

## **Scrutiny Committees**

### **Specific Roles**

In discharging the functions conferred by Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000, as set out in Article 6, the Scrutiny Committees will have the following specific roles and terms of reference:-

#### **1. Performance Scrutiny of the Executive**

Performance scrutiny of the Executive – the extent to which the Council has appropriate arrangements in place to secure the continuous improvement of its functions

#### **Community, Finance and Strategic Leadership Scrutiny Committee**

- 1.1 Scrutiny of the processes the Council has gone through to discharge its duty to improve;
- 1.2 Scrutiny of the functions of the Council to discharge its duty to improve;
- 1.3 Scrutiny of the processes the Council has gone through to determine its improvement priorities;
- 1.4 Monitor progress on the delivery of the Council's improvement priorities;
- 1.5 The Community, Finance and Strategic Leadership Scrutiny Committee is the scrutiny committee designated to scrutinise the work of the Neath Port Talbot Public Services Board (hereinafter "the Board") in accordance with Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (the Act) and will have the following specific roles: –
  - 1.5.1 Review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken, by the Board for the local authority area in the exercise of its functions;
  - 1.5.2 Review or scrutinise the Board's governance arrangements;
  - 1.5.3 Make reports or recommendations to the Board with respect to its functions or governance arrangements;

- 1.5.4 Consider such matters relating to the Board as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and to report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly;
- 1.5.5 Carry out such other functions in relation to the Board as are imposed on it by the Act
- 1.6 It may, for the purpose of the roles specified in points 1.5.1 to 1.5.5 above, require one or more of the persons who may attend a meeting of the Board<sup>1</sup>, or anyone designated by such a person, to attend a meeting of the committee and provide it with explanations of such matters as it may specify<sup>2</sup>.
- 1.7 It must send a copy of any report or recommendation made under item 3 above to the Welsh Ministers, the Future Generations Commissioner and the Auditor General for Wales
- 1.8 In addition it will:
- 1.8.1 Formally receive the Wellbeing Assessment and Wellbeing Plan from the Board;
- 1.8.2 Act as statutory consultee for the draft Wellbeing Assessment and draft Wellbeing Plan;
- 1.8.3 Formally receive the Board's annual report.
- 1.9 Review the Wellbeing Plan if directed to by the Welsh Ministers

### **Social Services, Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee**

- 1.10 to be authorised to make a report or recommendation under Section 19 (1)(b) and (3)(a) of the Police and Justice Act 2006.

### **All Scrutiny Committees**

Will have a remit to specifically examine the performance of all services within its portfolio and the extent to which services are continuously

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<sup>1</sup> The Leader and Chief Executive of the Council; either the Chair, Chief Executive or both of Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board; either the Chair, Chief Officer or both of the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service and the Chief Executive of Natural Resources Wales.

<sup>2</sup> Section 35(3) Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

improving, including ensuring performance measures reflect what matters to citizens.

## **2. Conduct Improvement Reviews**

(*Schedule 2 'Local Choice' 2007 Regulations*) through appropriate mechanisms; in particular

### **Community, Finance and Strategic Leadership Scrutiny Committee**

2.1 The Committee will:-

2.1.1 Consider the draft Corporate Plan prepared by the Cabinet and comment upon it and the methods that have been used to produce it;

2.1.2 Monitor overall progress made in response to the annual Improvement Report;

2.1.3 Comment on the draft Annual Report prior to publication each year.

### **All Scrutiny Committees**

2.2 The Committee will:-

2.2.1 Receive service-specific contents of the Corporate Plan (the service issues being those under the purview of the "equivalent" Cabinet committee);

2.2.2 Commission and participate in improvement reviews through appropriate mechanisms and recommend onwards to the Executive (the Executive being accountable for improvement, for drafting the Corporate Plan, for determining improvement priorities and for ensuring executive performance management). Note: while a committee will conduct reviews in relation to the areas covered by the Committee, the Committee may agree that a particular review normally in its remit shall be undertaken by another Committee for example a Committee had too many reviews in a particular year but in such cases the Chair of the relevant Committee may be present throughout the review process;

2.2.3 Monitor implementation by the Executive of the appropriate improvement actions and responses to the Council's external regulators;

2.2.4 Promote innovation by challenging the status quo and encourage different ways of thinking and options for delivery;

2.2.5 Monitor implementation by the Executive of business plans.

### **3. Scrutiny of Executive Systems**

Scrutiny of Executive Systems which deliver functions to see whether they are robust and are being observed.

### **4. Pre-decision Scrutiny**

Through consultation by/dialogue with the Executive on policy, budget or other forthcoming issues, with attendance by relevant Cabinet Members as a standing arrangement, in order to provide evidence and information for the Scrutiny Committee, and to ensure the "executive" and "scrutiny" work constructively and inclusively together in the best interests of the Council and its communities. The pre-decision scrutiny of Cabinet proposals may involve ensuring that policy and procedure has been complied with; assessing the likely impact or risk of a course of action; or questioning the values behind a recommendation. The process of scrutiny can also bring into question whether stakeholders have been adequately involved and whether their views have been properly taken into account. The pre-scrutiny should be on selective issues, both operational and financial.

### **5. Post-decision Scrutiny**

Post-decision scrutiny of Executive decisions or actions, with power also to "call-in" decisions not yet implemented under relevant procedures.

### **6. Scrutiny of Executive Policies**

Scrutiny of Executive Policies evaluating existing Council policies and strategies as to their effectiveness/outcomes and community needs, recommending any proposals to the Executive; and also assisting the Executive in the development of new policies (as appropriate through specific member/officer groups). The foregoing in conjunction with the specialist directorate officers.

## **7. General Scrutiny Role**

General Scrutiny Role is to report as appropriate on matters of more general concern (including external issues) and which might link to the authority's powers to promote economic, social and environmental well-being. Committees may invite people other than those people to address it, discuss issues of local concern and/or answer questions. It may for example wish to hear from residents, stakeholders and Members and Officers in other parts of the public sector and shall invite such people to attend

## **8. Scrutinise Outside Bodies**

Scrutinise Outside Bodies particularly those upon which the Council is represented.

## **9. Joint Scrutiny**

Regulations may be made to permit two or more local authorities to appoint a joint [Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is set out in the Local Authority (Joint Overview and Scrutiny) (Wales) Regulations 2013

## **10. Political Balance**

All Scrutiny Committees shall be politically balanced in line with the Local Government Act 2000

The Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees shall be appointed taking into account the Political Constitution of the Council and the requirements of Section 21(1) of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011

## The Scrutiny Committees

The Committee set out in the left hand column of the Table below will discharge their functions and roles in relation to the matters which are respectively the responsibility of the Executive or of the Council/Council Committees set out in the right hand column; the other roles set out in the preceding pages will also apply:-

<b>Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>Matters to be covered by the Committee</b>
<p>Community, Finance and Strategic Leadership (15 Members)</p>	<p>The powers conferred by Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015</p> <p>(a) <u>Executive</u></p> <p>(1) Matters for consideration and/or decision by the Cabinet Committee including related plans/strategies and budget i.e.:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Cabinet Portfolio 1 Cabinet Portfolio 2</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Major plans, policies, service change and budgets, including Climate Change, Decarbonisation and Renewable Energy Policy and strategic response to the nature emergency)</p> <p>(b) <u>Non-Executive</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Personnel Committee matters Registration/Licensing Committee</p>
<p>SOCIAL SERVICES, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (12 Members)</p>	<p>Crime and Disorder matters (including those matters within Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006)</p>

	<p>Matters for consideration and/or decision including related plans/strategies and of:</p> <p>Cabinet Portfolio 6 Cabinet Portfolio 7 Cabinet Portfolio 8</p>
<p><b>EDUCATION, SKILLS AND WELLBEING</b> (13 Members + 4 Voting Co-optees + 4 Non-Voting Co-optees)</p>	<p>Matters for consideration and/or decision including related plans/strategies and of</p> <p>Cabinet Portfolio 3 Cabinet Portfolio 4 (in respect of regional education, skills and training arrangements, lifelong learning, adult education and post-16 provision and employability) Cabinet Portfolio 5</p> <p>(Note: Voting co-optees can only vote in relation to School Education matters)</p>
<p><b>ENVIRONMENT REGENERATION AND STREETSCENE SERVICES</b> (12 Members)</p>	<p>Matters for consideration and/or decision including related plans/strategies and of</p> <p>Cabinet Portfolio 4 (functions not covered by Education, Skills and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee) Cabinet Portfolio 9 Cabinet Portfolio 10</p> <p>Excluding decarbonisation and renewable energy policy and the strategic response to the nature emergency</p>

