



OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

O&S Evaluation of O&S Reports Working Group

1. Purpose/Objectives of the Review

To evaluate the effectiveness of Scrutiny Reviews completed to date.

Key Lines of Enquiry

- To demonstrate the effectiveness of Overview and Scrutiny reviews at Northampton
- To identify areas and means for further developing Overview and Scrutiny review process at Northampton Borough Council
- To provide objectivity by identifying evidence from the questions posed in the framework
- To highlight any potential barriers to improvement

2. Outcomes Required

- To report on the effectiveness of Scrutiny Reviews undertaken to date and produce an Action Plan for any required improvement in the Review process.

3. Information Required

- Background data
- Background reports (previous Scrutiny Review reports)
- Best practice data (if applicable)
- Desktop research
- Evidence from expert internal witnesses
- Evidence from expert external witnesses

4. Format of Information

- Background data, including:
 - Previous Scrutiny Review Reports, including:

2005/2006

- [Planning](#)

2006/2007

- [Public engagement and communications](#)
- [Best value review](#)
- [Tree policy](#)
- [Allotments \(water charges\)](#)
- [Street scene](#)
- [Leisure services](#)
- [Homelessness \(rough sleepers\) task and finish group](#)
- [Community safety \(evaluation of dispersal orders\)](#)

2007/2008

- [Community engagement](#)
- [Voluntary sector](#)

2008/2009

- [Councillor Call for Action](#)
- [Billing Waste Water Working Group](#)
- [Historic Buildings Task and Finish Group](#)
- [Contaminated Water task and finish group - phase one](#)
- [Contaminated Water task and finish group - phase two](#)
- [West Northants Development Corporation \(WNDC\) and partnership working with Northampton Borough Council \(NBC\)](#)
- [Evaluation of Overview and Scrutiny](#)
- [Proposed Post Office Closures](#)
- [Customer Services](#)

2009/2010

- [West Northants Emergent Joint Core Strategy](#)
- [Concessionary Fares](#)
- [More Facilities for Older Children](#)

- [Community Centres](#) This scrutiny review was shortlisted for a Centre for Public Scrutiny Good Scrutiny Award. As part of the shortlist process, a [video](#) was produced. The judges thought that this work, which facilitated the transfer of a large number of community facilities from the council to community control, demonstrated the contribution that scrutiny can make to implementing a key Government policy around community asset transfer successfully at local level.

2010/2011

- [Cost of Consultants](#)
- [Sheltered Housing and Housing Options for Older People](#)
- [Absence Management](#)
- [Northamptonshire Alcohol Strategy](#)
- [Pre-Scrutiny of Environmental Services Procurement](#)
- [Leisure Trust Implementation](#)
- [Neighbourhood Model](#)
- [Lease that Northampton Borough Council has With Northampton Town Football Club, the Contractual Arrangements between Northampton Town Football Club and the Rugby and Northampton Athletics Club](#)
- [Commissioning Framework for the Voluntary and Community Sector](#)

2011/2012

- [Councillor Empowerment Fund](#)
- [Hate Crime](#)
- [Independent Living Strategy](#)

2012/2013

- [Customer Services](#)
- [Evaluation of Overview and Scrutiny \(2012\)](#)
- [Serious Acquisitive Crime, Violent Crime and Community Safety](#)

2013/2014

- [Retail Experience](#)
- [Section 106 Agreements and Infrastructure Requirements](#)
- [Improving the Town's Parks](#)

2014/2015

- [Management and Regulation of Private Sector Housing \(including HMOs\)](#)
- [Impact of the Welfare Reform Act](#)
- [Interpersonal Violence](#)
- [Poverty in the Town](#)
- [Keep Northampton Tidy](#)
- [Parking](#)
- [Tree Maintenance](#)

2015/2016

- [Impact of Anti-Social Behaviour on the Town](#)
- [Health Check of the Local Economy](#)
- [Effectiveness of the Enforcement Policies in respect of Taxis and Private Hire](#)
- [NBC Owned Street Lighting](#)

2016/2017

- [Museum Trust \(pre decision scrutiny\)](#)
 - [Child Sexual Exploitation](#)
 - [Homelessness \(Pre-Decision Scrutiny\)](#)
 - [Emissions Strategy \(Action Plan\)](#)
- Monitoring Action Plans for previous Scrutiny Reviews and information regarding the number of accepted recommendations :
- Internal expert advisors:

Relevant Cabinet Members and Senior officers in respect of the success of each Scrutiny Review being evaluated

5. Methods Used to Gather Information

- Minutes of meetings
- Desktop research
- Site visits (if applicable)

- Officer reports
- Presentations
- Examples of best practice/case studies
- Witness Evidence:-

➤ Key witnesses as detailed in section 4 of this scope

6. Co-Options to the Review

None.

7. Community Impact Screening Assessment

- A Community Impact Screening Assessment to be undertaken on the scope of the Review

8. Evidence gathering Timetable

June 2018 – March 2019

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|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • 11 June 2018 | - Scoping meeting |
| • 2 July | - Evidence gathering |
| • 17 September | - Evidence gathering |
| • 19 November | - Evidence gathering |
| • 26 February 2019 | - Evidence gathering |
| • 26 March | - Approval final report |

Meetings to commence at 6.00 pm

9. Responsible Officers

Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer

10. Final report presented by:

Completed by March 2019. Presented by the Chair of the Scrutiny Panel to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and then to Cabinet.

11. Monitoring procedure:

Review the impact of the report after six months (December 2019/January 2020)