had been on tour, recently exhibited in New York and Dallas and due to move on to Jerusalem. Meanwhile closer to home Kynren would start its summer run on 30 June.

The Leader was delighted to report that Seaham Marina won the Health and Wellbeing category at the national Royal Town Planning Institute awards in London in late May. This was national recognition for the Marina and the work Durham County Council had delivered alongside the Seaham community for delivering health and wellbeing benefits for the many people visiting the marina. It was estimated that there were now in excess of 225,000 visitors per annum which was a growing trend and a tremendous effort by everyone involved.

The Leader referred to some of the Council's environmental initiatives to clean up the county, which he reported earlier in the year, and was pleased to report on some real successes. It was a record breaking year for the big spring clean with over 4,000 people involved in 272 litter picks right across County Durham.

Northumbria in Bloom was thriving across the County, with the County's towns and villages leading the way regionally in the competition. Judges had recently visited Durham City, shown displays such as the RAF100 carpet bed recently launched with 234 (City Of Durham) Squadron Air Training Corps and pupils from Gilesgate Primary School, ahead of the weekend's RAF Centenary Service, Review and March Past.

Operation Spruce Up, which aimed to improve the appearance of key areas within towns and villages, continued to be very well received as it moved around the County, most recently in Gilesgate and later in the month in Shildon.

The Council was well underway with the Green Move Out with Durham University, where last year 2,650 bags of reusable items from pots and pans to books and electrical equipment were collected, to avoid them being disposed of.

Following agreement to release an additional £950,000 of capital funding, work on the replacement Stainton Grove Household Waste Recycling Centre started on 23 April. It was expected to take 27 weeks so would be open to residents and businesses around the Barnard Castle area by the end of 2018. This would be the first facility to incorporate a trade waste recycling area as well as a furniture reuse retail shop.

The Leader reported that the next stage of the County Durham Plan, the Preferred Options stage, was approved by Cabinet ahead of a six week consultation which would start on the 22 June. All Members were invited to a Members briefing session and there would also be weekly member drop in sessions from the 29 June as well as a range of consultation events across the county.

Following last week's Cabinet meeting in Crook, Cabinet Members saw the impressive refurbishment of the council building, which was now home to almost 500 employees having been completely remodelled into a modern workplace. It was an important part of the Council's present and future plans that a greater proportion of our workforce was based outside of Durham City and the work at Crook formed a key early part of the Transformation Programme.

The Leader informed the Council that there were currently approximately 800 Looked After Children in Durham. Over 80% of these children lived with foster carers and the rest lived in residential care; with family members or in residential schools. The council was the corporate parent for these children and had statutory duties to ensure that it acted in their best interests, supported them to achieve good outcomes and ensured that it had sufficient carers and placements available for them to receive the highest standards of care. In short the council was charged with being the best corporate parent it could be for these children.

As the numbers of Looked After Children had grown nationally, regionally and locally there had been an increased pressure to ensure that the Council had enough carers for the children. There had been targeted recruitment campaigns in Durham for foster carers and adopters over recent months with a specific focus on targeting carers for older children, children with special needs and for children who were part of larger sibling groups as these were the carers for whom there was the

greatest need. These had been successful in recruiting more than 28 new sets of carers this year alone but the Council continued to need more as carers retired and more children needed their support.

The Corporate Parenting Panel, chaired by Councillor Peter Brookes, had been actively involved in working with officers to develop new strategies to support recruitment activity and they had developed a short film which was designed to explain the role of foster carers, debunk some of the more popular myths that existed around who could foster, and explain what was required of potential carers who went through the recruitment process. It was the ambition of the Corporate Parenting Panel that the film would be seen by as many people as possible within County Durham and that it would be seen by people who historically may not have been targeted through more traditional recruitment campaigns. The Council believed that it could encourage more local people to see themselves as potential foster carers and take on this challenge.

The film provided the contact details within the fostering service for anyone who was interested or who had further questions. The biggest impact that the Council could have on improving the lives of Looked After Children was to ensure that there were sufficient high quality carers to care for them and the Council was confident that it could encourage many more people to come forward and do this valuable and highly rewarding work.

The Council viewed the film which had been produced.

5 Questions from Area Action Partnerships

Questions had been received from the Durham Area Action Partnership and the Stanley Area Action Partnership relating to the following:

- The provision of student accommodation in Durham City
- Plans to develop derelict sites on the Front Street at Stanley;

Craig Morgan, Durham AAP Co-ordinator and Daniel O'Brien, Stanley AAP Co-ordinator were in attendance to ask their questions.

Councillor C Marshall, Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration thanked both the Durham AAP and the Stanley AAP for their questions and provided a response to both.

6 Questions from the Public

There were no questions from the public.

7 Petitions

There were no petitions for consideration.

8 Report from the Cabinet

The Leader of the Council provided the Council with an update of business discussed by Cabinet on 11 April and 16 May 2018 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the report be noted

9 Appointment of a Director of Integrated Community Services

The Council considered a report of the Corporate Director of Adult Services which sought approval for the creation of a post of Director of Integrated Community Services (for copy see file of Minutes).

Moved by Councillor Hovvels, **Seconded** by Councillor Laing and

Resolved:

- (i) That the creation of the post of Director of Integrated Community Services be approved
- (ii) That recruitment arrangements progress to ensure that there are effective governance arrangements in place with regards to the continuing integration of Health and Social Care Services.

10 Motions on Notice

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Motion which had been submitted had been withdrawn.

11 Questions from Members

There were no questions from Members.

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18 July 2018

Report from the Cabinet



Purpose of the Report

To provide information to the Council on issues considered by the Cabinet on 13 June 2018 to enable Members to ask related questions.

Contents

- Item 1 County Durham Plan Preferred Options
- Item 2 Adult Social Care – Residential Care Charging Policy and Deferred Payment Agreement Policy
- Item 3 Adult and Health Services Update
- Item 4 Transformation Programme Update
- Item 5 Quarter Four 2017/18 Performance Management Report
- Item 6 Maintained Schools Budget Plans and Permission to Set Deficit Budgets 2018/19

1. County Durham Plan Preferred Options
Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Councillor Carl Marshall
Contact - Mike Allum, 03000 261 906

We have considered a report from the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services which sought Cabinet's agreement to:

1. the Preferred Options of the County Durham Plan (the Plan) for public consultation;
2. the Spatial Strategy Justification as a key supporting document for the Preferred Options for public consultation;
3. the County Durham Building for Life Supplementary planning Document (SPD) for public consultation;
4. a new Statement of Community Involvement for consultation to enable views to be sought on how stakeholders are involved in local plan and neighbourhood plan preparation and the determination of planning applications;

5. the Durham City Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan for public consultation;
6. For Cabinet to agree the new County Durham Parking and Accessibility Guidelines for public consultation;

We were also asked to endorse and approve for consultation the Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulations Assessment, Equalities Impact Assessment and the Spatial Strategy Justification. In addition, the report presented Durham County Council's response to the consultation on the draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

Following withdrawal of the previous local plan, the first stage of the new plan, the Issues and Options, was published for consultation in June 2016. A report to Cabinet in December 2016 resulted in pausing the preparation of the County Durham Plan which had reached the Issues and Options stage in June/July 2016. The forthcoming publication of a Housing White Paper was expected to have several implications for the preparation of the Plan, including a new national methodology for the calculation of housing requirements. The housing requirement figure, otherwise known as the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) for housing, is critical to the preparation of a local plan and impacts on a number of policy areas in addition to housing, such as employment, infrastructure and waste. This was followed by a further Government consultation in September 2017, 'Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places', which included a standard methodology for the calculation of housing need.

Following these consultations the Government had incorporated many of these changes into a draft revision of the NPPF. These changes were published in March 2018 for consultation and the council's response was detailed in the report. As a result of the emerging clarity in the national policy context, Members agreed a new Local Development Scheme in November 2017 setting out the timescales for preparation of the Plan.

The Issues and Options consultation concluded on 8th August 2016. A total of 4,929 responses were received from 823 respondents. A summary of the representations made and the council's proposed response is set out within a Statement of Consultation which was attached to the report at Appendix 2. In addition, social media messages sent by the council were viewed 438,633 times. The Issues and Options sought comments on 50 specific questions although comments were welcomed on all aspects of the document. In preparing the Preferred Options the comments made were considered and the content included as appropriate.

In order to ensure that County Durham is a successful place to live, work, invest and visit, the Plan focusses on supporting and creating vibrant communities by delivering:

- More and better jobs and sustained economic growth;
- A wide choice of high quality homes that supports economic growth and meets the needs of all people;
- A high quality built and enhanced natural environment; and

- The necessary supporting infrastructure including transport, health and educational needs.

The report provided details on plans for employment, housing, town centres, the rural economy, environment, transport and minerals.

The Preferred Options had been informed by integral assessments. These included the Sustainability Appraisal, the Habitats Regulations Assessment, an Equalities Impact Assessment, and the Spatial Strategy Justification. The Preferred Options propose an ambitious Vision and Objectives for the future development of County Durham up to 2035 and are informed by a suite of further evidence. A full list of the supporting evidence base, which forms the background papers to the report was also attached.

The report provided details on the County Durham Building for Life Supplementary Planning Document, the Statement of Community Involvement, Durham City Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan, County Durham Parking and Accessibility Guidelines and the response to the Draft National Policy Framework.

The consultation on the Preferred Options will run from 22 June to 3 August 2018. Following the consultation period the representations received, together with any updated evidence will be used to inform the Pre-Submission Draft Plan which will be the final stage of consultation prior to Examination-in-Public. In accordance with the Local Development Scheme, the Pre-Submission Draft will be published in winter 2018/19 for consultation before being considered by Full Council and submitted for Examination-in-Public spring/summer 2019.

Decision

We have:

- i. Agreed the County Durham Plan Preferred Options for consultation from 22 June to 3 August 2018;
- ii. Agreed that any minor modifications to the referenced documents following Cabinet agreement, and prior to the commencement of the consultation could be agreed by the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development;
- iii. Agreed the Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulations Assessment, Equalities Impact Assessment and the Spatial Strategy Justification for consultation;
- iv. Agreed the County Durham Building for Life Supplementary Planning Document for consultation from 22 June to 3 August 2018;
- v. Agreed the revised Statement of Community Involvement for consultation from 22 June to 3 August 2018, and, that any minor modifications to the document following consultation and approval of

the final document be delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Local Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development;

- vi. Agreed the Durham City Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan for consultation from 22 June to 3 August 2018, and that any minor modifications to the document following consultation and approval of the final document are delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Local Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development;
- vii. Agreed the County Durham Parking and Accessibility Guidelines for consultation from 22 June to 3 August 2018, and, that any minor modifications to the document following consultation and approval of the final document are delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Local Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development; and
- viii. Noted the council's response to the Draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

2. Adult Social Care – Residential Care Charging Policy and Deferred Payment Agreement Policy
Cabinet Portfolio Holders – Councillors Alan Napier and Lucy Hovvels
Contacts – Charlotte Benjamin, 03000 269 682, Caterina Blackburn 03000 260 403 and Michelle Waters, 03000 260 495

We have considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Resources and the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services which set out the updated Adult Social Care Residential Care Charging Policy and Deferred Payment Arrangement Policy.

Councils have a duty under the Care Act 2014 to assess the care needs of individuals with the appearance of need for care and support. If the assessment determines that the person has eligible needs, consideration needs to be given as to how these needs will be met. A financial assessment is required to determine whether the person qualifies for financial support from the council and whether they are liable to make a financial contribution towards their care. There are two outcomes from the financial assessment in respect of a person whose needs will be met by residential care:

- a) a person has capital and/or assets of £23,250 or less and will be eligible for financial support from the Council. Arrangements for their care will be made by placing them on the Council's contract;
- b) a person has capital or assets of value above £23,250 and will be considered to be a self-funder. In most circumstances the person would be expected to make their own care arrangements directly with a care provider, however, a self-funder may ask the Council to make arrangements for them to meet their needs for residential care. The council has a power to determine whether to

make arrangements in such circumstances and must consider all of the circumstances of the case. The updated Adults Social Care - Residential & Nursing Care Charging Policy indicates circumstances in which this discretion is likely to be exercised.

Since the Care Act 2014 and supporting regulations were implemented, local authorities in England have had an obligation to offer a Deferred Payment Agreement (DPA) subject to certain criteria being met, so that people are not forced to sell their home in their lifetime to pay for their residential care.

The Care Act 2014 originally envisaged two types of DPA being made available. A “traditional style” DPA, which would be available for residents placed on local authority contracts and a “loan style” DPA for residents who were self-funding. However, a drafting error in the Regulations meant that effectively local authorities were not obliged to offer a DPA to self-funders who had contracted privately with a residential care provider.

Amendments to the Care and Support Statutory Guidance and provisions in the Care and Support (Deferred Payment) Amendment Regulations 2017 mean that since April 2018 the Council has a duty to offer both types of deferred payment.

A traditional style DPA involves the Council contracting with the care provider and payments being made to the care provider at the Council’s contracted rate. A loan-style DPA involves a person contracting privately with the care provider and payments being made by the council to the person by way of a loan to enable the person to pay the care provider directly. In both cases the loan is secured against the value of the person’s home.

The policies have been updated to fully reflect the Care Act 2014, particularly the circumstances under which the Council exercises its discretion under s19 of the Care Act 2014 in terms of self-funders, and statutory guidance issued in February 2018 with regards to Deferred Payment Agreements. There are no changes in terms of the basic financial assessment criteria from these changes, which remains in line with statutory guidance.

If the Council considers that it should exercise its discretion to make the placement it also needs to review the individual’s care arrangements and allocate a Personal Budget. The fees for residential care in that budget cannot exceed the fees payable by the council under its contract. The updated policy was included in the report at Appendix 2 and clarified the circumstances in which this discretion would be exercised, taken directly from the published statutory guidance.

Under the previous legislation, local authorities were not required to offer DPAs to eligible individuals unless they were meeting that individual’s needs or believed they would meet their needs if asked. A DPA was offered by the Council where they met these needs (under section 19 of the Care Act).

The amendments to the Care and Support Statutory Guidance provide that the Council will need to offer both types of Deferred Payment, a traditional style DPA where payments are made to the care provider at the Council’s contracted rate and a

loan style DPA where a person contracts with the care provider and is loaned the money from the Council to pay the care provider direct, secured against their asset.

Changes to the Care and Support (Deferred Payment Agreements) Regulations 2014 mean that the Council cannot refuse to enter into a loan-type DPA with individuals who qualify for one but whose needs the Council is not meeting. An updated DPA Policy, factoring in the recent statutory guidance was attached as Appendix 3.

Decision

We noted the report and approved the updated Residential Care Charging Policy and the updated Deferred Payment Agreement Policy.

3. Adult and Health Services Update Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Councillor Lucy Hovvels Contact – Lee Alexander - 03000 268 180

We considered a report of the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services which provided an update on developments across Adult and Health Services.

The report outlined progress on a number of key areas across Adult and Health Services both nationally and locally; including an outline of the Governments thinking in respect of the forthcoming Green Paper; and the integration of health and social care in County Durham. The greatest challenge for the service is to secure a long term financial solution for Adult Social Care. The development of a Health and Social Care Plan for County Durham, the Review and Replacement of the Social Services Information Database (SSID), the Partnership Approach to Prevention and the Review of County Durham Care and Support represent major change programmes that feed into the Council's Corporate Transformation Programme.

In September 2016 we agreed that Adult and Health Services should investigate the potential to establish an Employee Led Mutual (ELM), covering Pathways Day Services, Support & Recovery and Shared Lives. This work has been undertaken, with the assistance of an external consultant specialising in public sector spin-out. The work on ELMs has identified concerns about levels of risk in terms of business planning and future viability, as well as the level of financial support required by the Council to set up the new organisation. Consequently, it is recommended that the ELM does not go ahead, with services being retained and subject to future business review activity in the same way as all other Council services.

Overall, the report provided a positive picture that reflects joined up and integrated working across services within the Council and with Key Partners in the delivery of Health and Social Care.

Decision

We noted the contents of the report and agreed to receive further updates in relation to Adult and Health Service developments on a six monthly basis. We also supported the proposal to retain services within the council, as outlined in paragraph

48 of the Cabinet report rather than progress with an Employee Led Mutual, and in doing so, conclude the review of in-house services.

4. Transformation Programme Update
Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Councillor Joy Allen
Contact – Andy Palmer, 03000 268 551

We have considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships which outlined the progress of the Council's Transformation Programme since the last Cabinet report in October 2017.

The report set out how services are being transformed to better meet the needs of the people of County Durham, and to set out the main elements of the programme for the next three years.

The Transformation Programme has four key outcomes. These are to:

- a) Redesign our services to better meet customers' needs at reduced cost to the Council;
- b) Help communities become more self-reliant and resilient;
- c) Move our partnership working from good to great; and
- d) Become renowned for our skilled and flexible workforce and our employee engagement.

The report provided details of the progress that had been made since the report to Cabinet in October 2017. The Programme will work in a systematic way over the next three years integrating projects into a single portfolio of programmes and projects to transform the way the Council operates and to support the resilience of service provision during continued austerity.

The report stated that by 2020 the Council will have:

- Completed a programme of modernisation of Council workplaces with greater use of mobile working, flexible space, and digitised more productive working practices;
- Digitised a full range of Council processes and unitised central support services to improve the productivity of Council staff, reduce costs and support front line service delivery;
- Improved the range of ways in which people can access Council services through digital and traditional means with associated reviews of Council processes from a customer service perspective;
- Introduced a greater range of commercial services to create sustainable income streams for the Council;
- Invested in ICT, business intelligence, staff training and cultural change to manage change; and
- Made a number of individual service based transformations in education, adult health and care and the provision of placed based services.

Progress on the programme will be reported through the Transformation Board, Chaired by the Leader of the Council. Executive oversight of the programme is provided by the Council's Corporate Management Team supported by a series of

officer steering groups with senior officer membership relevant to the various aspects of the programme.

Decision

We have noted the contents of the report and endorsed the approach taken to transform the Council over the medium term. We also agreed to continue the engagement in the programme through the Transformation Board in order to provide governance for the programme and shape future high quality services.

5. Quarter Four 2017/18 Performance Management Report Leader of the Council – Councillor Simon Henig Contact – Jenny Haworth, 03000 268 071

We have considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships which presented progress against the council's corporate performance framework by Altogether priority theme for the fourth quarter of the 2017/18 financial year.

Against the backdrop of ongoing financial pressures placed on the council and increased demand in some key services, performance has been maintained in many areas and improvements achieved. During 2017/18, 69% of performance indicators improved with 4% maintaining performance. Improvements have continued across a number of key areas.

Challenges continue with high children's safeguarding workloads. The number of children in need, those subject to a child protection plan and looked after children cases show that demand has plateaued, albeit at a high level. Levels in County Durham are above those reported nationally. Social worker caseload levels remain high. Secondary schools judged good or better by Ofsted continue to be an issue as numbers have been declining over the year and are now much lower than the national average. Challenges are ongoing in relation to the health of the county, with life expectancy and healthy life expectancy in County Durham lower than in England.

A comprehensive table of key performance questions and performance data was presented in Appendix 4 of the Cabinet report.

Decision

We agreed changes to the Council Plan as follows:

Altogether Wealthier

- (i) The timescale to secure a developer for the North East Industrial Estate in Peterlee has been revised. This has been a long-term project, and from progress made to date, it is now appropriate and timely to revise the timescales from March 2018 to a more realistic deadline of March 2020.

Altogether Greener

- (ii) A strategic review of street sweepings is complete and a food waste review business case is also complete. However a report on the findings needs to move through the democratic process to determine next steps and so this action has been revised to September 2018.
- (iii) The development of a countywide Allotment Forum to embed a holistic approach to the management of allotments, increase community engagement and share best practice has been revised from March 2018 to March 2020. Considerable work has been undertaken with scrutiny to support the new policy and future management of allotments. Over the coming year the implementation of the new policy and management will be the focus.

Altogether Better Council

- (iv) There has been a delay in realigning operational practices as part of the fleet restructure to meet service delivery demands. Discussion with Trade Unions is ongoing.
- (v) The timetable for the archives project was revised when the round 1 application was submitted in March 2018, to take account of advice from the regional Heritage Lottery Fund grants advisor. As a result, the target for submission of the stage 2 applications has been revised from March 2019 to August 2019.

6. Maintained Schools Budget Plans and Permission to Set Deficit Budgets 2018/19 **Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Councillor Olwyn Gunn** **Contacts - Paul Darby 03000 261 930 and David Shirer 03000 268 554**

Summary

We have considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services and the Corporate Director of Resources which provided an overview of maintained schools' initial budget plans for 2018/19, as approved by the relevant Governing Bodies. The report highlighted where the Corporate Director of Resources had exercised his judgement in terms of approving the setting of deficit budgets, in accordance with the Council's Constitution and the Scheme of Financing for Schools.

A number of schools had submitted budget plans where the balance at the end of 2018-19 would be a deficit. These were Peterlee St Bede's School, Tanfield School, Wolsingham School and Wellfield School. A number of other schools requested permission to set a deficit budget in 2018/19. Those schools were notified that they must commit to having a revised budget plan, which shows a balanced in-year budget by the end of the summer term, either through agreeing a re-structuring or including a savings target in their budget plan.

The report noted concerns about the number of schools using significant amounts of accumulated surpluses to balance their budgets, and the number of schools forecast to have relatively small balances at 31 March, 2019.

The report outlined the action taken by the Corporate Director of Resources with regard to exercising judgement in terms of approving the setting of deficit budgets, in accordance with the Council's Constitution and the Scheme of Financing for Schools.

Decision

We have noted the contents of the report and the action taken under delegated powers, where the Corporate Director of Resources had considered requests to set deficit budgets from a number of schools and noted:

- (a) the updated position and agree to the proposed budget plans for St Bede's, Tanfield, Wolsingham and Wellfield for 2018/19; and
- (b) the position in respect of the 11 other schools who submitted deficit budget plans and the action taken where these schools were not be given permission to set a deficit budget and instead were instructed to revise their budget plans such that they will be able to balance their budgets by the end of the summer term.

Councillor S Henig
Leader of the County Council
10 July 2018

County Council

18 July 2018



Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017/18 (attached at Appendix 2) as required by the Council's Constitution.

Background

- 2 In accordance with the Article 6 paragraph 6.03(d), the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board is required to report annually to County Council on the work of all of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 3 The attached report outlines the work that has been undertaken during 2017/18, and has been agreed by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board prior to submission to Full Council.
- 4 It is intended that the report will be distributed electronically to Members, Officers and Partners.

Recommendation

- 5 That County Council receive the annual report for 2017/18, in line with the Council's Constitution to report annually on overview and scrutiny activity.

Contact: Jenny Haworth

Tel: 03000 268071

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - none

Staffing - none

Risk – none

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – Impact assessments are carried out for all Overview and Scrutiny reviews.

Accommodation – none

Crime and Disorder - none

Human Rights – none

Consultation – Members of the Council's Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board considered and commented on the report prior to it being presented to County Council

Procurement – none

Disability Issues – none

Legal Implications – The Council's Constitution requires the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to report annually on the work of all the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees.



Altogether better

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-2018

**Transformation and Partnerships
Durham County Council**

May 2018

Foreword

During the first year following election of the new Council in 2017, we have had an influx of new Members, as well as returning Members. Scrutiny members are keen to re-invigorate and promote scrutiny, and focus on the four key principles of good scrutiny: to provide constructive challenge; to amplify the voice of the public; provide independent and responsible leadership; and to drive improvement in public services¹. A comprehensive member induction programme was carried out, and we have had a busy year. This report provides an update of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny during 2017/18. We have carried out a number of in-depth scrutiny reviews, continue to play our part in the Council's budget process, monitor quarterly performance, and continue to maintain an excellent relationship between executive and non-executive members.

The next few years will continue to be challenging for the Council in terms of austerity and Government funding. A key achievement for the authority will be to continue to maintain and deliver improvements to services, whilst meeting the required savings targets. Overview and Scrutiny will contribute in a constructive way to support the Council in meeting these challenges.

The Transformation Programme is an evolving programme for DCC over the next few years, looking at new ways of working, relocation of the council's headquarters and redevelopment of the Aykley Heads site, as well as other projects which form a comprehensive change programme for the Council. Scrutiny will play its role in this, and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB) will receive regular updates on the programme.

DCC's overview and scrutiny function involves a considerable amount of partnership working and our aim is to ensure that the good work that is already evident is enhanced in line with the transformation programme's key principal of moving partnership working from good to great.

The statutory scrutiny roles of Health, Crime and Disorder and Flood Risk Management feature within this Annual Report alongside thematic scrutiny work. In-depth review work included a pilot of the new Customer Relationship Management System (CRMS) Members' Portal, and scrutiny reviews on Cybercrime; Arson and deliberate fires; a review of DCC's allotments policy; the role of the social worker from a child's perspective; and retail support provided by Durham County Council. Scrutiny has also had input into a number of consultations.

We have carried out a recruitment exercise to refresh the non-voting co-optees who sit on the scrutiny committees and we look forward to working with the successful applicants. Recruited for their relevant skills and knowledge, they will bring their own expertise and views to scrutiny, and provide external challenge to our work programme. We have also promoted engagement of local expert and academic researchers in Overview and Scrutiny where they can add to our work.

The findings of the House of Commons Communities and Local Government Committee review on the Effectiveness of Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees was published in March 2018 and was shared with COSMB Members. One of the recommendations was that the guidance issued to councils by DCLG on overview and scrutiny committees is revised and reissued to take account of scrutiny's evolving role. Once the revised guidance is received, further discussions will take place at COSMB to see how Durham will move forward.

We have continued to work with our regional authorities on the North East Combined Authority (NECA) Overview and Scrutiny Committee; the North East Regional Joint Officer/Member network; and Members have attended a number of regional health scrutiny meetings.

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in supporting and assisting the Overview and Scrutiny process – be it Members, officers, partners, or co-opted members, and the scrutiny team themselves.

¹ Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) four principles

I hope that you find this report interesting and informative. If you would like to find out more, all Scrutiny Committee meetings are open to the public and the scrutiny team will be pleased to supply you with more information. Contact details are listed below.

Councillor Rob Crute

Chair of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Key Achievements 2017-18

Overview and Scrutiny Review Activity

The scrutiny work programme for the year has reflected a balanced programme of work and of improvement in the operation of scrutiny which meets the four principles of effective public scrutiny, which are:

- to provide a constructive “critical friend” challenge to executive policy-makers and decisions-makers
- to amplify the voice and concerns of the public;
- to ensure scrutiny is carried out by ‘independent minded governors’ who lead and own the scrutiny role
- to drive improvement in public services.

To provide constructive challenge

The following in depth evidence based reviews have been completed and have been or will be reported to Cabinet, the relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holder and the appropriate thematic Partnership.

Cybercrime – presented to Cabinet in May 2018, identified as a gap in activity, this work focused on partnership work being undertaken to prevent young people becoming engaged in cybercrime activity through forms of hacking within the Computer Misuse Act. Recommendations from the review are on inclusion as an action within partnership plans, education and engagement activity with young people and to explore apprenticeship opportunities.

Arson and deliberate fires – presented to Safe Durham Partnership Board and shared with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder in January 2018, a focused review looking at partnership work to address a significant increase of arson and secondary fires within the East Durham area. Recommendations from this work include monitoring of performance, education, improving community confidence and engagement with local Members with the development of a Fire Reduction Plan for the area

Review of DCC’s Allotment policy – focused on providing an opportunity for overview and scrutiny members to further develop and inform DCC’s proposed future allotment policy, management arrangements and consultation process to be undertaken with relevant stakeholders. This will be finalised in autumn 2018.

Retail Support – examined the support provided directly by DCC to the retail sector, how DCC works with partners to develop and deliver support to this sector, received the views of retailers in the county on support provided, identified any gaps in current provision and considered how these gaps can be addressed. The final report is expected to be completed and presented to Cabinet towards the end of 2018.

Role of the social worker from a child’s perspective – studied how referrals are made into the service and how casefiles are allocated. Explored the training and development of social workers and the support given to them and how this impacts upon stability for the child. The review considered views and opinions from children and young people who had experience of edge of care services. This report and recommendations will be presented to Cabinet in autumn 2018.

Customer Relationship Management system (CRM) Member Dashboard - a working group of COSMB Members carried out a pilot of the dashboard, feeding into the design and functionality of the system. The findings were fed back to the relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holders in November 2017.

Other review activity in 2017/18 included:

- Scrutiny of the budget process through consideration of the Medium Term Financial Plan. Considerations were broad-based and ranged from scrutiny of the timetable for the budget process, scrutiny of developing cost reduction proposals, as well as ongoing quarterly scrutiny of the delivery of savings. Comments were fed back to the Cabinet Portfolio Holder in November 2017.
- Increased awareness of the Council's scrutiny function through articles in local media, social media and an ongoing update of the scrutiny web pages.
- Formally responded to NHS Quality Accounts 2017/18 for: North East Ambulance Service; County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust; and the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust.
- Engaged and responded to a statutory consultation in respect of NHS Sunderland and South Tyneside's Path to Excellence programme.
- Continued to maintain and establish links with all thematic partnerships. A series of briefings and reports have been shared with thematic partnerships, for example:
 - Progress updates on Cybercrime review
 - Presentation of report on arson and deliberate fires in East Durham
- Contributed to:
 - Activity of the Safe Durham Partnership Board;
 - Police and Crime Panel;
 - Youth Justice Plan.
- Had input into:
 - The Review of Youth Support Consultation
 - County Durham and Darlington Fire & Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) Three-Year Plan Consultation
 - The Housing Strategy
 - The Homelessness Strategy
 - Industrial Strategy White Paper 'Building a Britain fit for the future'
 - 'Planning for the right homes in the right places' government consultation.

To amplify the voice of the public

During the year chairs and vice-chairs have focused on how to bring the public voice into overview and scrutiny (OSC) review activity and meetings. This has been achieved through building public feedback strongly into review work, including site visits across the County and increased use of social media to promote the work of overview and scrutiny.

Scrutiny Members have attended a number of site visits linking into the scrutiny work programme and engaged with external partners and local residents to enable their views to be taken into account for a number of reviews and issues on scrutiny agendas.

On 5 October members of the Environment OSC visited the Suez Plant at Haverton Hill, the company who handle the county's recycled waste. Members were able to tour the facilities, and find out about the process from receipt of waste to the recycling of the ash residue once the process is complete.



Suez Plant, Haverton Hill

In March 2018 Economy and Enterprise (E&E) OSC members visited County Durham Parks, visiting Hardwick and Wharton Park. These are two very different types of park, both successful, with high visitor figures throughout the year. Members were able to learn the history of both parks, use of funding received and future work programming for both sites. Members also visited Salvus House on the Aykley Heads site to engage with the businesses in situ received a lot of positive feedback and visited the Chapter Homes site at Newton Aycliffe where they viewed the sites and met with officers for a question/answer session. A visit also took place to permanent travellers' sites throughout the County where members met with officers and wardens, some of whom were members of the travelling community themselves, to discuss the experiences of living on a permanent traveller site and again much debate took place and positive feedback was received.



Hardwick Park



Wharton Park



Salvus House



Members meet retailers in Stanley

Members of the E&E OSC Review Group looking at the support provided by DCC to the retail sector took part in four visits, and held discussions with retailers and developers at Seaham, Stanley, Barnard Castle and Chester-le-Street.

As part of the review of DCC's future Allotment Policy, Environment working group members have visited various allotment sites across the County. Environment members also took part in a tour of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the county who have benefited from the Business Energy Project (BEEP) which is a project designed to help SMEs to make financial savings through energy efficiency, and to hear their views on the project.



Visit to Allotments

Members of CYP OSC held a Special meeting at Seaham School of Technology, where they were able to engage with pupils and teachers, and were given a tour of the facilities. Agenda items were chosen to encourage the pupils to join the debate and give their views on, for example, the Student Voice Survey and Elective home education. Members of the CYPS OSC Review Group looking at the role of the social worker from a child's perspective held a meeting at DCC's MASH (Multi-agency safeguarding hub), where they were able to experience the partnership working and processes in place to deal with safeguarding issues.

To seek views and gauge an understanding of awareness of cybercrime by young people, a focus group session was held at Police HQ with Durham Constabulary's Police Cadets. This was extremely positive engagement and findings from this session reported that the impact on victims is not seen or understood by offenders. Anyone could carry out a cybercrime attack or become a victim and many young people would do it to look cool and be unaware that they could receive a criminal record.



Police HQ – Cybercrime workshop

A joint visit by members of the E&E OSC and Environment and Sustainable Communities (ESC) OSC to the Heritage Coast, where Members met with officers, considered the options for encouraging more visits to the area and how to provide more facilities, by looking at what was already on offer, and viewing the improvements that have already taken place.



Heritage Coast

The overview and scrutiny process provides an opportunity for members of the public and local communities to comment upon any service change proposals. There are a number of examples particularly in relation to changes to health services, where local councillors, community representatives and members of the public have fed into consultations on change proposals, including closure of the dispensary at St John's Chapel; proposed closure of a GP surgery at Byers Green; DDES CCG Review of Urgent Care; North Durham CCG rapid specialist opinion referrals; and the establishment of sub regional scrutiny arrangements for NHS Sustainability Transformation Programmes.

To ensure scrutiny is led by independent minded governors who own the scrutiny process

Following elections in 2017, and an influx of new Members, a comprehensive induction programme was provided for Members, both new and returning. This included bespoke sessions on the thematic scrutiny committees with high attendance, and enthusiastic input from Members appointed to these committees. These sessions were chaired by the relevant chairs and vice-chairs.

The new Chair and Vice-chair of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, Cllr Rob Crute and Cllr Andrea Patterson, have worked with Chairs, Vice-chairs and Members of the thematic committees during the year to improve overview and scrutiny in Durham:

1. Extending the use of social media. Scrutiny meetings are now publicised on the day of the meeting on DCC's Corporate Twitter account which has over 22,000 followers. Since October there have been 30 'tweets' relating to scrutiny. Analysis from the 30 tweets shows they have each received between 707 – 1,480 views. This approach has led to 119 occasions where a link to the agenda or information has been accessed and 20 media engagements. The highest number of 1,480 views by twitter was for an advert for recruitment of non-voting co-opted members in April 2018, this was also posted on 'Facebook' and reached 4,349 people.
2. Bringing external voices into scrutiny, including through co-optees, and by continuing with wide-ranging evidence gathering sessions and visits. There has been a refresh process for co-optees, including changes on education co-optees, to ensure strong external representation. A detailed report on this was presented to COSMB on 14 February 2018. A successful recruitment process has since taken place and interviews were carried out by politically balanced panels in May 2018. Due to the use of social media, a higher number of expressions of interest than usual was received, with 39 requests, and 19 applications received. A new tranche of 10 non-voting co-optees were subsequently appointed.

Use of visits and community engagement is covered earlier in this report.

3. Scrutiny skills training - at an OSC Chairs and Vice Chairs briefing meeting on 9th October 2017, members discussed a series of options on the provision of external training to OSC members to supplement the scrutiny induction training sessions held in May/June 2017 following the County Council elections. Members agreed that bespoke training be provided on an in-house basis regarding Finance and Questioning Skills where this can be arranged, along with other options including sharing online material such as CfPS briefings/ guides.

To drive improvement in public services

The Overview and Scrutiny work programme is informed by the Council Plan, the Sustainable Community Strategy, the Council's Forward Plan of decisions and other partnership plans and strategies, and so is aligned to key improvement areas for the Council.

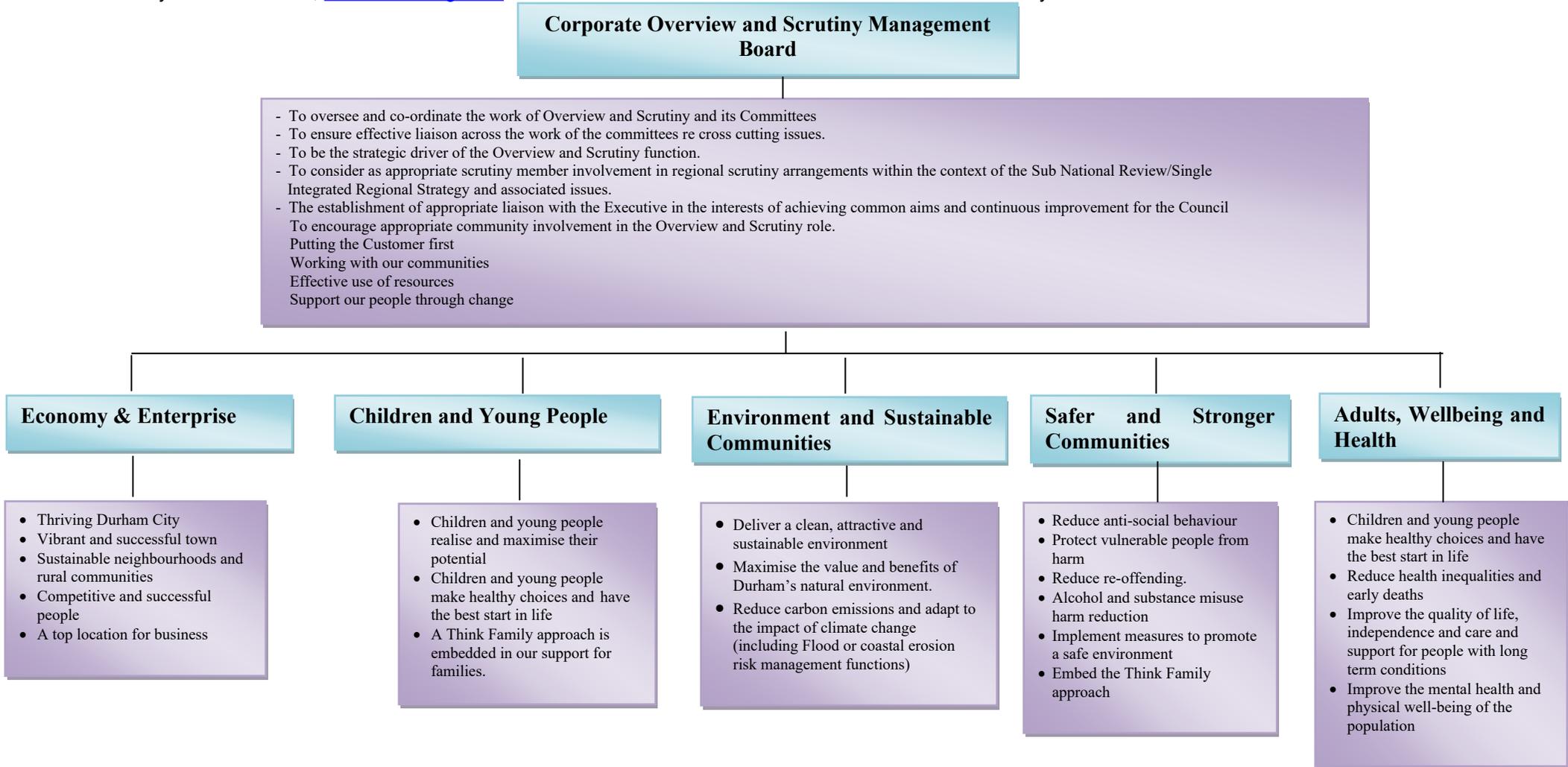
The majority of detailed in depth reviews are carried out by the Committees, but smaller working groups may be set up to carry out light touch reviews. The Scrutiny Committees decide which areas they wish to examine. This may arise following representations by members of the public about a particular matter; be an issue identified by councillors themselves; or follow on from reports or performance assessment on the Council's activities made by the Cabinet or outside agencies.

Examples of the impact of DCC's overview and Scrutiny so far this year are:

- Cybercrime recommendations to include as an action within Safe Durham Partnership Plan, to undertake education and engagement activity with young people and explore apprenticeship opportunities for cybersecurity.
- Arson and deliberate fires within the East Durham area - recommendations for the Safe Durham Partnership to monitor performance, carry out education initiatives and approaches to improve community confidence and engage local Members within the development of a Fire Reduction Plan for the area.
- Water Safety – noted progress and success and commented on the challenge to maintain resources to keep up the momentum of the campaign, the rural location of some high risk locations and ensure all efforts are made to engage with schools in these areas.
- Alcohol and its Demand on Emergency Services – outcomes from review led to the report being shared and a letter from the Safe Durham Partnership Board sent to all Constituent MPs, to raise awareness of the impact of alcohol on emergency services and as evidence in relation to reduction in drink drive limits, licensing and minimum unit pricing.
- Stroke Support Services – facilitated extension and reprocurement of a new contract.
- Closer link between the CYP OSC and Corporate Parenting Panel to strengthen oversight of children's services, including the involvement in scrutiny in a number of political oversight meetings.
- The Environment OSC is also the designated Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Committee, and has established formalised arrangements for engaging with Flood Risk Management partners for County Durham.

Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees are aligned to the key priority themes of the Council's vision, which is to build an Altogether Better Durham that is better for local people and provides better places to live and work. Information on all elements of the Overview and Scrutiny function can be found on the scrutiny pages of the Durham County Council website, www.durham.gov.uk. Below is the structure of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees.



Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

The **Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB)** provides a strategic direction for the work of all the committees. Its work programme for 2017/18 included the following:

- Carried out in depth scrutiny of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan 2017/2018 – 2020/2021 (MTFP 7), Council Plan and Service Plans and revenue and capital budget proposals for 2017/2018 to make sure that the Council's resources are used effectively and efficiently;
- Took part in a pilot of the Customer Relations Management System (CRM) Member Portal;
- Received details and commented on the Council's use of powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000;
- Refreshed the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board work programme;
- Received quarterly updates on:
 - Performance Management 2017/18 and commented on progress against the Council's corporate basket of performance indicators for the Altogether Better Council Theme;
 - the Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn for Transformation and Partnerships and Resources;
 - Customer Feedback: Complaints, Compliments and Suggestions.
- Received updates on:
 - The County Durham Partnership;
 - Welfare Reform;
 - Implications of the Government's Policy Programme on DCC;
 - The delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan 7.
- Continued to receive regular updates on:
 - Performance management every quarter before it is disseminated to respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees for further comment;
 - Petitions
 - Council's Notice of Key Decisions - to ensure that Members are aware of key decisions to be made by Cabinet, and to provide information on scrutiny involvement if any;
 - Work programme activity from each of the COSMB Chairs.



Cllr Rob Crute
Chair, Overview and Scrutiny



Cllr Andrea Patterson
Vice-chair, Overview
and Scrutiny

Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (AWH OSC) has a statutory role under the Health and Social Care Act 2001 as amended to scrutinise local health services. This committee is aligned to the **Altogether Healthier** priority theme and has:

- Examined and provided commentary upon Quality Accounts 2017/18 including proposed priorities for 2018/19 for Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS FT; County Durham and Darlington NHS FT and North East Ambulance Service NHS FT. The Committee also considered updates on progress from all three Trusts in respect of priorities during 2017/18.



Cllr John Robinson
Chair of AWH OSC



Cllrs Jean Chaplow
Vice-chair of AWH OSC

- Reviewed Annual Reports and performance information in respect of County Durham HealthWatch, Durham Local Safeguarding Board and the County Durham Health and Wellbeing Board;
- Received information on the following NHS Service reviews and, where appropriate, as statutory consultees commented upon the proposals and associated communications and engagement plans:
 - South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Partnership Path to Excellence Programme;
 - Post implementation update report following the reconfiguration of Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group (DDES CCG) Urgent Care Services;
 - Post implementation update report following the reconfiguration of Organic Inpatient (Dementia) Wards serving County Durham and Darlington;
 - Stroke support services across County Durham;
 - Rapid Specialist Opinion service across North Durham CCG;
 - Improved Access to Psychological Therapies Model development;
 - NHS England Review of Specialised Vascular Services;
 - County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust and Durham CCGs Review of Stroke Rehabilitation;
 - Closure of a Dispensing service at St John's Chapel by the Weardale Practice;
 - Proposals to close the Branch Surgery at Byers Green, St Andrew's Medical Practice;
- Continued the examination of the Sustainability and Transformation Plans covering County Durham – the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham STP and the Durham, Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP, including the promotion and establishment of the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham STP Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee;

- Considered update reports in respect of:
 - Preventative Mental Health Services Review and Recommissioning;
 - Adult and Health Services;
 - DDES CCG Accident and Emergency Ambulance Service Review – post implementation update;
 - Winter pressures and the work of the Local A&E Delivery Board;
- Received information and, where necessary, provided commentary in respect of:
 - The Director of Public Health Annual Report 2016/17
 - Proposals to re-procure community services across County Durham;
 - Service developments and Improved mental health rehabilitation services for adults by Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust;
 - The draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2018 consultation;
 - Implementation of Care Navigation across County Durham GPs;
 - Teams around the Patient/Health and Social Care Integration;
 - A review of Community Hospital services in County Durham;
- Examined the CQC Re-inspection report and associated action plan in respect of County Durham and Darlington NHS FT;
- In conjunction with the Children and Young People’s OSC, examined the work of the County Durham Healthy Weight Alliance with a focus on Obesity;
- Monitored the performance and revenue and capital expenditure through quarterly performance management and budgetary reports.

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYP OSC) is aligned to **Altogether Better for Children and Young People** priority theme in the Council Plan. This Committee has:

- Received information on:
 - The One Point Service
 - Elective Home Education
 - Case File Audit
 - Child Poverty
 - Student Voice Survey
 - Serious Case Review Process
 - Neglect in County Durham
 - Summary of school Ofsted results
- Scrutinised Annual Reports from the Director of Public Health; and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board; the Health and Wellbeing Board; Looked After Children; and Adoption Service.
- Undertaken review activity looking at the Role of the Social Worker from a Child's Perspective which has involved children and young people.
- Considered the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Review of Health Services for Children Looked After and Safeguarding (CLAS) in County Durham.
- Received updates on:
 - School Funding
 - Management of Exclusions
 - Growing Healthy 0-19
 - Support to Care Leavers
 - Impact of the Children's Centres Review
 - Progress of the Recommendations of the Self Harm Review
- Monitored the performance and revenue and capital expenditure through quarterly performance management and budgetary reports;
- Received summary of minutes from Children and Families Partnership;
- Involved young people through taking committee meetings to them in their school.
- Greater liaison between Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Corporate Parenting Panel.



Cllr Christine Potts
Chair of CYP OSC



Cllr Heather Smith
Vice-Chair of CYP OSC

Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Economy OSC) is aligned to the **Altogether Wealthier** priority team in the Council Plan. This Committee has:

- Received updates and commented on key developments and the direction of travel in relation to the EU funding programme, Regional Funding, DurhamWorks Programme, the North East Combined Authority (NECA) in relation to transport, the County Durham Plan and the 'Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places' government consultation;
- Received detail of and commented on the Industrial Strategy White Paper 'Building a Britain fit for the future', Durham Key Options lettings policy, the Homelessness Strategy, the progress of the Digital Durham Programme (support for the business sector), the Local Transport Plan, delivery of the various town centre masterplans and DCC's housing function;
- Considered on an annual basis detail of the work undertaken by the County Durham Economic Partnership and Business Durham;
- Received information on Chapter Homes, the performance of County Durham Housing Group, projects undertaken with the private housing sector and an investment pipeline for major projects in the county;
- Received an update on the progress of recommendations of the Tourism marketing activity undertaken by Visit County Durham scrutiny review and the Skills development scrutiny review;
- Monitored the performance and revenue and capital expenditure through quarterly performance management and budgetary reports;
- Received minutes from the County Durham Economic Partnership.



Cllr Alison Batey
Chair, Economy and
Enterprise OSC



Cllr Malcolm Clarke
Vice-chair, Economy and
Enterprise OSC

Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The **Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee** (Env OSC) has statutory responsibility under the Localism Act 2011 as amended to scrutinise flooding and coastal risk management functions of the council and external bodies (Environment Agency and Northumbrian Water Ltd.) This committee is aligned to the **Altogether Greener** priority theme in the Council Plan. The committee has:



Cllr Eddy Adam

Chair of Environment OSC

Cllr Olga Milburn

Vice-chair of Environment OSC

- Received regular updates on the waste programme, European Structure and Investment Funding programme, Carbon Management Plan, Climate Change and delivery Plan, Warm Up North project and Fuel Poverty and winter maintenance programme;

- Received an update on the progress of recommendations on:
 - The management of DCC's woodland estate
- Considered information on:
 - Air quality in County Durham
 - Community Action Team and the use of targeted interventions
 - County Durham Environment Awards Scheme;
- Received an overview of the Business Energy Efficiency Project, Highways maintenance, Culture and Sports Services and the further development of the Heritage Coast;
- Received minutes from the County Durham Environmental Partnership, the Durham Strategic Flood Group and Northumbria Regional Flood and Coastal Committee;
- Monitored the performance and revenue and capital expenditure through quarterly performance management and budgetary reports;
- The Committee is the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Committee for County Durham and receives on an annual basis an update on the work of the Flood Risk Management Authorities for County Durham which focuses on:
 - Flood mitigation work currently being undertaken within County Durham by the Flood Risk Management Authorities for County Durham;
 - Future flood mitigation work to be undertaken and detail of funding;
 - Any issues identified by the Flood Risk Management Authorities in relation to flood mitigation schemes/projects within the County.

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The **Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee** (SSC OSC) has powers under the Police and Justice Act 2006 as amended to scrutinise work being undertaken by the statutory crime and disorder reduction partnership; the Safe Durham Partnership. The committee is aligned to the **Altogether Safer** priority theme in the Council Plan.

The committee has completed review activity on:

- Cybercrime
- Arson and deliberate fires

Received reports on the progress of recommendations from review activity of:

- Organised Crime
- 20 mph limits/zones
- Alcohol and the demand on Emergency Services
- Improved safety in the Home – Safe and Wellbeing Visits



Cllr David Boyes
Chair of Safer and Stronger
Communities OSC



Cllr Heather Liddle
Vice-chair of Safer and
Communities OSC

Considered reports and provided a response to respective Portfolio Holders and/or Partnership leads on:

- Open Water Safety
- Hate Crime
- Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
- Substance Misuse Services

Considered and commented on reports and presentations on:

- Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Consumer Protection – Enforcement Activity
- Safe Durham Partnership Reducing Re-offending Group
- Youth Justice Plan 2016/17
- Youth Offending Services
- Road Safety Reduction Partnership

- Responded to consultation on Safe Durham Partnership and County Durham and Darlington Fire & Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plans.
- Received reports and provided comment on activity of the Safe Durham Partnership Board and the Durham Police and Crime Panel.
- Monitored quarterly performance reports and provided acknowledgment of high performance areas and included performance challenges within its work programme.

Regional Scrutiny

The North East Regional Employers' Organisation supports a region-wide NE Joint Scrutiny Member/officer Network where all twelve North East local authorities' Scrutiny leads discuss national developments in scrutiny and also have an opportunity to share their work programmes and priorities and consider emerging issues that have an impact across local authority boundaries.

The network met in January 2018, where DCC's Chair of Overview and Scrutiny was appointed as Vice-chair of the network. Also at that meeting, the network discussed the findings of the Department for Communities and Local Government Select Committee's Overview and Scrutiny in Local Government Inquiry and a CLG Specialist was in attendance to answer questions. Regular future meetings are planned.

North East Combined Authority (NECA) scrutiny arrangements

The North East Combined Authority (NECA) has agreed three broad areas of focus:

- Transport
- Employability and Inclusion
- Economic Development and Regeneration

Governance arrangements for the NECA include an Overview and Scrutiny Committee which enables local councillors, on behalf of their communities, to scrutinise and challenge all matters within the remit of the Combined Authority. The committee investigates matters of significant importance to residents across the areas covered by the seven councils with a view to influencing decisions made in respect of all matters within the remit of the Combined Authority. The North East Combined Authority (NECA) Overview and Scrutiny Committee is made up of 14 councillors from across the 7 combined authority areas.

Durham County Council is represented on the NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee by Cllr Rob Crute and Cllr Andrea Patterson, Chair and Vice-chair of DCC's Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, and Cllr Alison Batey and Cllr Malcolm Clarke, Chair and Vice-chair of Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee are the nominated substitute members.

The NECA scrutiny committee meets 4 times a year at varying locations across the NECA area and meetings are open to the public. Further details on NECA can be found at www.northeastca.gov.uk

Regional Health Scrutiny

The Council continues to work collaboratively at a regional level to ensure that the impact of changes to health services across local authority boundaries does not adversely impact upon residents of County Durham. The North East Regional Joint Health Scrutiny Committee consists of lead Health Scrutiny members from all 12 North East local authorities and is charged with scrutinising issues around the planning, provision and operation of health services in and across the North East region, comprising for these purposes the areas covered by all constituent authorities.

During 2017/18, the committee has examined:

- NHS England – North East and Cumbria specialised commissioning updates regarding Neonatal Services; Neonatal transport; Congenital Heart Disease Review and Vascular services;
- The North East and Cumbria Learning Disabilities Fast Track Transformation Plan;
- Updates from the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham STP Joint Health OSC and the Durham, Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP Joint Health OSC;
- NEAS Quality Accounts and performance updates including the new National Ambulance response times initiative;
- Community Pharmacies and the use of pharmacies for minor ailments and other health service provision.

Following the publication of NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plans nationally, there are two sub-regional Joint STP Scrutiny Committees covering the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham STP and the Durham, Darlington and Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby STP. Durham County Council is the only North East Council with representatives that sit on both STP Joint OSCs reflecting the fact that County Durham is covered by these two STPs.

It is envisaged that much of this regional and sub-regional health scrutiny work will roll forward into 2018/19 and the regional and sub-regional joint scrutiny OSC arrangements will be used to scrutinise the development of Sustainability and Transformation Plans and any associated proposals for substantial developments or significant variations in services arising out of these plans.

Co-optees

Non-councillors may be co-opted onto overview and scrutiny committees and working groups, and can help scrutiny to engage with the public. They are used:

- to act as a non-political voice for those who live or work in County Durham;
- to bring specialist knowledge and/or skills and an element of external challenge to the Overview and Scrutiny process;
- to take an interest in, attend and contribute to the committees or working groups to which appointed;
- to establish good relations with other members, officers and co-optees;
- where individuals are representatives of any particular organisation or group, to feed back any appropriate discussions or decisions of the relevant committee or working group to their respective organisation or group.

A fundamental review of the appointment process for non-statutory, non-voting co-optees was undertaken in 2014. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB) in March 2016 agreed that the appointment period for currently serving non-statutory, non-voting co-optees would be extended for a further two years with a further fundamental refresh of the appointment process to be undertaken May/June 2018. The refresh has now taken place and a number of new non-voting co-optees have been appointed. These newly appointed co-optees will undertake the necessary induction programme.

Work Programmes

The current work programmes focus on the priority areas identified within the Council Plan, the Cabinet's Forward Plan of decisions, Sustainable Community Strategy, Partnership plans and strategies, performance and budgetary control data and changes in Government legislation.

Overview and Scrutiny Team

The Overview and Scrutiny team is part of the Transformation and Partnerships directorate which leads on the transformation programme, performance management and improvement, consultation and engagement, communications, partnership working, equalities and diversity and information management, as well as the Council's Area Action Partnerships and emergency planning functions.



Contact us in the Scrutiny Office on 03000 268145 scrutiny@durham.gov.uk, or see the Durham County Council website, www.durham.gov.uk

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