



Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Date Monday 28 April 2014
Time 9.30 am
Venue Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham

Business

Part A

Items during which the Press and Public are welcome to attend. Members of the Public can ask questions with the Chairman's agreement.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the meetings held on 25 March and 1 April 2014 (Pages 1 - 8)
4. Declarations of interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted members or interested parties
6. Progress Towards a Partnership Approach to Supporting Opportunities for Young People within County Durham Update - Report of Head of Strategy, Programmes and Performance (Pages 9 - 12)
7. Development of Corporate Performance Indicators and Targets for 2014/15 - Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Pages 13 - 22)
8. Fit for Purpose, Fit for the Future - Review of Durham County Council's Area Action Partnerships - Final Update - Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Pages 23 - 30)

9. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013-2014 - Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Pages 31 - 50)
10. Notice of Key Decisions - Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 51 - 60)
11. Information update from the Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees - Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Pages 61 - 66)
12. Any other urgent business (subject to the Chairman's approval)

Colette Longbottom
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
16 April 2014

To: **The Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board**

Councillor J Armstrong (Chairman)
Councillor P Stradling (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors B Alderson, A Batey, R Bell, J Blakey, A Bonner, D Boyes,
J Chaplow, R Crute, B Graham, D Hall, K Henig, A Hopgood, P Lawton,
J Lethbridge, H Liddle, E Murphy, T Nearney, C Potts, A Shield, M Simmons,
W Stelling, R Todd, J Turnbull and S Wilson

Faith Communities Representatives:

Revd K Phipps and Mrs M Sands

Parent Governor Representatives:

Mr R Patel

Co-opted Members:

Mr A J Cooke and Mr D Kinch

Contact: Ros Layfield

Tel: 03000 269708

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

At a Meeting of **Overview and Scrutiny Management Board** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Tuesday 25 March 2014 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor J Armstrong in the Chair

Members of the Committee:

Councillors P Stradling, A Batey, R Bell, D Boyes, R Crute, B Graham, K Henig, A Hopgood, J Lethbridge, C Potts, A Shield, M Simmons, R Todd and J Turnbull

Co-opted Members:

Mr D Kinch

Also Present:

Councillor M Williams

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Alderson, D Hall, P Lawton, H Liddle, T Nearney, S Wilson, and Mr A J Cooke.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitute members.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 17 February 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Head of Planning and Performance referred to item 6 of the minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2014 and advised that Councillor Martin had been forwarded the information regarding the number of primary schools kitchens still requiring works to bring them up to standard.

Referring to item 10 of the minutes, the Head of Planning and Performance advised that the review of non-voting co-optee appointment arrangements were covered in item 10 on the agenda.

The Chairman of Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny confirmed he would set up a cross party scrutiny working group to look at the issue of the unfairness of certain funding

methodology, as raised by Councillor R Bell at the previous meeting, linked to future MTFP scrutiny.

4 Declarations of interest, if any

Mr Kinch declared an interest in Item No. 10 on the Review of Overview and Scrutiny Co-optee Arrangements.

5 Any items from Co-opted members or interested parties

There were no items from Co-opted members or interested parties.

6 Quarter 3 2013/14 Performance Management

The Board considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which presented progress against the council's corporate basket of performance indicators (PIs) and reported other significant performance issues for the third quarter of 2013/14. A presentation was given by the Head of Planning and Performance (for copy of report and slides, see file of minutes).

Councillor R Bell commented on the number of empty properties in his community and asked who they should be reported to. He also asked if there was any reason for the number of planning applications determined within 13 weeks being down from the previous quarter. The Chairman responded that it may be due to some contentious issues and pointed out that the planning applications were still on target which was an improvement on quarter 3 performance figures for 2012/13.

Mr Kinch referred to page 50 of the report regarding the increase in the number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents and asked if the figures referred to children who were injured whilst in a car or hit by a car. Councillor Boyes responded that there should be a differentiation between the two. He further advised that there had been no fatalities.

Councillor A Shield commented on speed limits and traffic safety around schools and that he had raised the issue with the Police and Crime Commissioner who considering introducing 20mph speed limits for all school areas. The service had advised that it was not within the policy adopted by the Authority to have 20mph speed limits. The Chairman indicated that the topic should be taken up by the appropriate committee.

Resolved:

That the information contained in the report be noted.

7 Update of the Delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan 3

The Board considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive that provided an update on the progress made at the end of December 2013 on the delivery of the 2013/14 to 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP3) (for copy see file of minutes).

The Head of Policy and Communications reported that the MTFP3 agreed by Council in February 2013 takes the overall savings target for the period from 2011/12 to 2016/17 to over £188m, however at Council on 26 February 2014, Members were advised that the latest forecast had increased the total savings required for the period from 2011 to 2017 to £224m, based on the impact of the 2015/16 Spending Round and the 2014/15 and 2015/16 Local Government Finance Settlement.

By the end of December 2014 the Council had delivered £20.16m of the £20.87m savings target for 2013/14 which represents 97% of the 2013/14 target.

Early planning and delivering savings through robust programme management continues to be an important aspect in overcoming the significant challenge of delivering the MTFP. It will become increasingly difficult to deliver the levels of savings required over future years, and will involve a number of difficult decisions. However £22m of savings proposals are in place for 2014/15 and planning work is already well advanced, in order that the appropriate consultations and decision making can occur in adequate time to deliver the savings necessary.

Councillor Hopgood acknowledged the need for early planning but expressed concern regarding appropriate communication as the first she had heard of asset transferring for example was after attending an AAP presentation, and expressed concern for those elected members who were not part of an AAP being informed of this. The Head of Partnerships and Community Engagement responded that he would take Councillor Hopgoods comment regarding communication on board.

Resolved:

That the content of the report and the progress being made in delivering the £20.87m of savings for 2013/14 where 97% of the savings have been delivered by 31 December 2013 be noted.

8 Sustainable Community Strategy

The Board considered a draft of the renewed Sustainable Community Strategy for County Durham, prior to consideration by full Council on 2 April 2014 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Head of Partnerships and Community Engagement reported that the present strategy covering 2010-2030, has been in place for the last three year and is now being refreshed to reflect the changing landscape and need to deliver services with fewer resources which reflect changes in local priorities as well as national policy changes.

He further advised that the strategy would still need to be agreed by the Partnership Board which was scheduled to meet in April 2014.

The Principal Partnerships and Communities Officer commented on the five thematic partnership work plans and individual strategies, highlighting the strengths and achievements to build on when looking to meet the challenges that have been identified.

In addition to the existing work of the thematic partnerships the revised SCS had a stronger focus on issues that cut across more than one thematic priority.

The six cross-cutting areas for focus are:-

- Job creation
- Volunteering
- Mental wellbeing
- Stronger families
- Alcohol
- Reducing Inequalities

Councillor Boyes agreed with the need to increase the emphasis on partnership working. A key element was ensuring all partners had compatible IT systems and the same operating procedures, to which the Chairman agreed.

Councillor Boyes also expressed disappointment that reducing organised crime was no longer in the SCS as he believed there had been some success in that area.

Councillor Stradling was impressed with the profile of the council and how easy the document was to read. He asked if copies would be produced and how the strategy would be published and circulated. The Principal Partnerships and Communities Officer advised that there was money in the budget to produce a certain number of copies which would also be available online and publicised through the County Durham News before a launch in early Autumn.

Councillor Hopgood commented on how the document highlights how diverse County Durham is and that it demonstrates that one size does not always fit all.

Resolved:

That the renewed Sustainable Community Strategy be endorsed and presented to full Council on the 2 April 2014.

9 Council Plan and Service Plans 2014-17

The Board considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive that provided a draft Council Plan for 2014-17 for consideration and comment before being submitted for approval by Council on 2 April 2014 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Corporate Improvement Manager highlighted changes to the current Council Plan. The main changes have been made to the Altogether Safer priority theme, to align with the Safe Durham Partnership Plan. Two objectives were removed from the council plan framework but retained with the Sustainable Community Strategy framework. One

objective was also removed from the Altogether Greener theme, but again remains within the partnership framework. Small changes were also made to the frameworks of the Altogether Wealthier and Altogether Healthier priority themes.

Councillor Boyes asked if members could see the changes that had been made to the document, the Head of Planning and Performance advised that a note of all the changes would be provided.

Resolved:

- That the content of the draft Council Plan as approved by Cabinet on 19 March, prior to submission to full Council be noted.
- That the content of the draft service plans be noted.

10 Review of Overview and Scrutiny Co-optee Arrangements

The Board considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive that provided a draft proposal for updating the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee non-voting co-optee arrangements (for copy see file of minutes).

The Head of Planning and Performance advised that after difficulties in filling the 30 co-optee places and low level of attendance by some co-optees it was proposed to reduce the number to the 5 Thematic Overview and Scrutiny Committees from 6 to 2 non-voting co-optees each and remove all non-statutory, non-voting co-optees to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. Our statutory education co-optees and partner representatives on the Safer and Stronger OSC would remain unchanged.

Existing non voting co-optees will receive a letter from the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny thanking them for their valuable contributions, referring to the refresh of the co-optee arrangements and asking them to indicate whether they would wish to be considered for a further term of office under the new arrangements.

The Chairman commented that the position of co-optee is a very important role as it provides the Council with an external viewpoint. He had discussions with Chairs and Vice Chairs of all Overview and Scrutiny committees as well as minority party representatives who agreed with the proposals.

In response to concerns raised by Councillor Hopgood regarding the parent governor vacancies, the Chairman advised that many requests for representatives had been made by the scrutiny team and asked that the issue be looked at further with governor support.

Resolved:

That the proposal to reduce the number of non-statutory, non-voting co-optees as set out in paragraph 19 of the report be agreed.

11 Proposed Update to the Scope of Scrutiny Committees as set out in the County Council's Constitution

The Board considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive that provided members with the opportunity to comment on proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution, which will ensure that the scope of Overview and Scrutiny Committees are up to date and reflect the current SCS and Council Plan (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the amendments to the Constitution reflect the proposed changes to co-optee arrangements and the proposed changes to the SCS and Council Plan.

12 Notice of Key Decisions

The Board considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services which provided a list of key decisions which were scheduled to be considered by the Executive (for copy see file of minutes).

The Committee Service Manager reported that since the last update there had been some movement in items being considered at Cabinet meetings. Other items that had moved were:-

- Progress in stock transfer has moved from April to May 2014, as has the future of housing repairs and maintenance.
- New to the plan for April was the review of in-house residential provision, and a proposal to extend the age range of Belmont CE junior school and to close Belmont infant school from 1 January 2015.
- New items on Housing Stock involving the outcome of the consultation and principles of land transfer had been added to the notice for July 2014.

Councillor Hopgood asked for more detailed information to be provided on future notices on the main consultees.

Resolved:

That the information contained in the report be noted.

13 Information update from the Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The Board considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update of overview and scrutiny activity between February 2014 and March 2014 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the information contained in the report be noted.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

SPECIAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

At a Special Meeting of **Overview and Scrutiny Management Board** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Tuesday 1 April 2014 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor J Armstrong in the Chair

Members of the Committee:

Councillors P Stradling, R Crute, A Hopgood, P Lawton, J Lethbridge, H Liddle, T Nearney, A Shield, M Simmons, R Todd, J Turnbull and S Wilson

Co-opted Members:

Mr A J Cooke and Mr D Kinch

Also Present:

Councillor M Nicholls

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Batey, R Bell, J Chaplow, B Graham, D Hall, and Reverend K Phipps.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitute Members in attendance.

3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 In-house Residential Homes Consultation Process

The Board considered a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Adult Services that summarised the formal consultation process used when consulting on the review of five in house residential care homes in County Durham. A detailed presentation was given by the Head of Commissioning (for copy of report and slides, see file of minutes).

The Head of Commissioning reported that final recommendations would be presented to Cabinet on the 16 April 2014.

Members acknowledged that the consultation had been a robust and comprehensive process that had been carried out with service users, carers, families, members of staff, trade unions, elected members and stakeholder groups.

Mr Kinch asked if the residents had been examined by a medical professional to ensure the process would not affect them mentally or physically. The Head of Commissioning advised that a capability test had been carried out prior to the interview. After seeking advice, they would be reluctant to carry out medical assessments prior to the decision being made as conditions may change.

In response to a question from Councillor A Hopgood regarding member involvement in the project group that was set up to oversee the development of the consultation framework, the Head of Commissioning confirmed that there had been member involvement along with the Cabinet Portfolio holder and senior officers.

Councillor Hopgood acknowledged that the consultation had been comprehensive but thought that the council may be subject to criticism from the public as the preferred option may not be the one agreed by Cabinet. The Chairman responded that the decision would be made by Cabinet and the scrutiny role was to ensure that the consultation process had been carried out correctly. Councillor P Stradling added that scrutiny did not take part in making the decision. Cabinet have three options to consider and the consultation exercise was to determine the recommendations for Cabinet to approve.

Resolved:

That Overview and Scrutiny Management Board accept the report detailing the process, and approve the release of the consultation report to Members in advance of the Cabinet meeting on 16 April 2014.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

28th April 2014

Progress Towards a Partnership Approach to Supporting Opportunities for Young People within County Durham Update Report



Report of Andy Palmer – Head of Strategy, Programmes and Performance

Purpose of the report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress towards delivering a partnership approach to supporting employment and training opportunities for young people within County Durham.

Background

- 2.1 It is well documented that youth unemployment is a growing concern not only in County Durham but across the UK. With 10,500 more young people aged 16-24 year olds out of work since the start of the economic downturn within the county it is imperative we take a proactive approach to promoting opportunities for young residents within County Durham.
- 2.2 The County Durham Economic Partnership's County Durham Regeneration Statement 2012 – 2022 outlines our economic regeneration ambitions for the county. *Competitive and Successful People* is one of the five ambitions highlighted within the Statement, recognising that to create sustainable places and to boost economic growth we must raise aspirations, participation and attainment of young people and the opportunities available to them.
- 2.3 Some of the underlying issues and challenges we need to address in order to do this include:
 - Transition from education to employment is harder in a recession with a more competitive labour market
 - Rising youth unemployment
 - Persistent high numbers of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)
 - Skills gaps and differing supply and demand
 - Changing employer perceptions

Our Partnership Approach

- 3.0 More recently additional national and European Union resources have been targeted at addressing these and other economic issues across the country. County Durham was allocated €157m of EU Structural Funding as a transitional area (currently under review by BIS) as well as being covered by an allocation of €539.6m at the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) level and Central Government has requested spending plans from LEPs as part of determining activity from the Single Local Growth Funds.

- 3.1 Within the NELEP area partners including the County Durham Economic Partnership and Durham County Council have been tasked by central government to produce Strategic Economic Plans (SEPs) and European Structural and Investment Fund Strategies (ESIF). Both documents outline the strategic approach to delivering growth in the economy and cover a wide range of strategic infrastructure projects and projects to address supply and demand issues in the employment market.
- 3.2 The draft SEP and ESIF have both now been submitted to Government. Initial feedback has been received for the ESIF and the Strategy is being refreshed for May 2014. However, feedback is awaited for the SEP and therefore leads to lack of certainty in the approach to planning our associated actions.
- 3.3 Within Durham we have an existing range of strategies, plans, partnership groups, activities, tools and mechanisms in place to provide and supporting opportunities for our young people. In preparation for the release of the European Operational Programme Document which lays out the requirements of what the UK programme will need to deliver and the announcement of which projects will be funded from the SEP submission, the CDEP has established seven workstreams to determine actions to match local needs and priorities to funding opportunities. All of these groups have a focus on the economy of County Durham and one specifically covers youth employment.
- 3.4 This workstream is led by DCC and is currently planning activity that includes increasing Apprenticeships opportunities, training, volunteering social enterprise, transport and a range of social issues impacting upon young people seeking work. Final detail of what activities will be implemented is still to be decided once the full detail of available resources is known.

Next Steps

- 4.0 It is anticipated that Central Government will shortly share with LEPs and Local Government their plans for both EU and other regeneration funding.
- 4.1 Once announced County Durham is well placed and prepared to implement a range of activities at a local level and draw in regional and national programmes to best effect on local priorities.

Recommendations

- 5.0 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board note the information presented and support the next steps outlined within section 4.0 of the report.
- 5.1 The Regeneration and Economic Development Service Grouping and Children and Adult Services will continue to work closely with partners to support and maximise the opportunities for young people within the county.

Contact:

Ray Brewis, Strategy, Partnerships and Resources Manager, Tel: 03000 264708
Heather Orton, Strategy and Partnerships Team Leader, Tel: 03000 264715

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk – None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - None

Accommodation – None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications - None

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Overview & Scrutiny Management Board

28 April 2014



Development of Corporate Performance Indicators and Targets for 2014/15

Report of Corporate Management Team
Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive
Simon Henig, Leader

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide a summary of the issues raised by Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on developing the corporate indicators and targets for 2014/15 and outline the outcomes and actions taken to address these (Appendix 2).

Background

2. At their special meeting held on 17 January 2014, Overview and Scrutiny Management Board were provided with the opportunity to influence the indicators and targets we use as a Council ahead of developing the corporate set for 2014/15 to monitor our performance and our progress in achieving our objectives.
3. The meeting consisted of six breakout groups, one for each of our Altogether Better priority themes, with members from each thematic Overview and Scrutiny Committee playing into the relevant theme. For each member there was an opportunity to comment on up to two of the themes on the day.
4. This report provides members with an outline of the outcomes and actions taken to address the issues raised (Appendix 2).

Current Position

5. A draft corporate indicator set and three year targets have been developed to monitor progress towards achievement of the council's priorities as set out in the 2014/17 Council Plan.
6. A series of checks are being undertaken to establish appropriateness of the proposed corporate indicator set for 2014/15, specifically to ensure that key Council Plan priorities and areas of concern have been included for future monitoring. In relation to targets, checks are also being undertaken as to the rationale for target setting by evaluating improvement trends against current performance and benchmarking data. Members views have been incorporated into the development of the proposed indicator set.
7. The 2014/15 corporate indicators and three year targets will be presented for agreement to Cabinet in June 2014.

Recommendations and Reasons

8. Overview and Scrutiny Management Board is recommended to consider the key outcomes from the meeting as listed in Appendix 2.

Contact: Jenny Haworth, Head of Planning and Performance
Tel: 03000 268071 E-Mail jenny.haworth@durham.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

Indicators in the corporate basket are being used to inform corporate, service and financial planning.

Staffing

Performance against a number of relevant corporate health PIs is used to monitor staffing.

Risk

Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly monitoring report.

Equality and Diversity

Key actions relating to equality and diversity issues are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Accommodation

Not applicable

Crime and Disorder

A number of PIs and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in the corporate basket in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

Human Rights

Not applicable

Consultation

Feedback on the corporate basket and targets will be fed into the approval process for the corporate basket of indicators.

Procurement

Not applicable

Disability

The proportion of employees with a disability is monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Legal Implications

Not applicable

Appendix 2: OSMB Workshop held on 17 January 2014

Ref	Member comment/query	Action to be taken/feedback for members
Economy & Enterprise Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Altogether Wealthier)		
1	Request additional indicators be considered for inclusion in the 2014/15 corporate set that measure: - Average household wage - Net household income - Breakdown of employment by sector - Classification of benefits claimants - Number of apprenticeships progressing into full time employment	A set of measures is under consideration for inclusion within RED
2	More statistics requested to be included in future reports regarding welfare reform in relation to welfare rights and void properties	A suite of indicators covering both welfare reform and void properties has been developed and included within the proposed indicator set by RED
3	Members stated that it was important that cross-cutting issues and PI's are reported to the relevant committee for Members to be kept up-to-date.	Cross-cutting issues and PIs will be incorporated into future Performance Reports relevant to Overview & Scrutiny Committees.
Children & Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Altogether Better for Children & Young People)		
4	Suggest the addition of two indicators as follows: - Children with a Child Protection Plan (to provide more information) - Young people who are admitted to hospital because of self harm	The following indicators have been added: - Rate of Children with a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population - Young people aged under 18 admitted to hospital as a result of self harm (rate per 100,000 population aged 0-17 years)
5	Educational attainment indicators should give geographical data to show where children and young people need additional support.	Breakdown to One Point Service level to be provided when submitting data for the 2013/14 Academic Year.
6	Suggest additional CAMHS indicator to monitor the numbers of new referrals to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, as the present indicator (PI Ref.65) only focuses on a small cohort of Looked After Children.	The following indicator has been added: - Number of new referrals to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
7	Request for information to be provided numerically where possible to sit alongside the percentage information. This will provide a level of clarity to the percentage information.	CAS provide numerators and denominators where possible when submitting performance data to the Corporate Performance Team.
Adults, Wellbeing & Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Altogether Healthier)		

Ref	Member comment/query	Action to be taken/feedback for members
8	<p>PI Ref.70 Four week smoking quitters - queried how the Council can influence achievement of the target and consider this indicator being categorised as a tracker.</p> <p>Need to target young and emphasise link to premature death.</p>	<p>Indicator has remained as a target for 2014/15. During the OSMB workshop it was explained that the Council can influence the achievement of the target through campaigns and publicity. Also if people have registered with the service they are ready to stop smoking. The Children & Young People's Survey asks Year 6 pupils if people smoke around them. Public Health has commissioned a survey of young people in Year 9 which will cover a number of health issues, including smoking.</p>
9	<p>PI Ref.80-82 Drug & Alcohol prevention - consider links to suicide practice/policy</p>	<p>Suicide rates are included in both the Altogether Safer and Healthier baskets and supporting data will be provided to explain performance. To link suicides with a drug/alcohol issue would be difficult and would rely on analysis of individual coroner reports.</p>
10	<p>Obesity is an area where prevention/education is important. Suggest inclusion of indicator measuring adult obesity.</p>	<p>GP surgeries have a register for obesity. They can look into causes and make exercise referrals.</p> <p>Adult obesity data is currently sourced from a national survey so data is limited, however the service is looking into whether anything can be provided.</p>
11	<p>PI Ref.83 Community health checks - important to retain this indicator within the set</p>	<p>A revised overall measure of health checks is being retained as this is a better future measure.</p>
12	<p>Consider inclusion of a measure of dementia.</p>	<p>The Department of Health is currently working on developing a national measure on dementia to measure the effectiveness of post-diagnosis care in sustaining independence and improving quality of life for people with Dementia. This will not be ready for inclusion in 2014/15 but when available it will be considered for inclusion in the basket</p>
13	<p>PI Ref.89 Adults receiving mental health services in settled accommodation - query as to how long people can remain in settled accommodation with introduction of the bedroom tax. Can this be monitored and included in the set?</p>	<p>If performance dips the issue of bedroom tax can be investigated</p>
14	<p>PI Ref.90 Patient experience of community mental health services - this indicator has been proposed for deletion. Consensus was that this area needs monitoring. Could an alternative measure be introduced which looks into CREE project, suicide, etc to see if these are working?</p>	<p>Retained but as a tracker indicator within the corporate set. At present this indicator is reported only at provider level, that is the data is representative of all patients residing in the Tees/Esk and Wear Valley authority areas. TEWV are unable to separate out Durham clients without additional cost to Durham County Council. Suicide is the high level measure. Suicide rates are included in the Altogether Safer basket and supporting data will be provided to explain performance</p>

Ref	Member comment/query	Action to be taken/feedback for members
1 Page 18	PI Ref.94 Excess winter deaths - this may be linked to the increase in fuel poverty and use of foodbanks. Can the use of food banks be tracked as part of Altogether Healthier or Wealthier or both?	Data on food banks will be included in performance commentary when possible. Excess winter deaths indicator to remain in Healthier basket but supporting commentary will consider wider issues.
Safer & Strong Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Altogether Safer)		
16	Consideration be given to providing a description of the new performance measures for 2014/15 in an appendix within the first quarter performance report.	Work is ongoing to complete a definition handbook. Members will be advised when this is available to access.
17	Inclusion of indicators to monitor the impact of Welfare reform on Crime have been considered by the Safe Durham Partnership Board. Identified indicators are requested to be included in the Altogether Safer Basket (Theft and Robbery).	This has been considered by the Safe Durham Partnership Board and a number of additional indicators have been identified to monitor Welfare reform. The Suicide rate is already included within the Basket.
18	Make available information to monitor increasing threat from cybercrime.	This will be discussed with Safe Durham Partnership and Police colleagues to scope out available information and assess feasibility of developing regular reporting.
19	PI Ref.107-108 People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents - should continue to be included in set but presented in a format to include a separation of 'Killed' and 'Seriously Injured' for all age categories and separated for Children.	Proposal for this indicator to be reported to the Safe Durham Partnership and the Corporate basket.
20	PI Ref. 104-105 Drug completions - suggest that targets set for drug completions (opiates 11% and non opiates 48%) in 2013/14 may have been too ambitious and propose that targets are reduced to the national average for all indicators relating to drug and alcohol successful completions of treatment.	It was agreed to discuss views of scrutiny with Managers from Substance Misuse Services and finalise targets for 2014/15. Targets have been proposed in line with national average.
21	Where available, Durham's performance should be compared with other areas that are most similar to Durham.	It was agreed to review the indicators set against similar authorities and identify benchmarks available.
Environment & Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Altogether Greener)		
22	PI Ref.138 Renewable energy generation (MwE) installed or installed/approved capacity within County Durham - this is currently a tracker indicator but there should also be a target indicator detailing work undertaken within our local communities. Consider regional benchmarking if available.	As this indicator depends upon developers coming forward and such developments cannot be predicted it is not possible for a target to be set. Further investigation will be undertaken on possibilities of benchmarking
23	Request additional indicators be considered for inclusion in the 2014/15 corporate set that measure:	

Ref	Member comment/query	Action to be taken/feedback for members
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Street lighting (to show the savings resulting from LED lighting units/ numbers of LED lighting units fitted) - Condition of the highway - Number of dog fouling incidents - Generation of energy from waste - Incidents of fly-tipping - those which are picked up in addition to the indicator that is already reported (the number of fly-tipping incidents reported). - Number of prosecutions by DCC in response to fly-tipping (to include any prosecutions which DCC is involved in but was not the prosecuting organisation) 	<p>Difficult to measure as the number of lighting columns is not static. The following annual indicator is proposed as an alternative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Average annual electricity consumption per street light (KwH) <p>The following indicators have been added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % of recorded actionable defects repaired within 24 hours (CAT 1) - % of recorded actionable defects repaired within 14 working days (CAT 2.1) <p>The following indicator has been added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % of relevant land and highways assessed as having deposits of dog fouling that fall below an acceptable level <p>The following indicator has been added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Megawatt hours (MWh) of energy produced from municipal waste sent to Sita's 'Energy from Waste' plant <p>The following indicator has been added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of fly-tipping incidents cleared <p>Durham CC does not hold information if it is not the prosecuting organisation.</p>
24	Issue of whether trader sites in County to be used – suggested that this is covered in the next waste programme update to the Environment OSC.	To be covered at next waste programme update (July 2014)
25	<p>PI Ref.131 Percentage of conservation areas in the county and PI Ref.132 Number of additional heritage assets - suggest targets be amended to reflect new conservation areas identified and new heritage sites with open days.</p> <p>Suggest that as part of the refresh of the work programme for the Environment OSC that a report is prepared for members looking at the criteria for conservation and heritage sites, location of sites within the County and how they are considered within the County Durham Plan.</p>	<p>131 - targets have been amended for 2014/15 and the coming years</p> <p>132 - this indicator is proposed for deletion as it is limited to capturing assets open as part of the Heritage Open Day initiative and not therefore reflective of the wider work within the conservation team. Report will be considered as part of the 2014/15 work programme refresh for the Environment OSC.</p>

Ref	Member comment/query	Action to be taken/feedback for members
26 Page 20	PI Ref.133-136 Waste management - the percentage of municipal waste landfilled should be 0% and the targets provided were queried. It was agreed that this would be checked and clarified within quarter 3 performance report.	Although the percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill continues to decline, it has not reached zero. An update will be provided at the next scrutiny meeting. During 2013, 23.1% of municipal waste was sent to landfill.
27	PI Ref.127-128 Litter & detritus – clarify how levels are decided and whether target should be lower. Need to make public the cost of cleaning up litter.	This indicator is calculated from the LEQSPRO survey which is a snapshot in time. The survey is carried out 3 times a year and looks at a number of randomly selected areas throughout the County. The scoring criteria is strict and rigorously applied. The targets have recently been reviewed to ensure they are both realistic and challenging. A number of educational campaigns take place throughout the year. Members will be informed of these campaigns at Overview and Scutiny, which will also provide a forum for further discussion and allow the opportunity to feedback any comments or concerns.
28	PI Ref.125 Feed-in tariffs – comment that there is a Bill in Parliament to abolish Feed In Tariffs that will affect the indicator but this needs to be clarified. Need clarification as to whether the figures from Ofgem include information on social landlords. Further clarification requested as to what is included in the definition. Target does not appear ambitious compared to other local authorities; suggest compare with other local authorities and look at best practice.	There is no government bill before parliament - a private members bill may have been proposed, but this is unlikely to gain support due to the expense/compensation that would need to be in place to unpick the legislation. All installations are recorded in the totals, but it is not possible from the information Ofgem share to know what a Registered Social Landlord (RSL) contribution would be. A further indicator has been developed to record the amount of savings generated from installations on council owned buildings The possibilities of benchmarking with others will be investigated
29	Confirm whether inspection of trees includes byways or only highways only.	The inspection only applies to highway trees on selected roads. The inspection programme is based on a risk based regime based on traffic volumes and/or number of mature tree populations. The inspection regime is at an early stage and consideration will be given as to whether to include byways following completion of minor and unclassified roads in 2015.

Ref	Member comment/query	Action to be taken/feedback for members
Corporate Issues Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Altogether Better Council)		
30	PI Ref.144 Percentage of calls answered within 3 minutes - some councils have now stopped applying a target against abandoned calls, as they feel it can be difficult to control given the changes and reduced resources as a result of MTFP and having less staff to deal with the increasing amount of phone calls	The indicators are being retained for % of calls answered within 3 minutes (target indicator) and % of abandoned calls (tracker) within 2014/15 corporate set.
31	PI Ref.145 Average waiting time at a customer access point (mins:secs) - clarify in indicator description whether waiting time is from entering building or being seen at reception. Suggest it would be more meaningful to report those customers having to wait longer than 15 minutes to be seen. Consider inclusion of additional indicator which relates to surgeries which are held in some locations on an appointment basis, so information on attendance/waiting time etc. in surgeries can be recorded.	Waiting time is calculated from being seen at reception. New indicator introduced is: '% of customers seen within 15 minutes at a Customer Access Point (CAP)' Information relating to appointments met will be set up when the new surgery at Bishop Auckland is set up.
32	Consider inclusion of additional indicator to monitor use of various channels for contact within the council.	An additional indicator is monitored at a service level. The following has now been added to the corporate basket: - number of customer contacts: a) face to face, b) telephone, c) web forms, d) e-mails
33	PI Ref.146 Percentage of all ICT Service Desk incidents resolved on time - clarify definition for 'what is on time'. Timescale should also be agreed.	There are 4 levels of priority allocated: • P1 – four (working) hour fix; • P2 – 8 hour fix; • P3 – 16 hour fix and • P4 – 40 hour fix. An overall percentage is reported.
34	PI Ref.151 Percentage of council tax recovered for all years excluding the current year - a high target is set for council tax collection in light of changes made re landlords having to pay for empty properties. Agree targets must be SMART and achievable.	The Council makes a provision for non-payment of 1.5% in determining its Tax Base each year, but aims to recover in excess of this sum over time. This indicator is based on the Taxbase assumptions and tracks overall recovery performance in terms of the recovery of Council Tax, excluding the current year, which is monitored separately. Performance is carefully monitored and tracked against different debt types and have taken into account the Council's changes in discounts and exemptions over the last few years in these calculations. This is monitored, together with in-year recovery in terms of cash flow within the Collection Fund, to ensure that in each year cash received is equal to / greater than the precepts and demands placed on the Collection Fund.

Ref	Member comment/query	Action to be taken/feedback for members
35 Page 22	PI Ref.158 Percentage of local authority tenants satisfied with landlord services (all three providers) - no targets will be set for 2014/15 and this needs amending. The survey is only carried out every two years.	It is proposed to drop this indicator from the 2014/15 set as the survey will not be undertaken this year
36	PI Ref.159-161 Current tenant arrears as a percentage of the annual rent debit - consider a collective total across all three housing providers.	It has been proposed that this indicator will be reported in 2014/15 as a collective figure, with a shared target of 2.45%.
37	PI Ref.165 Percentage of performance appraisals completed - target should be set at 100% and wording be added to the PI definition stating 'for staff eligible for appraisals' for clarity and to give targets more meaning.	ResourceLink (HR System) provides the figures but the system is not able to make allowances for staff who are away from work due to reasons such as maternity leave and long term sickness. The SMART target has been set in accordance with Corporate Guidance. Further investigation into the feasibility of taking staff not eligible out of the calculation has shown that this would have a significant cost.
38	Highlighted that there are no indicators relating to staff training and development - consider additional indicator if applicable.	Employee training and development requirements are identified through the Performance Appraisal process where a Personal Development Plan is completed. A manager is responsible for monitoring this plan to ensure that an employee's essential training and development is undertaken. A corporate performance indicator is in place for employees who have received an appraisal in a rolling year, at Quarter 3 14/15, 73.27% of employees had received an appraisal. As systems in relation to training and development are progressed further to ensure data quality e.g. corporate e-learning and the ResourceLink training module, the opportunity to develop indicators will be further investigated.
39	PI Ref. 176 No. of RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations) incidents reported to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) - consider this indicator be changed from target to tracker.	This indicator was first reported in 2011/12 with a target and was subsequently changed to a tracker in 2012/13.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board**28 April 2014****Fit for Purpose, Fit for the Future - a review of Durham County Council's Area Action Partnerships – final update**

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Overview and Scrutiny Management Board Members of the sign off by Corporate Issues OSC on 19th February of the scrutiny review of Area Action Partnerships – 'Fit for purpose, Fit for the future'.

Background

2. In 2011, Overview and Scrutiny undertook a review of Area Action Partnerships (AAPs), to examine practices and processes, areas for improvement, whether they were "fit for purpose" and, in the context of the Government's Localism agenda and public sector funding reductions, "fit for the future."
3. The review concluded that AAPs had made immense progress from their inception, but that there was more to do and that it was essential that the Council, its partners and local communities continue to support them in striving for an 'Altogether Better Durham'.
4. Fourteen recommendations were agreed, following a wide-ranging review which included strengthening AAP terms of reference, a stronger approach to training, stronger approaches to engaging a wide range of partners including County Councillors, Town and Parish Councils, the local media, and local community groups, improved learning from good practice and improved performance reporting. The report was taken to Cabinet who agreed to progress the recommendations, including reaffirming the role of AAPs as a key mechanism through which the Council and partners consult upon service and policy reviews.
5. A systematic update on the progress of the recommendations was provided to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on 26th July 2012 as part of the County Durham Partnership update report. There was also a recommendation within the report to carry out a follow on scrutiny review. However, following positive feedback from the Corporate Peer Challenge which also took place in July 2012, it was agreed that a further scrutiny review of AAPs would not be necessary.
6. It was therefore decided that a final update on the recommendations of the scrutiny review would be provided during 2013/14.

Final outcome of the scrutiny review recommendations

7. The report presented to Corporate Issues OSC on 19th February provided a final update on the recommendations of the original scrutiny review. Members noted that there remained two of the recommendations for which ongoing work would be taking place. These were in respect of:

- a. AAP project funding arrangements and linkages with the developing performance management framework;
 - b. The development of the AAP Performance Management Framework and how the County Durham Partnership/AAP conference can be utilised as a means of sharing best practice across AAPs.
8. The report also drew attention to the findings of the July 2012 peer challenge which showed the positive progress achieved, with particular comments:
- The AAPs are a powerful demonstration of the determination and ability of the new council to deliver a fresh approach to involving its communities;
 - The AAPs have moved rapidly from 'idea' to 'implementation', they have a strong focus on action and proportionate local partnerships;
 - They have a clear partnership governance structure;
 - Partner agencies are generally involved and supportive;
 - The peer team's broad conclusion is that AAPs are sound, valued and have exceeded early expectations.
9. Members indicated that, whilst they were mindful to sign off the AAP review, it would be necessary to continue to monitor the progress of addressing the outstanding recommendations and also monitor the progress of the AAPs generally. It was agreed that this was best done through the County Durham Partnership updates which are periodically considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, which include regular information on AAP activity. These reports would provide an ongoing opportunity for Overview and Scrutiny to monitor the progress of the AAPs and their activity whilst also enabling the progress against outstanding AAP Review recommendations to be examined.
10. Notwithstanding this, the Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny members have also expressed a continued desire to retain the AAPs on their work programme.
11. The final update on the recommendations can be found at Appendix 2.

Recommendations

12. Members are requested to:
- a. Note the information in this report;
 - b. Agree that progress and performance of AAPs can be monitored through the regular County Durham Partnership Updates which are presented to OSMB;
 - c. Agree that Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee retains the AAPs on their work programme.

Background papers: Overview and Scrutiny review of AAPs 'Fit for Purpose, Fit for the Future'.

Contact: Jenny Haworth Tel: 03000 268071

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - None

Staffing - None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder - None

Human Rights - None

Consultation – None

Procurement - None

Disability Issues - None

Legal Implications - None

Page 28	particular AAP area then every effort should be made to ensure that those Town and Parish Councils have an equal opportunity to become involved with their respective AAP;	as referenced in the Jan 2014 issue of Durham Association News. Links will continue with CDALC to discuss future link opportunities. In areas where Town and Parish Councils are not affiliated arrangements have been made to include non CDALC affiliated members to the board e.g. Weardale Action Partnership. Any future changes to be reflected upon.		
(vi)	the key actions identified within the internal review of AAP project funding (Section 5.78 of the main report refers) be implemented, particularly in respect of those areas of training and development identified.	Members seminar held May 2012. Funding Team manned a stand during information week at County Hall to disseminate info and be on hand to answer any queries. Gordon Elliott, Andrew Megginson and Marie Moore delivered documentation which was made available to new members. In addition to the above, an Audit Assurance review was conducted by Internal Audit to look at the processes used and also to consider how best to monitor completed projects given the breadth and number of projects that have been funded. This work led by Andrew Barnes from Internal Audit was conducted between Feb – May 2012 and a detailed action plan was put in place to deal with additional recommendations arising out of this Audit led review. This was implemented and signed off by Internal Audit in October 2013.	Andrew Megginson	Complete
(vii)	Cabinet in determining its Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) take into consideration any financial allocation to the AAPs, the value that AAP Area Budget(AB) and Neighbourhood Budget(NB) have brought by way of matched funding opportunities namely, that each £1 of AB funding generates an average of £1.39 matched funding and each £1 of NB funding generates an average of £1.75 matched funding.	Budget for 2014/15 has kept AAP levels the same as at 2012.Capital/Revenue split now monitored to ensure minimum impact on the council's revenue budget, Regular financial updates provided to AAP boards. Assurance audit for AB/NB processes has taken place. AAPs engaged attendees in the recent 2013 MTFP exercise – high levels of feedback and engagement.	Gordon Elliott	Complete
(viii)	AAPs look to develop the level of engagement and activity with the press and other media by: • Actively engaging with Town and Parish Councils	More AAPs using different mediums for engagement than ever before. Increased usage of facebook for example. Local AAPs responsible for local press opportunities.	Lee Copeland	Complete

	<p>and utilising their publications to evidence and raise awareness of AAP activity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing relationships between AAP Boards and Co-ordinators with local media. • Liaising with community groups/residents associations. • Including dedicated AAP pages within Durham County News. • further enhancing AAP activity via new ways of working using the Internet, Facebook, Twitter and SMS Messaging. 	<p>e-bulletins/newsletters produced for each AAP.</p> <p>Distinct press contacts for each AAP to enable direct links with regional press.</p> <p>Usage of local radio stations.</p> <p>Dedicated pages within Durham County News.</p>		
(ix)	<p>that the AAP project funding approval, appraisal process and application forms include a requirement that reports be submitted to AAP Boards on a quarterly basis detailing project progress.</p>	<p>New documentation complete.</p> <p>Suite of outputs complete.</p> <p>Board reports subject to new performance management framework for AAPs to adhere to in order to be in a stronger position to track project outcomes during project delivery and to ensure timescales are met.</p>	<p>Andrew Megginson Marie Moore</p>	<p>Performance management framework from April 2014 after advice and consultancy work from internal audit.</p>
(x)	<p>performance reports for AAP activity be shared with the wider AAP Forum membership and that the AAPs further develop the process of publication and reporting of the delivery of and impact made by AAP projects against local priorities. That the 14 AAPs come together in an annual conference to celebrate their achievements and successes in this respect.</p>	<p>As above and linked to the enhanced work around performance reporting.</p> <p>Conference held October 2011. 2nd conference held October 2012 – focus of 2nd conference around best practice sharing. Attended by peer challenge colleagues.</p> <p>Further work in planning stages to investigate the potential for joint CDP/AAP conference in order to strengthen links and share best practice.</p> <p>Held County wide Participatory Budgeting events – October – Dec 2013 to increase awareness, share best practice and increase AAP forum membership.</p>	<p>Andrew Megginson</p> <p>Lee Copeland</p> <p>Lee Copeland/ Sandy Denney</p>	<p>Complete plus additional work post April 2014</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>October 2014 – tbc following further investigation</p> <p>Complete</p>
(xi)	<p>AAPs undertake further work in conjunction with the ACE Planning and Performance team to enhance the</p>	<p>Linked to AAP input to CDP report to cabinet which is circulated to all board members as a tool to share best</p>	<p>Andrew Megginson</p>	<p>Complete</p>

Page 30 reporting of performance management information and indicators.	practice. Also linked to recommendations (ix) and (x) above		
(xii) the learning and evidence of good practice detailed within this review report be shared by AAP co-ordinators and their respective Chairs across all 14 AAPs and that bespoke improvement plans for each AAP be produced for example engagement with young people, options for broadening representation.	Learning of good practice identified through the report of the scrutiny working group disseminated through presentations at all 14 AAPs Complete skills audit for AAP boards All AAPs to develop project case studies to ensure sharing of best practice across all 14 AAPs.	Lee Copeland Andrew Megginson Shealagh Pearce	Complete Complete Complete (at 2012 conference)
(xiii) the Council's Equalities and Diversity Team run a seminar with all 14 AAPs to develop an action plan to ensure that equality considerations are embedded in AAP practice and procedures evidencing the good practice that already exists.	Equality and Diversity training seminar delivered to all 14 AAP co-ordinators at PACE away day. The new funding application form containing revised E&D questions has been presented to co-ordinators for future use.	Shealagh Pearce	Complete Complete
(xiv) an initial response to these recommendations is brought back to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board within six months; and that Cabinet agree to a review of the AAPs in another 2 years.	A systematic review of the recommendations was presented to OSMB on 26 th July 2012 as part of the County Durham Partnership Update report. It was also agreed that due to the Peer Challenge carried out in July 2012 which contained positive feedback re AAPs, it was not necessary to carry out a further review, recommendation (xiv), however a final systematic review of recommendations would be presented to CIOSC on 19 th February 2014.		

**Overview and Scrutiny
Management Board**



28 April 2014

**Overview and Scrutiny Annual
Report 2013/14**

Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present to Members of the Overview and Management Board, the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013/14 with a view to presenting it to County Council on 18th June, 2014 (attached at Appendix 2).

Information

- 2 In accordance with Article 6 paragraph 6.03(d) the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board is required to report annually to County Council.
- 3 The Annual Report provides information on the work of all the Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the period 2013/14.

Recommendations

- 4 That Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board:
 - i) comment on the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2013/14.
 - ii) agree that it be presented to the County Council meeting on 18th June 2014.

Contact: Jenny Haworth Tel: (03000) 268071 jenny.haworth@durham.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

None

Staffing

None

Risk

None

Equality and Diversity

Impact Assessments are carried out for all Overview and Scrutiny reviews.

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Human Rights

None

Consultation

The draft Overview and Scrutiny annual report is being presented to Members of OSMB for comment.

Procurement

None

Disability Discrimination Act

None

Legal Implications

None



Altogether better

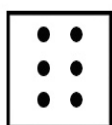
Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013-2014

**Assistant Chief Executive's Office
Durham County Council**

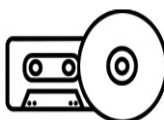
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Foreword

The financial position facing local authorities continues to be extremely challenging. The level of savings Durham County Council (DCC) is required to deliver has increased significantly. It is now forecast that the council will need to save £224m over the 2011–2017 period, which is higher than the sum previously anticipated.

Thanks to the leadership and management within the authority, the budget continues to be managed effectively, and Overview and Scrutiny continues to play its part. The excellent relationship between executive and non-executive members continues - we are all working together to ensure every effort is made to protect frontline services, yet achieve the required savings.



**Cllr Joe Armstrong,
Chair of Overview and
Scrutiny**

The County Council elections in May 2013 resulted in more than fifty new Councillors elected to the Council. The Scrutiny team delivered an intensive Councillor Induction programme with bespoke sessions for each Overview and Scrutiny Committee for all Committee members to support them in their new scrutiny role. Members have embraced their roles within scrutiny, and by utilising the experience of returned Councillors alongside fresh ideas from new Councillors, we are maintaining excellent outcomes across the seven overview and scrutiny committees, with the leadership of scrutiny committee chairs and vice-chairs.

Councillor Lucy Hovvels, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Safer and Healthier Communities said: “The Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Committees have continued to support the Executive in providing challenge and assurance in respect of policy development and review across the Council and its partners. Within my portfolio alone, Overview and Scrutiny has had input into the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Safe Durham Partnership’s Plan and priorities. Officer support from Overview and Scrutiny is also provided to assist the Police and Crime Panel, of which I am the Chair.”

This report provides an update on the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny during 2013/14 – it has been another very busy year. Issues covered have included flooding; changes in NHS provision; alcohol and substance misuse and young people; continuing to build relationships with partners, including the CCGs and our Public Health colleagues; Customer First Strategy; and many other relevant topics. Many thanks to all who have been involved in supporting and assisting the Overview and Scrutiny process – be it Members, officers, partners, or co-opted members.

I hope you will find this report interesting and informative. Scrutiny Committee meetings are open to the public and the scrutiny team will be pleased to supply you with more information - contact details can be found at the end of this report.

Councillor Joe Armstrong
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny

Key Achievements 2013-14

Overview and Scrutiny Review Activity

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

- Neighbourhood Wardens – a review highlighting the work of the warden service within a partnership context and developing service delivery.
- Impact of public sector funding and policy changes on the economy of County Durham.
- Flooding within County Durham.
- A major review on Alcohol and Substance misuse by young people looking at the number of referrals to DCC specialist services.

Other review activity in 2013/14 included:

- A comprehensive Member Induction programme was delivered across all Overview and Scrutiny Committees detailing the role of Overview and Scrutiny within the Council's Governance arrangements and decision making process and highlighting how work programmes are developed and delivered.
- Contributed to the budget process through consideration of the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- Increased awareness of the Council's scrutiny function through articles in local media, Members' Bulletin, and an ongoing update of the scrutiny web pages.
- Contributed to the refresh of the Council Plan and also the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- Formally responded to NHS Quality Accounts 2012/13 for: North East Ambulance Service; County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust; and the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust.
- Continued to maintain and establish links with all thematic partnerships. A series of briefings and reports have been shared with thematic partnerships.
- Contributed to consultations:
 - Community Infrastructure Levy;
 - Combined Authority;
 - Climate Change Strategy and Delivery Plan;
 - Responded to consultations on the Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2014-17 and County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2014/15;
 - Proposals to reconfigure Emergency Medical and Critical Care services within North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT as part of a Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee with Hartlepool and Stockton Borough Councils;
 - County Durham Plan;
 - Customer First Strategy;
 - Joint Strategic Needs Assessment;
 - Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
 - Children, Young People's and Families Plan.

Key Achievements 2013-14

Overview and Scrutiny Site Visits



Members and/or Officers have undertaken a number of scrutiny visits to support the Committees' work programmes, including:

- Thrislington and Raisby quarries to look at the flora and fauna, to see the work undertaken by DCC and partners and to receive information on future opportunities for both sites;
- SITA the new waste contractor processing plant at Haverton Hill, Tees Valley, September 2013;
- Customer Access Point, Crook, in July 2013, linked to the Customer First Strategy and review of telephone calls;
- Field study activity through Staysafe and stop and search operations to gain an insight into the wide range of work undertaken by the Neighbourhood Wardens Service;
- A visit to Bishop Auckland College in January 2014 to see the pro-active work being undertaken to support local business and develop courses to meet the needs of employers;
- Members visited three locations in County Durham to view LED lighting units in operation, and compare the new lighting with the existing sodium lighting;
- Members carried out a visit to Chester-le-Street to view the river erosion scheme to stop flooding to the Cong Burn; Waldrige housing estate to view a surface water overland flow scheme and the installation of a flood fence; and then Witton Gilbert to view a proposed scheme to prevent flooding from a watercourse;
- Wise Drive Road Safety event, Durham Police Headquarters;
- Observed Fire Crews at Consett Fire Station;
- Stop and Search Operations on vehicles carrying waste and scrap metal with Durham Police and Neighbourhood Wardens in Consett and Easington areas;
- Neighbourhood Walkabout with Neighbourhood Wardens and Dale and Valley Homes in Bishop Auckland.

Visit of Chinese Delegation

As part of a two week visit to Northumbria University to look at Government Structure and Scrutiny in the UK, Durham County Council was asked at short notice to host a 17 strong delegation from Zhejiang Province, China.

With the assistance of a translator, the delegates attended a development session in the Council Chamber, County Hall Durham on Wednesday 23 October 2013 which provided an overview of County Durham, the Council's decision making process and how scrutiny operates in practice.

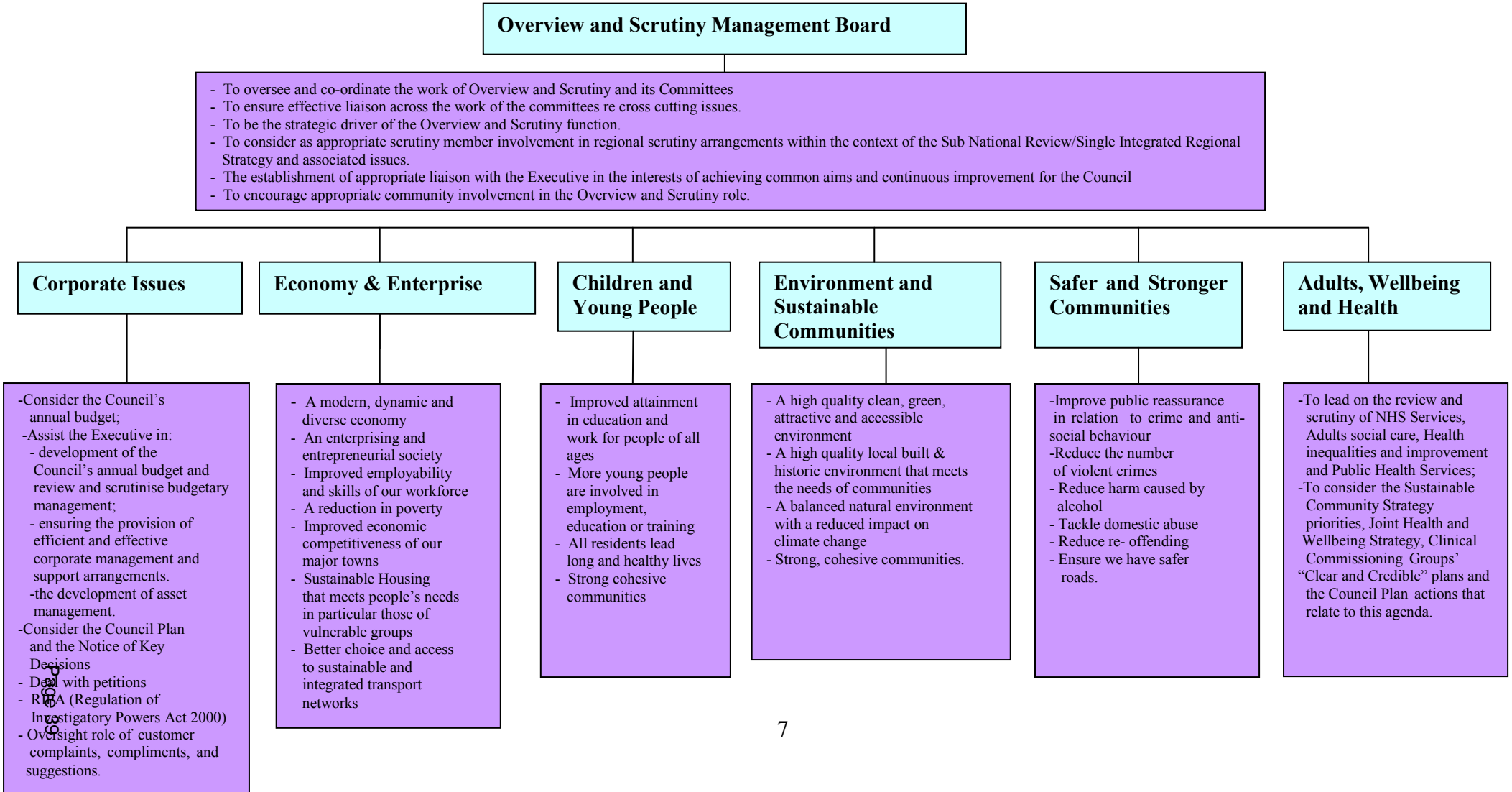
The delegation was delighted with their visit, the dignitaries who met with them, and the information they received about County Durham.



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.

[Please note: As at March 2014 the Overview and Scrutiny Terms of Reference have been refreshed and can be found in Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.]



Overview and Scrutiny Management Board



Cllr Joe Armstrong,
Chair of Overview and
Scrutiny



Cllr Paul Stradling,
Vice-chair of Overview
and Scrutiny

The **Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB)** provides a strategic steer for the work of all the committees. Its work programme for 2013/14 included the following:

- Council's Medium Term Financial Plan 2014/2015 (MTFP4) – 2016/2017 and revenue and capital budget proposals for 2013/2014 to make sure that the Council's resources are used effectively and efficiently;
- 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;
- Updates on petitions received which enables Members to track progress on behalf of communities;
- Updates on major policy developments and announcements made by Central Government and the implications for the Council and County Durham.

The Board has also:

- Received information and commented on performance management every quarter before it is disseminated to respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees for further comment;
- Received regular updates on:
 - the delivery of Medium Term Financial Plan 3;
 - the work of the County Durham Partnership;
 - Welfare Reform.
- Received regular updates from each of the Overview and Scrutiny Chairs;
- Held a workshop in January to give Members the opportunity to comment on Performance Indicators – Members' comments were collated and taken into consideration during the planning for this year's indicator set.

Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The **Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee**, which is aligned to **Altogether Better Council** has:



Cllr John Lethbridge,
Chair of Corporate
Issues OSC



Cllr Katherine Henig
Vice- Chair of Corporate
Issues OSC

- Collaborated with the OSMB on the County Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (4), Council Plan and Service Plan 2014/15 – 2016/17;
- Received details and commented on the Council's use of powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000 and the outcome of a RIPA inspection by the Office of Surveillance Commissioners;
- Received quarterly performance reports, and commented on progress against the Council's corporate basket of performance indicators for the Altogether Better Council Theme;
- Received quarterly updates on the Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn for Assistant Chief Executives and Resources;
- Received quarterly reports for Customer Feedback: Complaints, Compliments and Suggestions, and also the Childrens and Adults Service Annual Representations Report 2012/13;
- Received systematic reviews of the recommendations of previous light touch scrutiny reviews on internal postal arrangements, and telephone calls; and final sign off of the review of AAPs – Fit for Purpose, Fit for the Future;
- Had involvement in the refresh of the Customer First Strategy, through a Task and Finish Group;
- Received an overview of Building and Facilities Maintenance, Direct Services;
- Received an overview of the Corporate Asset Management Plan and Property Strategy;
- Had input into the refresh of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS), Council Plan and Service Plans;
- Been updated on the ICT prioritisation project;
- Members attended a visit to the Customer Access Point, Crook, in July 2013, linked to the Customer First Strategy and review of telephone calls.

Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Cllr Robin Todd, Chair of Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC



Cllr Jean Chaplow, Vice-chair of Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC

The Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is aligned to **Altogether Healthier** priority theme and has:

- Engaged with NHS England's Durham, Darlington and Tees area team, providing members with information around the team's role and function including its specialised commissioning role;
- Received update reports regarding the regional Securing Quality in Health Services project which aims to enhance the commissioning of acute health services in hospitals;
- Established a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee with Hartlepool and Stockton Borough Councils to formally engage and respond to proposals to reconfigure emergency medical and critical care services at North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust – as a direct result of the input from Durham's Adults Wellbeing and Health OSC, the Trust agreed to set up an oversight arrangement involving all three Councils to provide assurance to Councillors and the public around the implementation process;
- Considered a detailed report from the Director of Public Health for County Durham following the transfer of responsibility for public health across to local authorities;
- Received presentations from North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield Clinical Commissioning Groups detailing their clear and credible plans in respect of their commissioning intentions /priorities;
- Examined the development of the Public Mental Health Strategy and against this context, considered the Council and partners' approaches to suicide prevention in County Durham;
- Monitored progress against NHS Quality Accounts for 2012/13 as well as engaging in preparatory work for the 2013/14 Quality Accounts;
- Considered the progress made by the Council and partners against the National Dementia strategy and set up a small working group to provide input into the development of a local dementia strategy;
- Received the Annual Report of the Safeguarding Adults Board;
- Considered the Director of Public Health for County Durham's Annual Report, using the priorities identified therein to contribute to the refresh of the Committee's work programme for 2014/15;
- Responded to consultation exercises and engagement activity in respect of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
- Monitored 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's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is aligned to **Altogether Better for Children and Young People**. This Committee has:

- Undertaken a major review on Alcohol and Substance misuse by young people looking at the number of referrals to DCC specialist services;
- Responded to consultations on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and The Children, Young People and Families Plan;
- Received and commented on quarterly budgetary and performance management reports for Children and Young People's Services;
- The Committee has received updates on the progress of recommendations from previous reviews - Review of Obesity in Primary Aged Children; and Support for Children and Young People with Mental Health Issues;
- The Committee has received updates and overviews on:
 - The Government's Stronger Families initiative – this is being run in County Durham, regular updates have been received on the number of families who have been identified, those receiving help and support and those who have completed the initiative;
 - Adoption reform – overview presentation on the Government's reforms in legislation regarding adoption and how they will impact on County Durham;
 - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities – information on the reforms to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities contained in the Families Bill;
 - Alcohol and Substance Misuse by Young People – an overview presentation highlighted the number of referrals to 4Real, the Council's specialist alcohol and substance misuse service for young people, prior to undertaking a review of this topic;
 - One Point Service Update –an update indicating key principals, ambition, approach and priorities for the next 12 months;
 - School Funding Reforms – information on the scope of reforms, the different types of formula used, changes for 2014/15 and future considerations;
 - Building Schools for the Future Update – information on the remaining Building Schools for the Future projects in County Durham;
 - NHS Reforms – information on national, regional and local developments in relation to NHS reforms including Local Health Watch, Public Health and Health and Social Care integration.
 - Children with Disabilities taking part in Sports –information on governance and partners, school based activities and community based activities.
 - Young Carers –information on the numbers of young carers in County Durham and the support they receive, legislative requirements, impact for young carers and priorities for 2014/15.



Cllr Jan Blakey,
Chair of Children and
Young People's OSC



Cllr Christine Potts,
Vice-Chair of Children
and Young People's OSC

Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Cllr Rob Crute,
Chair of Economy and
Enterprise OSC



Cllr Alison Batey
Vice-chair of Economy
and Enterprise OSC

Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee is aligned to **Altogether Wealthier**.

This Committee has:

- Worked with officers from the RED Service Grouping looking at the impact of changes in Government policy and funding on the economy of County Durham via a Members' Reference Group;
- Received an overview of the work of the County Durham Economic Partnership identifying issues and priorities within County Durham;
- Monitored the development of and provided comments to be fed into the consultation on the pre-submission draft of the County Durham Plan;
- Continued to monitor, challenge and provide comment in relation to the housing stock transfer project looking at how the Authority will manage its housing stock in the future;
- Received an overview of the Regeneration Statement which identifies key issues facing the County and how these issues can be tackled and regular updates on the development of the various Masterplans for County Durham;
- Monitored and challenged the performance of our housing providers, Durham City Homes, Dale and Valley Homes and East Durham Homes;
- Received an overview of the European Funding programme for 2014-2020 together with information on the Youth Employment Initiative detailing the funding opportunities this programme will provide for County Durham;
- Considered an update and commented upon the Homelessness Strategy;
- Received an overview and updates on the development of the Combined Authority and provided a scrutiny response to the consultation on the Combined Authority;
- Considered a progress update on the development of the Adult Learning Strategy and received an overview of skills development within County Durham;
- Received an overview of the work of Business Durham providing support to business within the County;
- Monitored the development of the Durham Key Options new lettings policy and received an overview of affordable homes delivery within the County;
- Received an update on tourism and the development of the tourism offer by Visit County Durham;
- Considered an update on the Digital Durham Programme which aims to provide superfast broadband to 96% of properties within the County;
- Considered an update on the Community infrastructure Levy and provided an Overview and Scrutiny response to the consultation;
- Received updates on the progress of recommendations contained in the 'Increasing young people's employment opportunities (18-24) in County Durham' and the Empty Homes scrutiny review reports;
- Monitored performance and revenue and capital expenditure through quarterly performance management and budgetary reports.

Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee aligned to **Altogether Greener**. This committee has:

- Undertaken a scrutiny review focusing on the impact of flooding on our local communities and examined our policies and procedures to minimise the impact on service delivery;
- Received an update on the street lighting energy reduction project and carried out a member visit to three locations within County Durham to see the new LED lighting units in operation;
- Considered an overview in relation to potholes;
- Received regular updates on the development of the waste programme and visited the SITA (new waste contractor) processing plant at Tees Valley;
- Considered an overview of the Warm Up North scheme a regional initiative available for all residents to reduce energy consumption;
- Received an update on the draft Climate Change Strategy and Delivery Plan and provided an overview and scrutiny response to the consultation;
- Received updates on the progress of recommendations contained in the 'Reducing the Council's Carbon Emissions' and 'The development of renewable technologies in County Durham' scrutiny review reports;
- Considered an overview of the Winter Maintenance Plan for County Durham;
- Received an update on the further development of Local Nature Partnerships;
- Considered an update on the development of the Limestone Landscapes and carried out a visit to Thrislington and Raisby quarries;
- Received a report detailing the environmental implications of the County Durham Plan;
- Received updates in relation to proposals for Culture and Sports Services;
- Monitored performance and revenue and capital expenditure through quarterly performance management and budgetary reports.



Cllr Barbara Graham
Chair of Environment and
Sustainable Communities OSC



Cllr David Hall,
Vice-Chair of Environment and
Sustainable Communities OSC

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is aligned to **Altogether Safer**. This committee has:

- Undertaken an in-depth review of Neighbourhood Wardens and identified recommendations that focus on raising profile, communications and partnership activity;
- Members observed Wardens undertake Staysafe operations with partner agencies to protect young people from alcohol and Stop and Search exercises on vehicles carrying waste with Durham Constabulary's Road Policing Unit and the Council's Fraud Investigation Team;
- Monitored progress of recommendations from the Committee's previous scrutiny reviews of 'Use of Legislation to Tackle Metal Theft' and 'Road Safety for Children and Young People'. Outcomes of the road safety review have led to an application for the Centre for Public Scrutiny 'Good Scrutiny Awards';
- Provided comment on the Safe Durham Partnership's Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy and performance measures;
- Responded to consultations on the Safe Durham Partnership Priorities for 2014/15 and County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2014/15;
- Provided comment on the draft 2014-17 Safe Durham Partnership Plan;
- Received information on the Safe Durham Partnership's Integrated Restorative Practice Strategy and held a restorative approaches session hosted by Durham Constabulary with members of the Durham Police and Crime Panel;
- Considered overview presentations and reports on Consumer Protection Enforcement Activity and the Joint Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit which is a partnership approach between the Council and Durham Constabulary to provide a greater resource to tackle alcohol related crime, licensing issues and intelligence sharing to undertake joint operations;
- Maintained effective communication with Durham Police and Crime Panel to appraise the Committee of the Panel's activity;
- Received update reports on progress on tackling hate crime and domestic abuse action plans, High Impact Households and the Think Family Programme;
- Provided comment on a presentation from Durham & Tees Valley Probation Trust on the Government's Transforming Rehabilitation programme to reform the Probation Service;
- Monitored and commented on quarterly performance management reports which have been a key driver to identify topics on the work programme on suicide prevention and mental health.



Cllr David Boyes
Chair of Safer and Stronger
Communities OSC



Cllr Thomas Nearney
Vice-chair of Safer and Stronger
Communities OSC

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 Council continues to be represented on the North East Regional Health Scrutiny Committee and that group has overseen the final implementation of the recommendations of the 2010 review into the Health Needs of the Ex - service community. The Committee has also held conversations with the local Care Quality Commission lead officer around how to improve the CQC's relationships with local authority scrutiny committees.

The Council has worked with Hartlepool and Stockton Borough Councils as part of a joint scrutiny exercise examining proposals by North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust to reconfigure Emergency Medical and Critical Care services. This was the first example within the region of a joint Health Scrutiny Committee being established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

As a result of the recommendations arising from the Francis Report into Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, the region's Health Scrutiny officers are working with the Centre for Public Scrutiny to develop a toolkit for local authority health scrutiny committees to add robustness to its challenge to NHS partners.

Police and Crime Panel

Hosted by Durham County Council, the PCP's membership consists of 10 elected Members (Durham County Council 7 and Darlington Borough Council 3 Members) and 2 independent members.

Throughout 2013/14, the Police and Crime Panel has:

- held six meetings;
- agreed its work programme;
- received reports on public confidence and restorative approaches;
- monitored progress of the Police and Crime Commissioner's budget and police crime plan;
- reviewed working arrangement documents with Overview and Scrutiny functions within both local authorities and a Memorandum of Understanding with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Panel has also fulfilled its requirements within the Act through reviewing the PCC's annual report, precept and revised Police and Crime Plan 2013-17 and holding a Confirmation Hearing for the appointment of the Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer within required timeframes.

Member Development and Training

Overview and Scrutiny is represented on the Member Development Group which is responsible for overseeing, reviewing and developing the learning and development opportunities available to councillors, as well as ensuring equal opportunities, effectiveness and value for money.

Following this year's elections, scrutiny induction sessions were held for each committee. These were well attended and well received, and the feedback was included in the corporate Members' induction training feedback.

Overview and Scrutiny Workshops

Workshops have been held as follows:

- 4th November 2013 – a special Economy and Enterprise workshop to which all Non-Executive members were invited to discuss the Pre-submission draft of the County Durham Plan. A response on behalf of participants was compiled and submitted as part of Scrutiny's response to the consultation exercise.
- 13th November 2013 – a special Economy and Enterprise OSC workshop for the Council's three housing management organisations, East Durham Homes, Dale and Valley Homes and Durham City Homes, to present their latest Annual Reports and also report performance information for 2012/13.
- 17th January 2014 – a workshop was held to give Members the opportunity to comment on Performance Indicators – feedback was collated and taken into consideration during the planning for this year's indicator set.

Co-optees

Local people 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.
- bring specialist knowledge and/or skills and an element of external challenge to the Overview and Scrutiny process.
- take an interest in, attend and contribute to the committees or working groups to which appointed.
- establish good relations with other members, officers and co-optees.
- feed back any appropriate discussions or decisions of the relevant committee or working group to any respective organisation or group which they may represent.

The Council has recently refreshed the appointment process for non-voting co-optees serving on the various Overview and Scrutiny Committees and new non-voting co-optees will take up their appointments from 22nd May, 2014.

Work Programmes

The current work programmes focus on the priority areas identified within the Council Plan, the Council's Notice of Key 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 Assistant Chief Executive's service group (ACE), which leads on the corporate approach to policy, planning and performance management and improvement, consultation and engagement, communications, partnership working, equalities and diversity and information management. ACE is also responsible for 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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**Overview and Scrutiny
Management Board**

28 April 2014



Notice of Key Decisions

**Report of Corporate Management Team
Colette Longbottom, Head of Legal and Democratic Services**

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To consider the list of key decisions that is scheduled to be considered by the Executive.

Background

- 2 New rules in relation to Executive decisions were introduced by The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, which came into force on 10 September 2012.
- 3 The regulations took away the requirement for the Executive to produce a Forward Plan of key decisions, however introduced that the decision maker cannot make a key decision unless a document has been published at least 28 clear days before the decision is taken, unless either a general exception or special urgency requirements have been met. The document which has to be published must state:
 - a) that the key decision is to be made on behalf of the relevant local authority
 - b) the matter in respect of which the decision is to be made
 - c) where the decision maker is an individual, that individual's name and title if any and where the decision maker is a decision making body, its name and list of its members
 - d) the date on which or the period within which the decision is to be made
 - e) a list of the document submitted to the decision maker for consideration in relation to the matter of which the key decision is to be made
 - f) the address from which, subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure copies of, or extracts from any document listed as available

- g) that other documents relevant to those matters may be submitted to the decision maker
 - h) the procedure for requesting details of those documents (if any) as they become available.
- 4 The requirements also apply to an exempt matter as previously it did not strictly have to be included in the Forward Plan. Now a publicity document must contain particulars of the matter, but may not contain any confidential exempt information or particulars of the adviser or political adviser or assistant.
- 5 Notices of key decisions that are being produced meet the legal requirements of publication, as well as continuing to provide information for a four month period. Members will therefore be able to consider key decisions as previously for the four month period.

Current Notice of Key Decisions

- 6 The notice of key decisions that is attached to the report at Appendix 2, is the latest to be published prior to the papers for the Board being dispatched to members. The notice complies with the requirements for Cabinet to be able to take key decisions at the meeting on 16 April 2014. It also contained information on those key decisions that are currently scheduled to be considered by the Executive up to 31 August 2014.
- 7 The information in the Notice of Key Decisions provides the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board with the opportunity of considering whether it wishes to seek to influence any of these key decisions, or to request further information. Members are asked to note that this version of the Notice has been amended and includes a column which has been added to advise of the relevant Scrutiny activity.
- 8 In responding to the request of the Board for further information to be provided on any items that are removed from the previous notice without being considered by Cabinet, this information will be provided at the meeting.
- 9 If the Board wished to examine any of the key decisions, consideration would need to be given as to how this could be accommodated in the Overview and Scrutiny Work programme.

Recommendation

- 10 You are recommended to give consideration to items listed in the notice.

**Contact: Ros Layfield, Committee Services Manager Tel: 03000 269708
Jenny Haworth, Head of Planning and Performance, ACE
Tel: 03000 268071**

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance : Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Staffing: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Risk: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Accommodation: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Crime and Disorder Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Human Rights: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Consultation: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Procurement: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Disability Issues: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

Legal Implications: Will be reflected in each individual key decision report to Cabinet.

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SECTION ONE - CORPORATE

Ref. No.	Date of Decision (i.e. date of Cabinet meeting)	Description of Decision to be Made	Background Documents	Lead Cabinet Member	Main Consultees & Means of Consultation	Contact details for further information	Scrutiny Information
Corp/R/14/02	16/07/14	To consider the Council's approach to the 2015/16 General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget, MTFP 5 and Council Plan and Services Plans		Cllr Simon Henig and Cllr Alan Napier	To be determined	Don McLure, Corporate Director, Resources Tel: 03000 261945 and Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive Tel: 03000 268060	The OSMB and CIOSC will input into the formulation of the MTFP 5 and Council/Service Plans and provide member assurance into this development process. Meetings planned for Sept/Dec 2014 and March 2015.

**SECTION TWO -
CHILDREN AND ADULTS SERVICES**

Ref. No.	Date of Decision (i.e. date of Cabinet	Description of Decision to be Made	Background Documents	Lead Cabinet Member	Main Consultees & Means of Consultation	Contact details for further information	Scrutiny Involvement
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SECTION THREE - REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Ref. No.	Date of Decision (i.e. date of Cabinet meeting)	Description of Decision to be Made	Background Documents	Lead Cabinet Member	Main Consultees & Means of Consultation	Contact details for further information	Scrutiny Involvement
R&ED/17/13	TBC	Camera Enforcement of Parking and Bus Lane Contraventions		Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Adrian White Head of Transport & Contract Services 03000 267455	
R&ED/02/14	11/06/14	County Durham Plan - Updated Evidence		Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Stuart Timmiss, Head of Planning and Assets 03000 267 334	The Economy and Enterprise OSC has fed into all consultation stages in relation to the County Durham Plan. As part of the refresh of the work programme for the committee further updates will be provided.
R&ED/04/14	07/05/14	Progress in Stock Transfer Project		Portfolio Holder for Housing and Rural Issues	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Sarah Robson, Head of Economic Development 03000 267 332	The Economy and Enterprise OSC has considered several updates in respect of the Stock Transfer project and will receive updates in respect of the initiative at future meetings.
R&ED/05/14	07/05/14	Future of Housing Repairs and Maintenance DLO		Portfolio Holder for Housing and Rural Issues	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Sarah Robson, Head of Economic Development 03000 267 332	

SECTION THREE - REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R&ED/06/14	07/05/14	Housing Stock Transfer Offer Document	Portfolio Holder for Housing and Rural Issues	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Sarah Robson, Head of Economic Development 03000 267 332	The Economy and Enterprise OSC has considered several updates in respect of the Stock Transfer project and will receive updates in respect of the initiative at future meetings.
R&ED/07/14	16/07/14	Housing Stock - Outcome of Stage 1 Consultation & Amendments to Offer Document	Portfolio Holder for Housing and Rural Issues	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Sarah Robson, Head of Economic Development 03000 267 332	The Economy and Enterprise OSC has considered several updates in respect of the Stock Transfer project and will receive updates in respect of the initiative at future meetings.
R&ED/08/14	16/07/14	Housing Stock - Principles of Land Transfer, TUPE Issues and SLAs	Portfolio Holder for Housing and Rural Issues	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Sarah Robson, Head of Economic Development 03000 267 332	The Economy and Enterprise OSC has considered several updates in respect of the Stock Transfer project and will receive updates in respect of the initiative at future meetings.
R&ED/11/14	11/06/14	GRT Allocations Policy	Portfolio Holder for Housing and Rural Issues	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Sarah Robson, Head of Economic Development 03000 267 332	

SECTION THREE - REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R&ED/13/14	16/07/14	Parking Strategy		Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration	Key individuals and organisations by meeting and correspondence	Adrian White Head of Transport & Contract Services 03000 267455	
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SECTION FOUR - NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

Ref. No.	Date of Decision (i.e. date of Cabinet meeting)	Description of Decision to be Made	Background Documents	Lead Cabinet Member	Main Consultees & Means of Consultation	Contact details for further information	Scrutiny Involvement
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**Overview and Scrutiny
Management Board**

28th April 2014



**Information update from the
Chairs of the Overview and
Scrutiny Committees**

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present to Members an information update of overview and scrutiny activity from March – April 2014.

Background

- 2 As previously agreed, a written report of Chairs' updates will be presented for information only to all Overview and Scrutiny Management Boards. Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board are encouraged to get involved in any area of Overview and Scrutiny activity via thematic committees and/or talk to Scrutiny Committee Chairs and OS Officers on areas of project/overview activity.

Updates

- 3 Updates from Overview and Scrutiny Committees from March – April 2014 are as follows:

Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CIOSC)

<i>Update on Previous Reviews</i>	There are no systematic reviews to report on for this period.
<i>Scrutiny Review Activity</i>	CIOSC on 27 th March received an update on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Customer First Task and Finish Group.
<i>Overview reports/ Presentations</i>	CIOSC on 27 th March received reports/updates on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer Feedback: Complaints, Compliments and Suggestions Q3 • Refresh of the Committee's work programme.

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (SSC OSC)

Update on Previous Reviews	SSC OSC considered and commented on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a report on implementation of the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 following its review in 2012 of 'Use of legislation to tackle metal theft within County Durham'.
Scrutiny Review Activity	SSC OSC on 3 April agreed a report on the review of Neighbourhood Wardens which was then considered by Cabinet on 16 April 2014.
Overview reports/ Presentations	SSC OSC on the 25 th February received presentations/ reports on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organised Crime Multi-Agency Problem Solving Groups Review Draft Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2014-17 Refresh of the Committee's Work Programme Police and Crime Panel Safe Durham Partnership Update.

Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (E & E OSC)

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report on for this period
Scrutiny Review Activity	E & E OSC on 7 th April looked at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a report of the E & E OSC Members' Reference Group looking at the implications of changes in Government funding and policy on the economy of County Durham , and agreed the report be submitted for consideration by Cabinet on 11th June, 2014.
Overview reports/ Presentations	E&E OSC on the 7 th April, 2014 received reports/ presentations on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Combined Authority Housing Stock Transfer Members' Reference Group final report. Refresh of the Committee's work programme.

Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Environment OSC)

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report on for this period.
Scrutiny Review Activity	<p>Environment OSC Flooding Scrutiny Review Group has held several meetings focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the role of DCC as Lead Local Flood Authority, relevant policies and plans, partnership working, funding and examples of various projects; • the role of Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency, Partnership working, relevant policies and plans, funding and various projects undertaken; • the role of planning in relation to mitigating flood risk and the use of sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS); • the work of the CCU in building community resilience and providing an opportunity for members of DCC and members of the public to share their experiences in relation to flooding. • the response of DCC in relation to flooding emergencies and the role of Overview and Scrutiny in relation to managing flood risk. <p>In addition, the review group undertook a visit to three locations (Chester-le-street, Waldrige and Witton Gilbert) to see work undertaken to mitigate flooding.</p>
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>Environment OSC on the 10th April, 2014 received reports/ presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local air quality management within County Durham. • Contaminated Land Strategy • Garden Waste • Refresh of the Committee's work programme.

Children and Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYP OSC)

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report on for this period.
Scrutiny Review Activity	The CYPS OSC report on the review of Alcohol and Substance Misuse by Young People was considered by Cabinet on 16 th April.
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>CYP OSC on 14th April received reports/presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young Carers – which looked at the age profile and numbers of young carers in County Durham, the support they receive and priorities for 2014/15. • Children, Young People and Families Plan Refresh – Members considered the refreshed plan and provided comment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresh of the Committee's Work Programme 2014-15 and agreed to a further report coming to the next meeting of the committee in June.
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Adults, Well-being and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (AWH OSC)

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report on for this period.
Scrutiny Review Activity	AWBH OSC on 22 April 2014 considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the draft Quality Accounts for 2013/14 in respect of County Durham and Darlington NHS FT and Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS FT.
Overview reports/ Presentation	AWBH OSC on 22 April 2014 received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresh of the Committee's Work programme for 2014/15.

Performance/Budget/Work Programme Reporting

- 4 Information on both performance and outturn reports continue to be received and commented upon.

Recommendation

- 5 Members are invited to receive the report and note the information contained therein.

Background Papers: Previous committee reports/presentations.

Contact: Jenny Haworth Tel: 03000 268071
Email: jenny.haworth@durham.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – N/A

Staffing – N/A

Risk – N/A

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – N/A

Accommodation – N/A

Crime and Disorder – N/A

Human Rights – N/A

Consultation – N/A

Procurement – N/A

Disability Issues – N/A

Legal Implications – N/A

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