



# Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020-2021

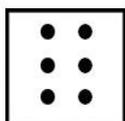
Resources

Durham County Council

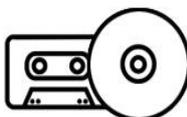
**May 2021**

**Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.**

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# Introduction

The coronavirus pandemic has dominated our lives this year and Durham County Council has continued to work hard to help and support our residents and businesses through the emergency.

The challenge for overview and scrutiny in Durham County Council has always been crucial in ensuring how services are delivered to our communities. At a time of crisis it has been vital that our priority has been to constructively support the council and ensure that our services are delivered efficiently and effectively.

As a result of the pandemic we paused our planned scrutiny work programme from March 2020 to enable members to concentrate on working to support our communities. The scrutiny team operated a skeleton service and rescheduled much of our work. Following the introduction of remote meetings scrutiny restarted its work programmes in June 2020 with a reduced number of meetings and shortened agendas.

Durham County Council had already been facing the challenges of continuing austerity and financial uncertainty. A key priority for the authority will be to continue to work hard to protect frontline services whilst meeting savings targets and managing the additional considerable pressures as a result of the pandemic. Overview and scrutiny will contribute in a constructive way to support the council in meeting these significant challenges.

This pared down annual report sets out details of the work undertaken by scrutiny in the past year which has been limited due to the need for the council and partners to concentrate on the recovery and restoration of services. As the coronavirus pandemic eases and we continue along the government's roadmap from lockdown we will be reviewing our work programmes to identify areas of the county's response appropriate for an overview and scrutiny review.

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in supporting and assisting the overview and scrutiny process in this difficult year – members, officers, partners, co-opted members and the scrutiny team themselves. All scrutiny committee meetings are open to the public and if you would like to get involved, the scrutiny team's contact details are at the end of this report.

**Councillor Rob Crute**

**Chair of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board  
2020/2021**

# Scrutiny in County Durham

Scrutiny provides a valuable tool to scrutinise how we deliver our services and to drive improvement. We are supported by a dedicated scrutiny team and senior and specialist officers across the council which has helped develop a strong scrutiny culture and adds value to the work of the council.

Durham County Council has embedded the four principles of good scrutiny, developed by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny, in all our work. These are:

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

Durham County Council's overview and scrutiny function involves a considerable amount of partnership working. Our aim is to ensure that the good work already taking place contributes to our Transformation Programme's key principal of moving partnership working from good to great.

We also promote engagement with local expert and academic researchers in overview and scrutiny where they can add to our work.

The scrutiny team works with colleagues in communications to identify any matters within the work programme which may be of particular interest. Meetings considering items such as the climate emergency and changes to the delivery of health services have previously provoked a great deal of interest.

Local Democracy reporters are usually in attendance at most scrutiny meetings held in person. Their coverage has helped raise the public profile of scrutiny and for specific issues increased public participation in the scrutiny process. They have continued to report on our scrutiny meetings throughout the pandemic.

The majority of detailed in-depth reviews are carried out by the committees, but smaller working groups may be set up to carry out light touch reviews. Unfortunately, in 2020/21 no in-depth review work had been undertaken due to capacity of members, services and our partners.

Scrutiny committees decide which areas they wish to examine. This may arise following representations by members of the public about a particular matter; be an issue identified by councillors themselves; or follow on from reports or performance assessment on the council's activities made by the cabinet or outside agencies.

We also promote scrutiny by maintaining an excellent relationship between executive and non-executive members and meet regularly to discuss matters of common interest.

The overview and scrutiny process provides an opportunity for members of the public and local communities to comment upon any service

## Co-optees and engagement

We continue to work with the non-voting co-optees who sit on our scrutiny committees. They bring skills, knowledge and their own expertise and views to scrutiny and provide important external challenge to our work programme.

We have also promoted engagement of local expert and academic researchers in overview and scrutiny where they can add to our work.

This ownership of the work programme and strong organisational culture underpins scrutiny's legitimacy as an effective and strategic function.

Co-opted members appointed to scrutiny committees ensure a strong external representation and help scrutiny to engage with the public. During the year we have been able to recruit a new co-opted representative for a vacancy on the Adults Health and Wellbeing OSC. For the first time the appointment process involved members interviewing candidates remotely.

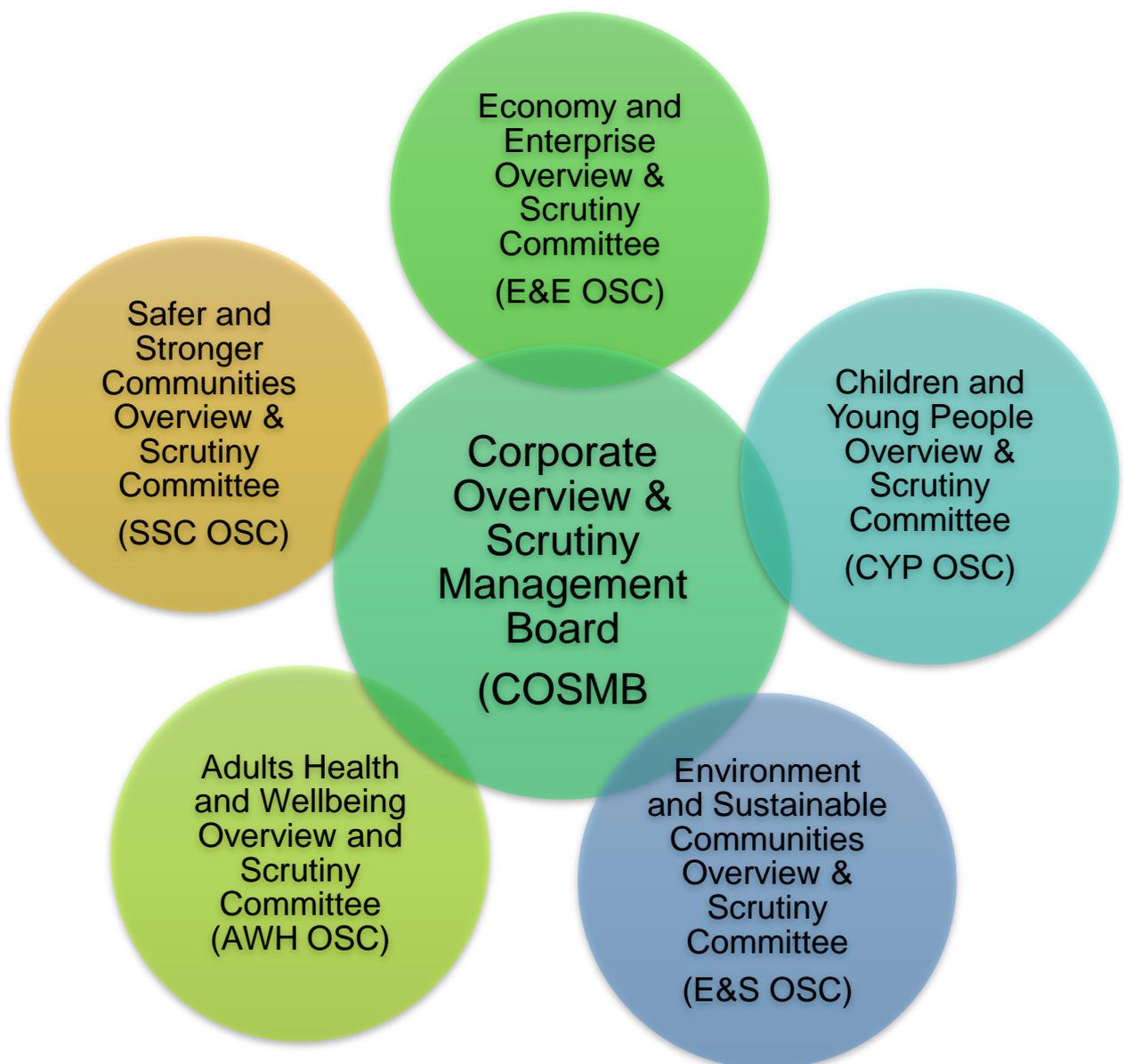
We value the different perspectives and challenge our co-optees bring to our work. Co-optees

- Act as an independent voice for those who live or work in County Durham.
- Bring specialist knowledge, skills and an element of external challenge to the overview and scrutiny process.
- Take an interest in, attend and contribute to the committees and working groups to which appointed.
- Establish good relations with other members, officers and co-optees.

We will be carrying out a full refresh of our co-opted members in 2022 and anyone who would like to express an interest is requested to contact the Scrutiny Team.

# Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Overview and scrutiny is a valuable part of local democracy and has important statutory roles in the scrutiny of health and crime and disorder. Statutory work is in addition to roles carried out by our Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and five thematic scrutiny committees as below:



# Overview and Scrutiny Review Activity

Each year the scrutiny work programme is developed to ensure a balanced programme. Alongside considering overview reports and updates, we plan focussed review work throughout the year. These reviews can be light touch or in depth and are usually reported to Cabinet and the appropriate thematic partnership.

## GP Service Provision in County Durham – Adults, Health and Wellbeing OSC

This review examined the extent of GP coverage across County Durham and identifying the range of services offered by GP practices. It also looked at the issues and barriers facing patients in accessing their GP including the availability of branch sites across individual practices

The Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee engaged in a number of consultation and engagement processes undertaken by GP practices which involve a range of issues including reductions in practice branch sites, reductions in pharmacy/dispensing provision and branch closures. During these processes, the Committee became increasingly concerned at the issues involving GP recruitment, retention, retirement and other workforce related pressures that are impacting on the level of service provision available to residents within County Durham.

There are concerns, nationally, regionally and locally about the falling number of GPs, the availability of GP appointments, the number of GP practices that are accepting new patients, the range of services available from GP practices, and the reduction in the number of GP branch sites.

The Review report was submitted to Cabinet in November 2020 and included a series of recommendations which aim to improve access to GP services, enhance the recruitment, retention and training of GPs and health professionals within General Practice, develop new ways in which patients can access primary care services including appointments.

Due to the pause in the work programmes this year, the following review will be completed in 2021/22.

## Road Safety – Stronger and Safer Communities OSC

Road Safety is an important area to which the Committee has previously undertaken review activity, held a focussed session on the “fatal four” being the four most common causes of casualties and fatalities in road traffic accidents (inappropriate speed, using a mobile phone while driving, not wearing a seatbelt and drink/drug driving) and young drivers. The Committee has also received annual update reports on activity of the Durham and Darlington Casualty Reduction Forum and monitored quarterly performance against road safety performance indicators.

The aim of the Committee’s review was to provide comment on the development of a new Road Safety Strategy. The Committee has a statutory role to scrutinise work of the Council and the Safe Durham Partnership and this work would contribute to actions within the Safe Durham Partnership Plan.

In advance of a draft strategy being produced, Members provided comment following evidence through two working groups meetings with representatives from the Council, Durham Constabulary, County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Service and Council’s Road Safety Manager and a Data Analyst from the North East Regional Road safety resource. In addition, Members also undertook field study activity within schools and attended a driving awareness session with apprentices.

Consultation on the draft County Durham and Darlington Road Safety Strategy was launched in early 2020 and was scheduled to be considered by the Committee in March 2020, however this meeting was cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Within this context, the strategy was circulated to the Committee and a response was provided in July 2020 to the Cabinet Portfolio Holder and the Service Grouping that provided comment on the strategy’s strategic vision, approaches undertaken through education, engineering, enforcement and evaluation, casualty statistics and delivery plan.

The Committee asked that once the strategy had been agreed by Cabinet and respective partnership boards that a report on implementation of the strategy and delivery plan is included within the Committee’s work programme.

## Planned Overview and Scrutiny in 2021/22

The work programmes for overview and scrutiny focus on the priority areas identified within the Council Plan, the Cabinet’s Forward Plan of decisions, the County Durham Vision 2035, partnership plans and strategies, performance and budgetary control data and changes in government legislation.

The process for developing the Council’s overview and scrutiny work programmes is consultative and comprehensive. Initial proposals are influenced by legislation, plans and strategies, performance reports and

include engagement with the executive, partners and officers. Each overview and scrutiny committee has an experienced chair to ensure there is a clear focus on the committee's role and forward plan of work. Where there are any cross-cutting matters, joint meetings are held to avoid duplication and make the best use of capacity of both members and officers

Work programmes are usually finalised during June and July and are designed to ensure there is flexibility and capacity to take on topics which may arise throughout the year.

A summary of the key issues for the 2021/22 Work Programme is overleaf

## COSMB

- Medium Term Financial Plan and budget setting
- Transformation
  - Digital Strategy and Digital Inclusion
  - Workforce Strategy Delivery
- RIPA
- Performance and budget outturn
- Customer Feedback
- Implications of Government Policy Programme
- Welfare Reform and Poverty

## Economy

- Support to Business Sector
- DurhamWorks Programme
- Town and Village Centres Programme
- Employability and Skills Development
- Housing Solutions
- Investment Pipeline
- Selective Licensing Scheme
- Transport (regional and local)
- Tourism
- Strategic sites in the county

## Children

- Child Poverty
- Erase
- Neglect in County Durham
- Growing Healthy 0-25
- Children and Young People Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing
- Best Start in Life
- Care Leavers Strategy
- Young Carers
- Improving Educational Outcomes

## Environment

- Air Quality in County Durham
- Climate Emergency Response Plan
- SUPS monitoring against action plan
- Fly Tipping
- Environmental campaigns
- Fuel Poverty
- Highway, Footway and Bridge Maintenance
- Waste Management
- Flood Risk Management Authorities (flood mitigation in the county)
- Leisure Centre Transformation Programme

## Safer

- Arson and deliberate fires
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Off Road Bikes and Vehicles
- Hate Crime
- Reducing Re-offending
- Alcohol and Drugs Harm Reduction Strategy
- Youth Justice Plan
- Probation Services
- Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence
- Road Safety Strategy

## Adults

- NHS Statutory Consultations/Legislation plans
- COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan
- Development of Integrated Care Systems and Partnerships
- Health and Social Care Integration
- Shotley Bridge Community hospital
- Public health funding and services/campaigns
- NHS Foundation Trust performance and Oversight –
  - County Durham and Darlington NHS FT
  - Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS FT
  - North East Ambulance Services NHS FT

# Constitutional Responsibilities of Overview and Scrutiny

The constitutional responsibilities of the scrutiny committees are based on the themes within the council plan.

## Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

- To oversee and co-ordinate the work of Overview and Scrutiny and its committees
- To ensure effective liaison across the work of the committees on cross cutting issues.
- To be the strategic driver of the overview and scrutiny function.
- To consider as appropriate scrutiny member involvement in regional scrutiny arrangements within the context of any regional strategies.
- The establishment of appropriate liaison with the Executive in the interests of achieving common aims and continuous improvement for the Council
- To encourage appropriate community involvement in the overview and scrutiny role.
- Consider the Council Plan and Notice of Key Decisions and to monitor performance against these plans
- Deal with petitions in accordance with the Council's protocol for petitions
- Consider the council's annual budget
- Assist the Executive in the development of the council's annual budget and to review and scrutinise budgetary management
- Assist the Executive in ensuring the provision of efficient and effective corporate management and support arrangements
- Assist the Executive in the development of asset management
- Scrutinise delivery of the County Durham Visions 2035 and Council Plan ambition of an excellent councils and associated objectives of
  - Our resources will be managed effectively
  - We will create a workforce for the future
  - We will design our services with service users
  - We will use data and technology more effectively
  - We will actively performance manage our services

**Environment and Sustainable Communities OSC** scrutinises delivery of the County Durham Vision 2035 ambitions of More and Better Jobs, People Live Long and Independent Lives and Connected Communities in relation the environmental and sustainable communities and Council Plan objectives:

- A broader experience for residents and visitors to the County
- Fewer people will be affected by poverty and deprivation within the County
- A physical environment that will contribute to good health
- Our towns and villages will be vibrant, well used, clean, attractive and safe
- People will have good access to workplaces, services, retail and leisure opportunities

**Children and Young People OSC** scrutinises delivery of the County Durham Vision 2035 ambitions of More and Better Jobs, People Live Long and Independent Lives and Connected Communities in relation to children and young people and Council Plan objectives of:

- Young people will have access good quality education, training and employment
- Children and young people will enjoy the best start in life, good health and emotional wellbeing
- Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities will achieve the best possible outcomes
- All children and young people will have a safe childhood

**Adults, Wellbeing and Health OSC** scrutinises delivery of the County Durham Visions 2035 ambitions of People Live Long and Independent Lives and Council Plan objectives in relation to adults wellbeing and health of:

- Better integration of health and social care services
- People will be supported to live independently for as long as possible by delivering more homes to meet the needs of older and disabled people
- Tackling the stigma and discrimination of poor mental health and building resilient communities.
- Promotion of positive behaviours.
- Review and scrutiny of NHS Services, adult social care, health inequalities and improvement and Public Health Services

**Economy & Enterprise OSC** scrutinises delivery of the County Durham Vision 2035 ambitions of More and Better Jobs, and Connected Communities and Council plan objectives of

- Delivery of a range of employment sites across the county.

- A strong, competitive economy where County Durham is a premier place in the North East to do business.
- A broader experience for residents and visitors to the county.
- People will have good access to workplaces, services, retail and leisure opportunities.
- Helping all people into rewarding work.
- Standards will be maintained or improved across County Durham's housing stock.
- Delivery of new high-quality housing which is accessible and meets the needs of our residents.



**Safer and Stronger Communities OSC** scrutinises delivery of the County Durham Vision 2035 ambitions of People Live Long and Independent Lives and Connected Communities in relation to safer and stronger communities and Council plan objectives of:

- Promotion of positive behaviours
  - Our towns and villages will be vibrant, well used, clean, attractive and safe
  - Communities will come together to accept and support each other
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# Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board 2020/21



Cllr Rob Crute  
Chair



Cllr Alison Batey  
Vice chair

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB) provides a strategic direction for the work of all the overview and scrutiny committees.

## Reports and presentations scrutinised during 2020/21 include:

- MTFP (11) 2021/22 2024/25 and Revenue and Capital Budget 2021/22
- COVID-19 Planning and Response
- Integrated Customer Services Programme
- Regulation of Investigative Powers Act (RIPA) 2000
- Quarterly Performance Management
- Quarterly Budget Outturn reports
- Workplace Transformation: Enabling Smarter Working
- Poverty Issues
- Customer Feedback - Complaints, Compliments & Suggestions
- County Durham Partnership
- Updates on Petitions
- Notice of Key Decisions

# Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2020/21



Cllr John Robinson  
Chair



Cllr Jean Chaplow  
Vice chair

The Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (AWH OSC) has a statutory role under the Health and Social Care Act 2001 as amended to scrutinise local health services

## Reports and presentations scrutinised during 2020/21 include:

- Overview and Scrutiny Review of Access to GP services in County Durham
- Update on the impact of COVID-19 on Adults and Health Services – Public Health Response and County Durham Care Partnership System Response
- An Overview of Adult Social Care
- Winter Planning and the work of the Local Accident and Emergency Delivery Board
- Shotley Bridge Community Hospital updates
- Local Outbreak Management Plan updates
- NHS County Durham Clinical Commissioning Group Primary Care Strategy
- Integrated Care Systems
- Suicide Rates and Mental health and Wellbeing in County Durham - Update report on progress against Scrutiny review recommendations
- Health Impact Assessments for Health Inequalities during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust Updates on the CQC Inspection results and also the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic on TEWV services
- Quarterly Performance Management
- Quarterly Forecast Revenue and Capital Outturn

# Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2020/21



Cllr Heather Smith  
Chair



Cllr Christine Potts  
Vice chair

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

## Reports and presentations scrutinised during 2020/21 include:

- Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Young People's Services
- Children's Adolescent Mental Health Service update
- Child Poverty in County Durham
- Best Start in Life: 0-25 Healthy Child Programme
- Neglect in County Durham
- Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020
- SEND Overview and Focus on SEND in mainstream Schools
- Impact of COVID-19 on Education Services
- Quarterly Performance Management
- Quarterly Forecast Revenue and Capital Outturn
- Healthy Weight Alliance
- Children's Commissioning Action Plan
- Young Carers
- ERASE
- Pre Birth Teams
- Stronger Families Programme
- Free School Meals
- Tobacco Dependency in Pregnancy
- Signs of Safety Model of Practice
- Progress of the Children's Residential Care Homes Review Recommendations

# Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2020/21



Cllr Malcolm Clarke  
Chair



Cllr Richard Manchester  
Vice chair

Economy and  
Enterprise Overview  
and Scrutiny Committee  
(Economy OSC)

## Reports and presentations scrutinised during 2020/21 include:

- COVID-19: Economic Support and Recovery
- Impact of COVID-19 on Regeneration, Economy and Growth
- Business Durham - Progress
- Visit County Durham – Activity and Support Provided during the Pandemic and Recovery plans
- Overview and Scrutiny response to the Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document and the Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document
- Housing and Homelessness Strategies
- Housing response to COVID-19
- Private rented sector
- Selective Licensing
- Towns and Villages Centres Investment Plan
- DurhamWorks Programme – Youth Employment Initiative
- EU Funding
- Quarterly Performance Management
- Quarterly Forecast Revenue and Capital Outturn
- Key strategic employment sites in the County
- County Durham Plan
- Transport activity (regional and local)
- Digital Durham Programme (business sector)
- Masterplans
- North East Skills Advisory Panel
- County Durham Economic Partnership
- Durham County Council's Council Housing Delivery Programme

# Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2020/21



Cllr Eddy Adam  
Chair



Cllr Olga Milburn  
Vice chair

Environment and  
Sustainable  
Communities Overview  
and Scrutiny  
Committee (Env&Sust  
OSC)

## Reports and presentations scrutinised during 2020/21 include:

- Environmental Campaigns
- Fly-tipping
- Bereavement Services
- Overview of Household Waste Management
- Fuel Poverty
- Highways, Footway and Bridge Maintenance
- Impact of COVID-19 on Neighbourhoods and Climate Change Services
- Climate Emergency Response Plan Year 1 update
- Quarterly Performance Management
- Quarterly Forecast Revenue and Capital Outturn
- Community Action Team
- Woodland management
- Heritage Coast and the Tourism Offer
- Environment and Climate Change Partnership
- Climate Emergency Response Plan and Carbon Management Plan
- EU and Other Funding
- DCC Fleet
- Leisure Centres Transformation
- Sustainable Travel, Walking and Cycling Plan
- Stockton to Darlington Railway Bicentennial Celebrations
- Gala Theatre
- Air Quality Management in County Durham
- Heritage Assets
- Single Use Plastics
- National Fuel Poverty Strategy
- Flood Risk Management Authorities

# Safer & Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2020/21



Cllr David Boyes  
Chair



Cllr Heather Liddle  
Vice chair

SSC OSC has powers under the Police & Justice Act 2006, as amended, to scrutinise work being undertaken by the statutory crime and disorder reduction partnership - the Safe Durham Partnership

## Reports and presentations scrutinised during 2019/20 include:

- Overview and Scrutiny Review – County Durham & Darlington Road Safety Strategy
- Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
- Safe Durham Partnership Board – Impact of COVID-19
- Community Protection update
- Public Protection Service – Enforcement and Intervention Activity
- County Durham Youth Justice Service Annual Performance report 2019/20 and Service Improvement Plan 2020/21
- County Durham and Darlington Hate Crime Action Group
- Probation Programme ‘Plans for future model’
- Bonfire period and arson
- Open Water Safety
- Off Road Bikes and Vehicles
- Alcohol and Substance Misuse Harm Reduction
- Reducing Re-Offending
- County Durham & Darlington Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan
- Draft Safe Durham Partnership Board

# Regional Scrutiny

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

Durham County Council currently chair and administer the regional network. The network has held two remote meetings during the year and agreed an updated terms of reference.

## North East Combined Authority scrutiny arrangements

We continue to work with other regional authorities as the North East Combined Authority (NECA) which is comprised of the four councils of Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland.

NECA has three broad areas of focus:

- Transport
- Employability and Inclusion
- Economic Development and Regeneration

We have representation on the NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise and challenge decision-making on behalf of our communities. The committee investigates matters of significant importance to residents across the areas covered by the four councils with a view to influencing decisions.

Durham County Council is represented on the NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee by Councillors Rob Crute and Alison Batey, the Chair and Vice-Chair of COSMB. Councillors Malcolm Clarke and Richard Manchester, the Chair and Vice-Chair of Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee are the nominated substitute members.

Transport is of strategic importance to the North East and both NECA and the North of Tyne Combined Authority (Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland councils) work collaboratively to ensure effective decision making takes place across the region. We work with NECA and the North of Tyne Combined Authority on a North East Joint Transport Committee Overview and Scrutiny Committee established with representatives from all seven authorities. Councillors Rob Crute and Alison Batey, the Chair and Vice-Chair of COSMB represent Durham County Council. Councillors Malcolm Clarke and Richard

Manchester, Chair and Vice-Chair of Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee are the nominated substitute members.

Both scrutiny committees usually meet at varying locations across the NECA area and meetings are open to the public. During the pandemic meetings have been held remotely.

Further details on NECA can be found at [www.northeastca.gov.uk](http://www.northeastca.gov.uk).

## Regional Health Scrutiny

The Council continues to work collaboratively at a regional level to ensure that the impact of changes to health services across local authority boundaries does not adversely impact upon residents of County Durham.

The North East Regional Joint Health Scrutiny Committee consists of lead Health Scrutiny members from all 12 north east local authorities.

The committee is charged with scrutinising issues around the planning, provision and operation of health services in and across the north east region, comprising for these purposes the areas covered by all constituent authorities.

## Sub Regional Joint Health Scrutiny Committees

The emergence of the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System and associated Integrated Care Partnerships has resulted in the establishment of two Integrated Care System/Integrated Care Partnerships Joint OSCs within the region.

### North East and North Cumbria ICS and Northern and Central ICP Joint OSC

This Joint OSC comprises representatives from Durham County Council; Gateshead BC; Newcastle City Council; North Tyneside BC; Northumberland CC; South Tyneside BC and Sunderland City Council

### North East and North Cumbria ICS and Central and Southern ICP Joint OSC

This Joint OSC comprises representatives from Darlington BC; Durham County Council; Hartlepool BC; Middlesbrough BC; Redcar and Cleveland BC; North Yorkshire County Council and Stockton on Tees BC

Durham County Council is the only North East Council with representatives that sit on both ICS/ICP Joint OSCs.

The regional and sub-regional joint scrutiny overview and scrutiny arrangements will be used to scrutinise the development of the ICS/ICPs and any associated proposals for substantial developments or significant variations in services.

Neither Joint OSCs have met during the COVID 19 Pandemic and we are aware that legislation is currently being progressed through Parliament which would place Integrated Care Systems on a legal footing and will result on governance arrangements for them being developed at a regional level. Durham County Council will continue to engage in this process.

# Overview and Scrutiny Team

The Overview and Scrutiny team is part of the Resources Directorate.

Andy Palmer, the Head of Strategy and Transformation is designated as the Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

Tom Gorman is the Corporate Scrutiny and Strategy Manager and Stephen Gwilym the Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer.

Diane Close, Jonathan Slee and Ann Whitton are Overview and Scrutiny Officers. Clare Luery is the Scrutiny Support Assistant.

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## Key contacts:

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