

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

22 November 2013



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 October - November 2013.

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 October to November 2013 are as follows:

Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CIOSC)

Update on Previous Reviews	CIOSC on 14 th October 2013 received: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An update on the recommendations of the light touch review of Telephone Calls.
Scrutiny Review Activity	CIOSC on 14 th October received <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A report on the Medium Term Financial Plan (4), Council Plan and Service Plans 2014/15 – 2016/17.
Overview reports/ Presentations	CIOSC on 14 th October received: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An overview of Building and Facilities Maintenance, Direct Services.

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

Update on Previous Reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are no systematic reviews to report on for this period.
Scrutiny Review Activity	Neighbourhood Warden Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two Review Group meetings have been held to provide a focus on partnership arrangements, tools and powers and communication.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members have also undertaken field study activity through Staysafe and stop and search operations to gain an insight into the wide range of work undertaken by the Service.
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>SSC OSC on 18 October received reports/presentations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transforming Rehabilitation – A Strategy for reform, from the Director of Offender Services, Co. Durham & Tees Valley Probation Service the work of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit - from the Council's Consumer Protection Manager and an Inspector from Durham Constabulary information on Consumer Protection Enforcement a briefing to update the Committee on the work of the Safe Durham Partnership.

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	<p>E & E OSC on 21st October 2013 received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a joint report from the Assistant Chief Executive which updated members regarding the Member Reference Group meetings held on June, July and October 2013. The Group is examining the implications of the changes in Government funding on the economy of County Durham.
Overview reports/ Presentations	<p>E & E OSC on 21st October 2013 received presentations/reports on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an update on the Tourism offer within County Durham from the Chief Executive of Visit County Durham; the County Durham Infrastructure Delivery Plan and the Community Infrastructure Levy; a report detailing a six month review of the Durham Key Options Lettings Policy changes. <p>Two special E & E OSC workshops were held as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4th November – a 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 is being compiled and will be submitted as part of Scrutiny's response to the current consultation exercise. 13th November - the Council's three housing management organisations, East Durham Homes, Dale and Valley Homes and Durham City Homes presented their latest Annual Reports and also reported performance information for 2012/13.

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

Update on Previous Reviews	Environment OSC on 24 th October received updates on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the Council's Carbon Emissions • Development of Renewable Energy Technologies in County Durham.
Scrutiny Review Activity	There is no scrutiny review activity to report on for this period.
Overview reports/ Presentations	Environment OSC on 24 th October received a presentation on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm up North. <p>A Special meeting of the Environment OSC on 31st October received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an overview presentation on flooding.
	Members of the Environment OSC on 29 th October attended a meeting at South Tyneside Council to receive information on the Tyne & Wear Aquifer Protection Scheme.

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	CYP OSC is reviewing Alcohol and Substance Misuse by Young People. The working group has received information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current situation -15th October • Partnership working and Licencing – 23 October • Raising awareness of the harms of alcohol in schools and in the community -5th November • Youth offending behaviours -7th November.
Overview reports/ Presentations	CYP OSC on 31 st October received presentations/reports on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the One Point Service • School Funding • Building Schools for the Future • NHS and Public Health Reforms.

Adults, Well-being and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (AWH OSC)

Update on Previous Reviews	AWH OSC on 1 November 2013 received update presentations on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the committee's previous review in respect of the County Durham and Darlington NHS FT Hyper Acute Stroke service.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the progress made by Durham County Council regarding the recommendations of the Regional Joint Health OSC Review into the health needs of the ex-service community.
Scrutiny Review Activity	<p>AWH OSC on 1 November 2013:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> as part of the implementation of proposals by North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT to review emergency medical and critical care services at University Hospital Hartlepool and University Hospital North Tees, the committee received an update report regarding the establishment of an oversight board to review the implementation of the proposed changes.
Overview reports/ Presentation	<p>AWH OSC on 1 November 2013 received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overview presentation by Anna Lynch, Director of Public Health regarding cancer screening services; An update report in respect of NHS and Public Health reforms.

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.

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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