



**MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
CORPORATE OVERVIEW GROUP
TUESDAY, 7 JUNE 2022**

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West
Bridgford

PRESENT:

Councillors J Wheeler (Chairman), N Clarke, J Cottee, P Gowland, J Murray,
D Viridi and G Williams

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

C Caven-Atack
A Poole

Service Manager Corporate Services
Democratic Services

1 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2022 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

4 Terms of Reference for Corporate Overview Group and Scrutiny Committees

The Service Manager Corporate Services delivered a presentation concerning the Terms of Reference for the Corporate Overview Group and Scrutiny Committees. It was explained that the Terms of Reference (ToR) for scrutiny had been brought to the Group for consideration at the start of the municipal year due to the recent changes in the Group's membership. The Service Manager Corporate Services added that the ToR were included in the Constitution.

The Group was informed that, following a review of the scrutiny process in 2019, Corporate Overview Group was formed as part of the transitional arrangements and the ToR developed. The new arrangements were reviewed in September 2020, and it was agreed that, as the new arrangements for scrutiny had worked well, they should be continued. The ToR needed to be amended to reflect that decision and the Service Manager Corporate Services proposed that the first point within the ToR *"Implementing identified improvements to scrutiny throughout the transitional period including training of scrutiny members, construction of new work programmes and reporting methods"* should be removed as it referred to the 'transitional arrangements'.

The Group was informed that the Service Manager Corporate Services would discuss the proposed changes from this meeting with the Monitoring Officer who was currently reviewing the Constitution for consideration by Governance Scrutiny at the end of this month and presentation to Full Council at its meeting in July.

Councillor Clarke said that the ToR for the Growth and Development Scrutiny Group should be amended to reflect the constructive contribution the Group could make to the development of Council policy. The Service Manager Corporate Services agreed to devise additional wording to address this.

Councillor Viridi asked whether the 'Annual Governance Statement' referred to in the ToR for Governance Scrutiny included the 'Going Concern Statement' or whether this should be included as a separate item. The Service Manager Corporate Services explained that it was possibly not included in the ToR as it had been introduced since they had been devised. She agreed to confirm the arrangements with the Director Finance and Corporate Services and amend the ToR for Governance Scrutiny if required.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Terms of Reference be agreed subject to the following:

- a) That the first point within the Terms of Reference for Corporate Overview Group "Implementing identified improvements to scrutiny throughout the transitional period including training of scrutiny members, construction of new work programmes and reporting methods" be removed.
- b) The Service Manager Corporate Services to devise additional wording for the Terms of Reference for the Growth and Development Scrutiny Group to reflect the constructive contribution the Group could make to the development of Council policy.
- c) The Service Manager Corporate Services to confirm whether the 'Going Concern Statement' should be included as a separate item in the Terms of Reference for Governance Scrutiny and to amend the ToR if required.

5 **Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes**

The Group considered the requests for scrutiny items submitted by either Councillors or officers using the scrutiny matrix. The Service Manager Corporate Services explained how the scrutiny matrices were formed and that Directors considered issues for scrutiny at the start of each year.

In respect of the scrutiny matrix submitted by Councillor J Walker concerning the inclusion of Active Travel in future Local Plans, it was agreed that this would not be submitted to scrutiny as it was already being addressed by officers following submission to scrutiny earlier in the year. In response to questions, the Service Manager Corporate Services explained that the issue could be submitted for consideration again later in the year but that the scrutiny matrix would need to clarify how the issue had changed from the current position.

Regarding the scrutiny matrix concerning the Customer Access Strategy, the Group agreed that this should be submitted to the Communities Scrutiny Group

rather than the Corporate Overview Group as suggested in the scrutiny matrix due to the link to customers and the wider community. The Group asked that the issue be discussed at the meeting in October when the External Communications Strategy would be discussed due to the linkages between the two items. The Group was, however, concerned about the length of the agenda for this meeting and that sufficient time be allowed for full scrutiny of both items. Councillors proposed that the item 'Establishment of a Youth Council' which was also planned for the October meeting be delayed to allow more time at that meeting for full scrutiny of the items. The Service Manager Corporate Services agreed to discuss the Group's comments and the work programme with the Service Manager Neighbourhoods and to report back to the next meeting of the Corporate Overview Group.

The Group discussed the item 'Policies relating to Alternative Energy Sources' provisionally scheduled for the Growth and Development Scrutiny Group in July and agreed that this item fell outside the scrutiny process as the discussion was to inform policy development rather than to scrutinise policies. The Service Manager Corporate Services agreed to arrange a separate workshop for Councillors to discuss the item and to feed into the policy development process.

It was **RESOLVED** that the work programmes outlined below be agreed.

Work Programme 2022-23 – Corporate Overview Group

7 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes
6 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairmen ○ Feedback from Lead Officer ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes ○ Financial and Performance Management • Rolling Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health and Safety Annual Report
15 November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairmen ○ Feedback from Lead Officer ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes ○ Financial and Performance Management • Rolling Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Customer Feedback Annual Report
21 February 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairmen ○ Feedback from Lead Officer ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes ○ Financial and Performance Management • Rolling Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of the 2019-23 Strategic Tasks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of the draft Business Continuity Strategy
May 2023 (date to be agreed at Annual Council)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Standing Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairmen ○ Feedback from Lead Officer ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes ○ Financial and Performance Management ● Rolling Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Diversity Annual Report and update on the Equality and Diversity Strategy

Draft Work Programme 2022-23 – Governance Scrutiny Group

30 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Internal Audit Progress Report ● Internal Audit Annual Report ● Annual Governance Statement (AGS) ● Treasury Management Update ● Constitution Update ● Code of Conduct ● External Audit Annual Plan ● Annual Audit Letter and Value for Money Conclusion
15 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk Management ● Going Concern ● Asset and Investment Outturn 2021/22 ● Treasury Management Update
24 November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Internal Audit Progress Report ● Annual Audit Report 2021/22 ● Statement of Accounts ● Streetwise Annual Report ● Treasury and Asset Investments – 6 monthly update ● Asset Management Plan
23 February 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Internal Audit Progress Report ● Internal Audit Strategy ● Risk Management – Update ● Treasury and Asset Investments Strategy 2023/24

Work Programme 2022-23 – Growth and Development Scrutiny Group

	Items / Reports
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27 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Areas – Part Two
21 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid-19 Business Recovery Update • Sewerage infrastructure and discharge within Rushcliffe
4 January 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Shared Prosperity Fund •
8 March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •

Work Programme 2022-23 – Communities Scrutiny Group

	Items / Reports
21 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Development in Rushcliffe • Access Agreement – Canals and Rivers Trust
6 October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's External Communications Strategy • Customer Access Strategy
19 January 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of a Youth Council • Corporate Enforcement Policy
16 March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon Management Plan • Environment Policy

ACTION SHEET

Minute Item	Action	Officer Responsible
	To discuss the Group's comments about the timing of the Youth Council item and the wider work programme with the Service Manager Neighbourhoods and to report back to the next meeting of the Corporate Overview Group.	Service Manager Corporate Services
	To arrange a separate workshop for Councillors to discuss 'Alternative Energy Sources' so as to feed into the policy development process.	Service Manager Corporate Services

The meeting closed at 8.03 pm.

CHAIRMAN