

Cumbria County Council Scrutiny – research and review to support development of future Scrutiny arrangements

Initial Findings

August 2022

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Executive Summary

Cumbria County Council (CCC) Scrutiny Management Board set out to capture knowledge, intelligence and experience from elected Members and officers involved in the Council's scrutiny arrangements to both reflect on and celebrate the work of Scrutiny and ensure that this was not lost within the local government reorganisation process but could be used to inform and support Members of the two new councils in Cumbria to develop their own arrangements and their own scrutiny programmes.

This report details the findings of the research and review activity undertaken which highlights the breadth and scale of the Scrutiny work undertaken by the Council's Scrutiny Members, and the positive outcomes achieved.

To inform the development of future scrutiny arrangements, lessons learnt on the enabling factors and barriers to good scrutiny have been identified in relation to the four principles of good scrutiny as suggested by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny. A range of insights into what helps and what gets in the way of good scrutiny emerged around the themes of:

- **Strong relationships**, with Portfolio Holders, officers, communities, and interest groups
- **High commitment** of Members and officers
- **Knowledge** to be informed by a range of sources, be timely, accurate, and contextualised
- **Independence** from Cabinet and political pressures, however, to be informed by local and organisational knowledge
- **Clear and effective processes** for all scrutiny functions to support change and improvements
- **Critical friend** of Cabinet and other organisations, with any recommendations being tracked for progress
- **Understanding** of Scrutiny by all Councillors, officers, and the public
- **Effective programme management** and early access to Key Decisions

Introduction

This report sets out the findings of research and review activity to capture knowledge, intelligence and experience from elected Members and officers involved in Cumbria County Council's (CCC) scrutiny arrangements.

This has provided an opportunity to reflect on the breadth and scale of the Scrutiny work undertaken by the Council's Scrutiny Members over the years, and the positive outcomes achieved, whilst also sharing learning and experience to inform development of future scrutiny arrangements following local government reorganisation in Cumbria.

The project was split into three areas:

- **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
- **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

The project focused on the last seven years to allow a range of issues, strategies and plans to be covered, with many being refreshed every five years, and to cover at least two political terms.

Interviews and Workshops

CCC Scrutiny Boards, Cabinet Members, and officers had the opportunity to highlight what had helped, and in addition what had got in the way of the board delivering the four principles of good scrutiny as suggested by the Centre for Scrutiny and Governance.

This project involved working with the following Scrutiny Boards:

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

Scrutiny Lessons Learnt

Three workshops and fifteen interviews were conducted with Members and officers who have been involved with or have experience of the Council's scrutiny function. All participants were asked both what they thought had enabled and what had been a barrier to Scrutiny delivering the four principles of good scrutiny as described by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny:

1. Provide constructive “critical friend” challenge
2. Amplify the voice and concerns of the public
3. Drive improvement in public services
4. Be led by independent people who take responsibility for their role

Participants offered a range of interesting comments and insights, key lessons learnt are detailed below.

Enablers to good scrutiny

The key lessons learnt from the insights provided by participants that enabled good and effective scrutiny are:

- The experience, knowledge and expertise gained by Members through their work in their community and their involvement in Scrutiny
- The commitment, persistence and determination of Members to provide effective overview and scrutiny

- Good relationships between Scrutiny Members and officers, and between Scrutiny Members and Cabinet Members
- The independence of Scrutiny which is informed, but not unduly influenced, by officers, Cabinet Members or political parties; which plays a part in ensuring that instances of conflict in relation to political views and the scrutiny process are limited
- Good quality and sufficiently resourced Scrutiny Officer support
- The involvement of the relevant senior officers in Scrutiny activity
- Members' confidence in officers and ability to be open to challenge
- Members' understanding of Scrutiny areas informing effective and constructive challenge, with evidence and information being sought from a range of sources
- The time and resources Scrutiny can utilise to investigate issues and identify trends enabling Scrutiny Members to offer a fresh look at policies, issues and projects
- Clear and effective processes for Call-Ins and for the development and making of recommendations to the Council's Cabinet, with a confidence that Cabinet valued the quality of Scrutiny Members' work and gave careful consideration to their recommendations
- The approach taken by Scrutiny to enable more non-executive Members to contribute to the decision-making process, particularly through purposeful Task and Finish Groups and the approach to Scrutiny engagement in the Council's strategic and budget planning processes
- Recognition that overview was as important as scrutiny which supports Members to identify good practice and areas for improvement, and to monitor and oversee improvement

Barriers to good scrutiny

The key lessons learnt from the insights provided by participants that proved barriers to good and effective scrutiny are:

- There are opportunities for Scrutiny to be more challenging with questioning and recommendations, and for closer tracking of the implementation of

recommendations made by Scrutiny which will enable Members to better hold those responsible for decision-making and delivery to account

- Enhanced and consistent provision of good quality and timely data to Scrutiny, alongside robust benchmarking and contextualisation, will support increasingly effective Scrutiny
- Improved understanding of Scrutiny by all Councillors, officers, and the public is critical to strengthening the Scrutiny function and could play a part in increasing the currently low level of public participation in the work of Scrutiny
- The wide scope of the services and policy areas within the remit of Scrutiny Boards results in challenges in prioritisation, managing work programmes and ensuring Members are kept up to date across the full range of responsibilities and accountabilities
- If contributors focus too much on what worked well, the potential for Scrutiny to support improvement and innovation is diminished
- More engagement and connectivity by Scrutiny Members with external groups and outside bodies would enrich the information and intelligence base for Scrutiny
- Levels of contact between Scrutiny Boards and relevant Cabinet Members which vary across the Scrutiny function can impact the consistency and quality of Scrutiny across policy and service areas
- The published Forward Plan of Cabinet Key Decisions which includes decisions to be made over only the subsequent two months adversely impacts on the ability of Scrutiny Members to develop their Work Programme in a timely manner over the medium to longer-term

Scrutiny Board Activity

CCC has three Scrutiny Advisory Boards overseen by the Scrutiny Management Board. The Boards make recommendations on policy and hold the Leader and Cabinet, as well as officers, to account for decisions they have made. They scrutinise the Council's performance in relation to policy objectives, performance targets, service areas and the work of external partners such as health bodies. CCC also has responsibility for health

scrutiny functions delivered through the Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee and hosts the Local Enterprise Partnership Scrutiny Board and the Cumbria Police and Crime Panel.

Scrutiny Management Board

The board has overall responsibility for the Overview and Scrutiny function of the Council.

Standing items for this board include updates from each of the Scrutiny Board Chairs on activity, and updates from the Performance Working Group. In addition, Scrutiny Management Board has responsibility for all Call-in activity as well as the commissioning of Task and Finish group activity. The board leads the engagement of non-executive Members in the Council's strategic and budget planning. This board is also responsible for reporting on Scrutiny activity to Full Council, including the production of Scrutiny Annual Report.

The areas scrutinised by the board in the past seven years have been varied, with a focus on overarching, cross-cutting and organisation-wide services or issues, such as improving customer services and digital transformation of services, workforce planning with a particular focus on absence management, the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the development of the Recovery Strategy for Cumbria. Details and links to the last seven years of meetings and items can be found in Appendix 1.

Scrutiny Advisory Board – Adults

The board delivers overview and scrutiny of the powers and duties, decisions and policies relating to Cumbria County Council services delivered to support Adults.

The board has one standing item which is to receive an update and analysis of adult safeguarding activity.

The areas that the board has scrutinised in the past seven years has been varied, including items such as the Social Care Vision and Strategic Plan, Winter Planning, and Delayed Transfer of Care. Details and links to the last seven years of meetings and items can be found in Appendix 2.

Scrutiny Advisory Board – Children and Young People

The board delivers overview and scrutiny of the powers and duties, decisions and policies relating to Cumbria County Council services delivered to support Children and Young People.

This board has one standing item, which is to receive an update from the two Cabinet Members for Children’s Services, and Schools and Learning.

In addition, the board has scrutinised a wide selection of services and issues for Children and Young People, including items on Youth Justice, Cumbria Early Help strategy, and Child exploitation. Details and links to the last seven years of meetings and items can be found in Appendix 3.

Scrutiny Advisory Board – Communities and Place

The board delivers overview and scrutiny of the powers and duties, decisions and policies relating to Cumbria County Council services delivered under the themes: Safer/stronger and inclusive communities, Planning, Highways, The environment, and Economic regeneration.

The board has investigated a wide variety of functions, including the Fire Services performance, Clean and Inclusive growth, the National bus strategy, Highways Asset Management strategy, and the Flood Response plan. Details and links to the last seven years of meetings and items can be found in Appendix 4.

Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee

The committee brings together County and District Members to overview and scrutinise matters relating to the planning provision and operation of health services in Cumbria.

The Committee receive updates and information from NHS colleagues from North Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group and Morecambe Bay Clinical Commissioning Group areas, as well as items from Cumbria County Council and Third sector organisations.

A wide range of health items have been brought to the committee over the last seven years, including items such as, the Health and Care Act, North-West Ambulance provision, Staffing/Recruitment, and an Update on Dentistry. Details and links to the last seven years of meetings and items can be found in Appendix 5.

*All Scrutiny Boards and Committees have a Board Briefing standing item, which includes an update on the activity of the board and members between meetings, advises of relevant information, and work programming.

Task and Finish Groups commissioned

1. ABSENCE MANAGEMENT
2. AUTISM
3. CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
4. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN CUMBRIA
5. EQUALITY OBJECTIVES
6. FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES
7. HEALTH AND CARE INTEGRATION
8. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARE ACT
9. LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES
10. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM, PHASE 1
11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM, PHASE 2
12. PROVISION OF INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT NEW DEVELOPMENT
13. REMOTE WORKING/ POST-COVID WAYS OF WORKING
14. TRANSFORMING SERVICES THROUGH DIGITAL INNOVATION
15. TRANSPORT AND YOUNG PEOPLE
16. WASTE AND THE THIRD SECTOR

Scrutiny Recommendations

Through scrutiny non-executive Members can review the decisions of Cabinet, other committees or organisations, and officers to ensure accountability for decisions made and

policies implemented, which can result in recommendations to Cabinet and other organisations.

Scrutiny Management Board makes recommendations based on scrutiny work carried out through 3 main routes: Task and Finish Groups, the Call-in mechanism, and engagement in Strategic Planning.

Task and Finish Groups

Scrutiny Management Board usually commissions scrutiny reviews via Task and Finish Groups. These informal groups bring together Members and participants, invited for their specific skills and experience, to take an in depth look at a topic area that is of particular interest or is providing particular concern to the Council and/or the community.

Task and Finish Groups produce a report of findings and recommendations that is presented to the Cabinet, and other organisations for consideration with an aim to improving outcomes for the communities of Cumbria.

Scrutiny Management Board has made a range of recommendations via Task and Finish Groups over the past seven years, please see appendix 6 for a list of the recommendations, with an update on implementation.

Call-in mechanism

The call-in mechanism is an important part of the decision-making process and is designed to test the merits of the decision and to ensure that non-executive Members have an opportunity to recommend change, reconsideration or deferral.

Three or more non-executive Members may call in a decision for scrutiny. Scrutiny Management Board will first consider the decision, and if still concerned, may refer it back to the decision-making person or body for reconsideration.

In the past seven years Scrutiny Management Board referred two Call-ins to Cumbria County Council's Cabinet:

- 1) The decision taken by Cabinet on 23 September 2021 that a claim is issued for Judicial Review against the decision of the Secretary of State to implement the

East/West two unitary proposal in Cumbria. Following review, the decision was upheld.

- 2) The decision taken by Cabinet on the 14 November 2019 to cease residential care provision at The Abbey in Staveley. Following review, the decision was upheld.

Strategic Planning

Scrutiny Management Board makes recommendations taken from feedback collected as part of the engagement of non-executive Members in the Council's strategic planning process on the proposed Council budget annually. A range of issues and suggestions have been highlighted over the past seven years and, where appropriate, Cabinet has reflected this within budgets and work programmes.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Management Board meetings 2015 – 2022



Scrutiny
Management Board a

Appendix 2 – Scrutiny Advisory Board – Adults meetings 2015 – 2022



Adults Scrutiny
Advisory Board activit

Appendix 3 – Scrutiny Advisory Board Children and Young People meetings 2015 – 2022



CYP Scrutiny
Advisory Board activit

Appendix 4 – Scrutiny Advisory Board Communities and Place meetings 2015 – 2022

The heading for each meeting is a link to the papers. For further information and papers for this committee: [Link to SAB - Communities and Place*](#)

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 10th June, 2022 10.00 am

- FIRE SERVICES PERFORMANCE – summary of the current approach to Learning Lessons within Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service and Cumbria County Council, detailing integrated processes that are in place to identify lessons
- HIGHWAYS INFORMATION ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - Update on the Highways Information Asset Management System
- DRAFT LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - presentation of the draft local flood risk management strategy
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Recommendation on Independent Planning Review

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Thursday, 10th March, 2022 10.00 am

- UPDATE ON STRATEGIC ISSUES FACING CUMBRIA FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (CFRS) - update on strategic issues currently facing CFRS, with a view to informing discussion as to the Scrutiny work programme over the next twelve months
- CUMBRIA COASTAL STRATEGY UPDATE - presentation on the Cumbria Coastal Strategy.
- INDEPENDENT PLANNING REPORT, INTERIM REPORT - update following the Scrutiny paper of 2nd September 2021, entitled Independent Planning Review Outcome Report: Energy from Waste Facility, Kingmoor, Carlisle (Section 73 Planning Application), and the update paper of 22nd November 2021.
- CLEAN AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH - advise on the work of the Council to promote clean and inclusive growth within the county
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Update on the informal session regarding Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service Governance for the future

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Thursday, 2nd September, 2021 10.00 am

- NATIONAL BUS STRATEGY FOR ENGLAND: BUS SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS PLAN - presentation on the National Bus Strategy for England
- CUMBRIA FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE, IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE - update on the delivery of the Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) Improvement Plan and how CFRS has responded to the recent Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Covid-19 thematic inspection
- NATIONAL WASTE POLICY UPDATE AND IMPLICATIONS - an outline of the waste industry in terms of emerging policy and how this will impact on Local Authorities
- INDEPENDENT PLANNING REVIEW OUTCOME - report on the outcome of the Independent Planning Review single case study into the 'Verus' Energy from Waste (EfW) Section 73 (S73) planning application.
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 12th March, 2021 10.00 am

- COVID-19 RESPONSE: CUSTOMER AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - n overview of the work undertaken by Customer and Community in response to the COVID pandemic. With particular emphasis on the Library and Archive Service
- RESPONSE TO CONCURRENT EVENTS IN THE COVID ERA – presentation of the approach taken by the Local Resilience Forum in planning for dealing with concurrent events, and the recommendations that should be taken forward.

- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Update on the Provision of infrastructure to support new development - Task and Finish report
 - The Scrutiny Development Plan

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Tuesday, 17th November, 2020 10.00 am

- ROADSIDE VERGES AND WILDFLOWERS - presentation on Roadside Verges and Wildflowers outlining the Council's responsibilities with regards to roadside verge maintenance and when and how it took place.
- CUMBRIA TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN - to comment and feedback on the proposed approach to developing the Cumbria Transport Infrastructure Plan, ahead of public consultation in February
- ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCIAL AND WASTE IMPACTS OF PLASTIC ROADS PILOTING - presentation outlining the Live Labs Project, a project designed to investigate the sustainability and suitability of developing a surfacing operation that utilises waste plastic as an additive in bituminous asphalt to provide a stronger, longer lasting and more resilient road network whilst conveying a local waste for local roads ethos.
- NEW HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - update on the Cumbria Highways Asset Management Strategy which was approved by Cabinet in July 2020.
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - The Boards' action tracker

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Thursday, 24th September, 2020 10.00 am

- DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY - overview of the proposed Digital Infrastructure Strategy for comment before submission to Cabinet for their consideration
- CUMBRIA CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP & CARBON update on the work of the Cumbria Climate Change Group, zero carbon Cumbria, the successful Carbon Action Fund Lottery Bid; outline of current Carbon Management activity and proposed next steps
- FLOOD RESPONSE PLAN – presentation outlining the Flood Response Plan
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Approach for further scrutiny regarding verge maintenance
 - Approach for tracking recommendations by the Board

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Thursday, 12th March, 2020 10.00 am

- FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE INSPECTION OUTCOME AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN - updates on the outcome of the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) inspection of Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service in 2019 and the improvement work underway to address the areas highlighted by the inspectors, and on the national context following the publication of the 'State of Fire and Rescue: The Annual Assessment of Fire and Rescue Services in England 2019'
- HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – presentation of the refreshed Highway Asset Management Strategy
- IMPLEMENTATION OF HIGHWAYS PERMIT SCHEME - presentation outlined the objectives behind the Council's move to a Permit Scheme.
- SCOPE FOR TASK AND FINISH GROUP - draft scope for a Task and Finish Group with a focus on the impacts and needs of new development in respect of physical and social infrastructure.
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Monday, 25th November, 2019 10.00 am

- EQUALITY - update on progress in implementing the recommendations from the Task and Finish Group on Equality Objectives.
- RURAL STRATEGY AND LOBBYING - NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AND LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES – presentation on Lobbying on Rural Matters in a range of areas such as education, transport and accessing healthcare.
- APPROACH TO DEVELOPING AND MANAGING SECTION 38 AND 278 AGREEMENTS – presentation on Section 278 and Section 38 Agreements.
- RAPID RESPONSE VEHICLES, EVALUATION REPORT – outcome of the 6-month pilot of Rapid Response Vehicles in Arnside and Staveley presented.
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Thursday, 5th September, 2019 10.00 am

- WASTE AND THIRD SECTOR TASK AND FINISH RECOMMENDATIONS, SIX MONTH UPDATE REPORT - update on the recommendations from the Reuse and the 3rd Sector findings
- HIGHWAYS DIGITAL SERVICE REDESIGN, CUSTOMER AND MEMBER – presentation on the Highways Digital Service Redesign and improvements to the Customer and Member Experience
- HIGHWAYS PERMITTING AND HIGHWAYS CONDITION AND INSPECTION - update on Highways Permitting, and the Highways Condition and Inspection Schemes

- LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY UPDATE – presentation on the Local Industrial Strategy.
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 7th June, 2019 10.00 am

- HIGHWAYS PERMIT SCHEME – presentation on the progress of the introduction of the Highways Permit Scheme in Cumbria, bringing it in line with national guidance
- HIGHWAYS CONDITION AND INSPECTION TEAM – presentation on the introduction of the new Highways Condition and Inspection Teams
- WASTE NATIONAL POLICY CHANGES AND IMPLICATIONS – update on the current waste policy changes and examination of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Resources and Waste Strategy published on 18 December 2018, with a summary of the key consultations associated with the strategy (launched to date) and the implications for the Council
- SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS (PLANNING OBLIGATIONS) – information on what a Section 106 Agreement is and how it can be used to secure contributions to mitigate the impact from development on infrastructure and services the County Council is responsible for; update on the sessions that have taken place with all the Local Committees to explain what a Section 106 Agreement is, how it can be used
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 15th March, 2019 10.15 am

- CABINET RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WASTE AND THIRD SECTOR TASK AND FINISH GROUP - consider the response of the Council's Cabinet to the report of the Waste and Third Sector Task and Finish Group
- REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A TASK AND FINISH GROUP, KESWICK TO PENRITH RAILWAY LINE - verbal request from Eden Local Committee to establish a Task and Finish Group to review the feasibility of reopening the Penrith to Keswick.
- FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE INSPECTION PREPARATION SCRUTINY WORKING GROUP - update on the work of the Working Group established by the Communities and Place Scrutiny Advisory Board to engage in the Council's preparation ahead of inspection
- SEND TRANSPORT PILOT, EVALUATION - presentation evaluating the SEND Transport Pilot
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - A small number of Members of the Board visited the United Utilities West Cumbria Pipeline site
 - Members of the Scrutiny Performance Working Group visited North West Fire Control

- The Waste and Third Sector Task and Finish Group presented its report and recommendation to the Council's Cabinet;
- The Fire Inspection Working Group completed its review of the 3 inspection elements and the related self-assessment activity to date.

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Tuesday, 20th November, 2018 10.15 am

- INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN, UPDATE - opportunity to discuss progress against the IRMP Year 3 Action Plan, and to ask questions of the Service.
- ARRA WORKING - update as to what stage Area Planning had reached
- BORDERLANDS GROWTH DEAL AND LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY - presentation on the Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) and presentation detailing the ambition of the Borderlands Deal proposal
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Consider the Council's Equality Action Plan
 - The Waste and Third Sector Task and Finish Group update
 - Fire and Rescue Service – inspection working group

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 7th September, 2018 10.15 am

- CHANGES TO PREVENT - briefing detailing announcements and implications arising from the refreshed Contest Strategy, released by the Home Office and an update as to the delivery of actions against the Prevent element of the Strategy in Cumbria.
- HIGHWAYS PERMIT SCHEME - presentation on the Highways Permit Scheme and how this would benefit road users with Cumbria
- FINDINGS OF THE PLASTIC AUDIT - overview of Waste Prevention activities and actions within Cumbria County Council's corporate buildings driven by the Internal Waste Prevention Group
- WRAP UPDATE – update on the progress of the government funded Waste and Resources Action Plan (WRAP) Consistency in Recycling Programme
- CUMBRIA FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE RAPID RESPONSE VEHICLES – presentation on the proposed pilot of Rapid Response Vehicles (RRV) at Staveley and Arnside.
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Equality Objectives Task and Finish Group update
 - Waste and Third Sector Task and Finish Group update
 - Fire and Rescue Service – inspection working group
 - Visit the United Utilities Thirlmere – West Cumbria Pipeline project site

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 15th June, 2018 10.15 am

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- FIRE INSPECTION - update in regard to a self-assessment carried out by the Fire and Rescue Service against Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE)
- HIMS IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE - presentation on the Highways Integrated Management System (HIMS)
- HIGHWAYS CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE - presentation on the Highways Customer Strategy.
- INTERGRATED TRANSPORT – presentation on a new Integrated Transport Service for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, (SENDS) and Adult Social Care (ASC).
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Briefing note on the Management and Responsibility of Closed Landfill Sites
 - Briefing note on Section 106 Agreements
 - Waste reuse and recycling task group update
 - Equality Objectives Task and Finish Group update

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 16th March, 2018 10.00 am

- MECHANICAL BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT PLANTS (MBT) - overview of the Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facilities, that form part of the PPP Contract with Renewi Cumbria Limited (RCL – formerly Shanks).
- HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING TARGETS - review of the Recycling performance information for the County Council and the District Councils
- SCOPE FOR RECYCLING AND REUSE TASK AND FINISH GROUP - draft scope for work to explore how recycling and reuse of household waste can be maximised through work with the 3rd sector.
- THIRLMERE TO WEST CUMBRIA PIPELINE – verbal update on progress of Thirlmere to West Cumbria Pipeline
- PERMIT SCHEME - Presentation on working arrangements between Highways Department and Utility Companies
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Integrated Risk Management Plan
 - Equality Objectives Task and Finish Group
 - Referral from Scrutiny Performance Working Group - street sweeping waste

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Monday, 27th November, 2017 10.15 am

- WASTE PREVENTION - overview of the County Council's waste prevention function
- INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT – details the broad purpose and approach to infrastructure planning activity being undertaken by Cumbria County Council.
- FIRE INSPECTIONS – update on Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS), the associated framework and potential timeframes; Give an indication of preparation needed for the new inspection; Agree the appropriate level of Member Scrutiny, governance and support against the key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE) / Work streams
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Update on progress with the recommendations from the recent task and finish groups
 - Scrutiny Performance Working Group referral - variances in rates of recycling across the county

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 8th September, 2017 10.00 am

- UPDATE ON HIMS - briefing on progress made in the new HIMS system and current status
- FIRE SERVICE INSPECTION PREPARATIONS - overview of the new fire inspection framework and indication of what preparation needed
- WASTE RECYCLING – presentation on the structure for recycling in the two-tier structure of the County and the collaborative arrangements in place through the Cumbria Waste Strategic Partnership.
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Recommended key topics for consideration by the Communities and Place Board over the coming year

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Friday, 17th March, 2017 10.00 am

- RECYCLING OF LARGE DOMESTIC APPLIANCES - report on recycling of white goods (large domestic appliances)
- TRANSPORT AND YOUNG PEOPLE TASK AND FINISH GROUP - response to the recommendations of the Transport and Young People Task Group. This followed the presentation of a survey carried out by the Cumbria Youth Parliament on bus services for 11-19 years old in November 2014
- UNITED UTILITIES UPDATE IN THE BARROW - update on the ongoing work taking place in Barrow on the drainage systems provided by United Utilities following a

partnership approach being undertaken by both organisations to resolve a number of issue

- HIMS SYSTEM - HIMS Launch update and a summary of the background to the system
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Overview of issues that this Board has covered over the last four years

SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD - COMMUNITIES AND PLACE - MONDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER, 2016 10.00 AM

- CUMBRIA FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE: WHOLETIME AND ON-CALL FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT AND ON-CALL FIRE STATION APPLIANCE AVAILABILITY - update on Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) wholetime and on-call Firefighter recruitment campaign and on-call fire station appliance availability
- WINTER BRIEFING AND SNOW CHAMPION UPDATE - presentation on adverse weather and winter maintenance which included an update on the Adverse Weather Policy, winter maintenance, weather forecasting, salt management, winter fleet, snow champions and parish salt schemes.
- UPDATE ON CAPITAL PROGRAMME - presentation on capital programme covering: Children and Families Services, Health Care and Community Services, Economy and Highways Service, Highways and LEP Projects, Achievements in the last three months
- INFRASTRUCTURE RECOVERY UPDATE – presentation on Infrastructure Recovery since Storm Desmond.
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Offer from the Community Safety Team to observe them in action

SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD - COMMUNITIES AND PLACE - MONDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER, 2016 10.00 AM

- FIRE SERVICE RESPONSE TO ISSUES RAISED AT PERFORMANCE WORKING GROUP – presentation on Day Crewing Plus and Accidental Dwelling Fires.
- FLOODING UPDATE – presentation on Multi-agency response, Multi-agency recovery, Government funding, Section 19 investigations, Winter ready, Next steps.
- HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – presentation on the Highways Asset Management Strategy.
- TRANSPORT AND YOUNG PEOPLE TASK GROUP UPDATE – verbal update on the recommendations of the Transport and Young People Task Group
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - The proposed way forward for the review of the Council's equality objectives

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Tuesday, 14th June, 2016 10.00 am

- MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UPDATE - presentation on Major Infrastructure Projects
- PARKING SERVICES UPDATE- update on the progress of the Council's Parking Services team during the 2015/16 financial year
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board.

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Monday, 23rd November, 2015 10.00 am

- NUGEN AND MAJOR PROJECTS – presentation on NuGen and Major Projects.
- LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE – update on the work of the LEP in particular: Cumbria Infrastructure Plan, Development of a Devolution Deal for Cumbria, Growth Deal, LEP Audit
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Transport for Young People Task and Finish Group
 - Scrutiny Highways Workshop

Scrutiny Advisory Board - Communities and Place - Tuesday, 16th June, 2015 11.00 am

- PRESENTATIONS FROM UNITED UTILITIES AND HIGHWAYS TEAM - presentations from United Utilities and CCC Highways Team
- BOARD BRIEFING - Work programme; Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions; Activity and updates following the last meeting of the Board including:
 - Tripartite meeting
 - Visit to Fire and Rescue control centre Warrington
 - Transport for Young People Task and Finish Group

*All links correct at the time of collation

Appendix 5 – Cumbria Health Scrutiny meetings 2015 – 2022



Cumbria Health
Scrutiny Committee a

Appendix 6 – Scrutiny Recommendations and updates



CCC
Recommendations 20