

**Corporate Overview and Scrutiny
Management Board**

13 February 2019

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



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

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present to Members an information update of overview and scrutiny activity from 17 December 2018 – 13 February 2019.

Executive summary

- 2 It was previously agreed that a written report of Chairs' updates would be presented for information only to all Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Boards.
- 3 This update covers the time period from 17 December 2018 – 13 February 2019.

Recommendation(s)

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

Background

- 5 Members of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB) 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.

6 Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB)

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report on for this period.
Scrutiny Review Activity	An initial scrutiny discussion on this year's MTFP process was held on 14 September 2018 followed by a special meeting of COSMB with MTFP as a single item agenda on 22 January 2019. The MTFP 9 is also included on the agenda for the meeting on 13 February 2019.
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>COSMB on 17 December 2018 received reports on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q2 2018/19 Customer Feedback Report • Q2 September 2018 : Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2018/19 (Resources and TAP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the Corporate Director Resources • Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships • Response of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the County Durham Environment Partnership report 'Phasing Out Unnecessary Single Use Plastics' (SUPs) • Update on Petitions • Notice of Key Decisions <p>An informal meeting of COSMB was held on 14 January 2019 which took the form of workshops to consider the refreshed County Durham Vision emerging findings document.</p> <p>The main themes that arose at the workshop were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Role of school in preparedness for work – aspirations, standards and the right skills b) Young people and access to apprenticeships/ training / work c) Transport – across the county, between communities, to amenities and to places of work and leisure, tackling transport inequalities across the County. d) Regional economics for jobs, investment and infrastructure e) Connectivity – access for all - broadband availability/speed and importance for jobs f) Technology and innovation – high tech jobs, resources and importance of available skills g) Volunteering and role in our communities, giving local communities a voice to address local issues including young people

	<p>h) Housing – availability and mix of quality, attractiveness of offer throughout the county and issues around empty and poorly maintained properties</p> <p>i) Communities - their health (particularly mental health), effect of inequalities</p> <p>j) Collaboration between town/parish councils, Durham County Council and business is vital to improve towns and villages</p> <p>k) County Durham economy – importance of tourism, development of towns and villages</p> <p>l) Retaining young people/graduates and attractiveness of whole of County Durham offer</p> <p>m) Skill set of wider population for future opportunities</p> <p>A special COSMB meeting held on 22 January 2019 received a report on the MTFP 9 and comments were forwarded to Cabinet for inclusion in their report to be considered on 6 February 2019.</p>

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

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report for this period.
Scrutiny Review Activity	A review of Private Residential Children’s Homes is being undertaken jointly with Children and Young Peoples OSC (see CYP OSC for further details).
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>SSC OSC on 7 January 2019 received reports and presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service • Fire Service Integrated Risk Management Plan Consultation • Co. Durham Youth Offending Service – Youth Justice Plan 2018/19

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

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report for this period.
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Scrutiny Review Activity	The Economy and Enterprise OSC review into support provided by DCC to the retail sector was considered by Cabinet at the meeting on 16 January 2019.
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>The Economy and Enterprise OSC on 10 January 2019 received reports and presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness and the Homelessness Strategy - update • Selective Licensing – Overview <p>An Overview and Scrutiny Workshop led by E&E OSC focusing on the County Durham Plan Pre-Submission draft consultation and the Housing Strategy consultation was held on 4 February 2019 to which all scrutiny members were invited.</p>

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

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report for this period.
Scrutiny Review Activity	<p>Review of DCC's future allotment policy – the review has been paused pending feedback to the review group from the formal consultation to be undertaken by the Service Grouping.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Group met on 21 January 2019 and received a refresh of the information received during the review ahead of the consultation period commencing in February.
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>A special meeting of the Environment and Sustainable Communities OSC was held on the 15 January 2019 and received reports and presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage Coast including detail of marketing activity undertaken by Visit County Durham. • Stockton and Darlington Bicentenary Celebrations – Overview of what is currently proposed to commemorate the bicentenary. <p>The Environment and Sustainable Communities OSC met on 28 January 2019 received reports and presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the Gala Theatre <p>The Special Environment OSC on 8 February 2019 received reports and presentations on:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current and planned projects to be undertaken by the Flood Risk Management Authorities for County Durham.
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10 Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYP OSC)

Update on Previous Reviews	There are no systematic reviews to report for this period.
Scrutiny Review Activity	<p>A review of Private Children's Residential Care Homes is being undertaken jointly with Safer Stronger Communities OSC.</p> <p>To date the working group has held an overview session, two focus groups one with elected Members and one with young people residing in private children's homes. Evidence gathering sessions have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of demand on services and the potential impact and vulnerability of children and young people through out of area placements. • Information on legislation, regulation and engagement in relation to children's residential care.
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>The Children and Young People's OSC on 11 January 2019 received reports and presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Update on the Work of the Healthy Weight Alliance <p>The Special Children and Young People's OSC on 11 February 2019 received reports and presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the JTAI Action Plan • The Child Protection Offer

11 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	The AWH OSC Review of Suicide Rates and Mental Health and Wellbeing in County Durham was considered by the Safe Durham Partnership Board on 15 January 2019 and the Health and Wellbeing Board on 30 January 2019

	The AWHOSC has also agreed the scope and terms of reference for a Review of GP Services in County Durham which commenced on 6 February 2019
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>Special AWH OSC on 14 January 2019 received a report detailing the decision of the CCG Primary Care Commissioning Committee in respect of the application to reduce the number of Branch sites served by the Skerne Medical Group.</p> <p>AWH OSC on 18 January 2019 received reports and presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Seaham Medical Group • Future of ward six, Bishop Auckland Hospital • Review of stroke rehabilitation services in County Durham • AWHOSC Review of GP Services in County Durham

Performance/Budget/Work Programme Reporting

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

Regional Scrutiny

- 13 The Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) Joint Health Scrutiny Committee met on 21 January 2019. The agenda included:

- A presentation by Amanda Hume, Executive Lead for Transformation and Strategic Commissioning Development in respect of the development of the North Cumbria and North East Integrated Care System.
- An update from Lisa Crichton-Jones, Director of Workforce Transformation and Dr Bernard Groen, Strategic Planning Lead for Health Education England on STP/ICS Workforce issues.
- A presentation by Mark Cotton, Assistant Director of Communications and Engagement, North East Ambulance Service on Integrating the Ambulance Services in the STP.

- 14 North East Combined Authority (NECA)

The Chair and Vice-Chair of COSMB represent DCC on the NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the new North East Joint Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

15 The NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 20 December 2018 and Cllr Malcolm Clarke, Vice Chair of Economy and Enterprise OSC attended as substitute. The agenda included:

- Minutes of previous meetings held on 15 March, 20 September and the inquorate meeting held on 16 July 2018
- Governance Changes and Scrutiny Arrangements
- Budget Proposals 2019/20
- NECA Forward Plan and Scrutiny Work Programme

The North East Joint Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 20 December 2018 and Cllr Malcolm Clarke, Vice Chair of Economy and Enterprise OSC attended as substitute. The agenda included:

- Governance Changes and Overview and Scrutiny Arrangements
- Budget Proposals 2019/20
- North East Joint Transport Committee Forward Plan and Scrutiny Work Programme

Conclusion

16 This reports contains the key issues considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the period 17 December 2018 – 13 February 2019 and is provided for members information only.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

N/A.

Finance

N/A.

Consultation

N/A.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

N/A.

Human Rights

N/A.

Crime and Disorder

N/A.

Staffing

N/A.

Accommodation

N/A.

Risk

N/A.

Procurement

N/A.