

SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Meeting date: 8 September 2022

From: Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services

Scrutiny Review

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the Scrutiny Review report following engagement with elected Members via the workshops held at Scrutiny Board meetings and interviews.
- 1.2 To present proposals for development of the final CCC Scrutiny report for approval.
- 1.3 To outline proposals for wider sharing of the report findings.

2.0 Issues for Scrutiny

- 2.1 Members are asked to agree that the findings and information in the Scrutiny Review report (appendix 1) be used for the development of the final Cumbria County Council (CCC) Scrutiny Report.
- 2.2 Members are asked to consider the proposed approach to developing the final CCC Scrutiny Report and the type of content to be included.
- 2.3 Members are asked to identify any historic pieces of scrutiny work that they would like to highlight in the final CCC Scrutiny Report.
- 2.4 Members are asked to consider how the Scrutiny Review report (appendix 1) report might be shared.

3.0 Background

SCRUTINY REVIEW PROJECT

- 3.1 In response to concerns of the possible loss of Scrutiny corporate memory within the Local Government Reorganisation process, a project was created to work with Scrutiny Boards to capture knowledge, intelligence and experience from elected Members and officers involved in Cumbria County Council's scrutiny arrangements.

3.2 The Scrutiny Review project was split into three areas:

- **Scrutiny Board Activity** – which involved the collation of scrutiny items discussed at boards.
- **Scrutiny Recommendations** – which involved collation of recommendations made by the Council’s Scrutiny Members to the Council’s Cabinet and other decision-makers, the subsequent decisions made and their implementation.
- **Scrutiny Lessons Learnt** – which involved collecting the views of the Council’s Scrutiny Chairs and Members, Cabinet Members, and heads of service regarding the enabling factors and barriers to good scrutiny via interviews and workshops.

3.3 The project focused on the last seven years to allow a range of issues, strategies and plans to be covered, and to cover at least two political terms. It involved working with:

- Scrutiny Management Board
- Scrutiny Advisory Board – Adults
- Scrutiny Advisory Board – Children and Young People
- Scrutiny Advisory Board – Communities and Place
- Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee

3.4 The findings of the project can be found in Appendix 1: Scrutiny Review report.

THE FINAL CCC SCRUTINY REPORT

3.5 It is proposed that the successes highlighted in the Scrutiny Review report, via recommendations implemented and effective overview and scrutiny activity be used within the final CCC Scrutiny report. This will be detailed in a case study style, focussing on outcomes.

3.6 In addition, ideas are welcomed on further historic Scrutiny achievements that members would like to see highlighted in the final CCC Scrutiny report.

3.7 As in previous years, it is proposed to include a reflection from each of the Scrutiny Board Chairs, however, this would not be restricted to just the previous year of Scrutiny.

3.8 It is proposed to share the Scrutiny Review report with the two Shadow Authorities to help support the development of future scrutiny arrangements.

Tracey Moran
Policy and Scrutiny Project Officer
25 August 2022

Appendices

Appendix 1 – CCC Scrutiny Review Report

Previous Relevant Council or Executive Decisions *[including Local Committees]*

“No previous relevant decisions”.

Background Papers

“No background papers”

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