



## **Agenda Item 9**

### **Scrutiny Plan and Establishment of Standing Scrutiny Panel on Performance**

**Falkirk Council**

**Title:** Scrutiny Plan and Establishment of a Standing Scrutiny Panel on Performance

**Meeting:** Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 17 August 2017

**Submitted by:** Director of Corporate and Housing Services

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 This report invites committee to establish a standing scrutiny panel on performance, establish a scrutiny panel on fly-tipping and associated issues and to consider topics for inclusion in the 2017 scrutiny plan.

**2. Recommendations**

**2.1 It is recommended that the committee:-**

- (1) identify potential topics for inclusion in the scrutiny plan and request that that reports are submitted to the next meeting on any topics identified;**
- (2) agrees to establish a scrutiny panel on fly-tipping and associated issues with a membership of up to 5 members;**
- (3) agrees the composition of the scrutiny panel and requests that the Group Leaders provide the names of their members on the panel to the Chief Governance Officer;**
- (4) agrees to establish a standing scrutiny panel on performance to be known as the Performance Panel which all members may attend;**
- (5) agrees that the core membership of the Performance Panel will be 5 members with 3, including its convener, being drawn from the Opposition and 2 being drawn from the Administration, and**
- (6) agrees that names for the core membership will be provided to the Chief Governance Officer by the Group Leaders.**

**3. Scrutiny Plan 2017**

- 3.1 The Council's Standing Orders set out that the scrutiny committee will develop the annual Scrutiny Plan of the Council and will submit it to Council for agreement. The committee is also responsible for overseeing implementation of the plan. In order to undertake detailed scrutiny the committee may establish scrutiny panels consisting of up to 5 members, being any member of the Council not on the Executive.

- 3.2 Council previously agreed on 29 March 2017 that one of the topics in the Scrutiny Plan would be fly-tipping and associated issues. This is the only item on the plan and the committee may wish to give consideration to further topics which it feels merit inclusion in the scrutiny plan and refer these to Council. To assist the committee in its deliberations, reports on potential topics will be submitted to the next meeting for consideration and if agreed referral to Council for inclusion in the plan.
- 3.3 In terms of operation of the scrutiny plan Council previously agreed that normally only one topic would be considered by a scrutiny panel at any one time. However Council left it open for the committee to establish concurrent panels should it so wish.
- 3.4 Topics which have previously been investigated by scrutiny panels as part of the scrutiny plan are:-
- Citizens Advice Bureaux
  - Appointment of Elected Members to Outside Organisations
  - Consultation and Engagement
  - Outcomes of Looked After Children
  - Complaints Outcomes.

#### **4. Scrutiny Panel – Fly-tipping and Associated Issues**

- 4.1 On 29 March 2017 Council agreed to include fly-tipping and associated issues in the scrutiny plan following referral of the issue from the Scrutiny Committee of 2 February 2017.
- 4.2 The scrutiny committee had requested a report providing information on the impact of the special uplifts charge including information on contaminated bins and housing estate management. This request was made following consideration of the Performance Panel minute of 24 March 2016. The committee discussed the following points:-
- the public's perception of fly-tipping levels;
  - the cumulative impact of fly-tipping year on year;
  - fly-tipping on private land;
  - the level of charge for a special uplift locally and nationally, and
  - local use of the National Re-use Helpline and freecycling.
- 4.3 The committee is now invited to establish the scrutiny panel on fly-tipping and associated issues with a membership of up to 5. Any member of the Council who is not a member of the Executive may be appointed to a scrutiny panel.

#### **5. Establishment of a Standing Scrutiny Panel on Performance**

- 5.1 There has been a standing scrutiny panel on performance, known as the Performance Panel, since 28 November 2013. The panel consists of 5 core members, one of whom will be appointed convener by the panel.

- 5.2 The panel considers the performance of Services against their Service Plan, key performance indicators and key improvement actions. The minutes of the Performance Panel, reflecting the main discussion points from the meeting, are submitted to the scrutiny committee for noting and can lead to the generation of report requests from the committee for further information.
- 5.3 Services' reporting cycle to the Panel is determined by the Panel. However, to allow Services to prepare and in order that the first report will be available for the first meeting of the panel on 28 September. The reporting cycle below is suggested:-
- Children's Services
  - Corporate and Housing Services
  - Development Services

## **6. Consultation**

- 6.1 This report has not been subject to consultation.

## **7. Implications**

### **Financial**

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

### **Resources**

- 7.2 There are no resource implications arising from the report.

### **Legal**

- 7.3 There are no legal implications arising from the report.

### **Risk**

- 7.4 There are no risk implications arising from the report.

### **Equalities**

- 7.5 An equality and poverty impact assessment was not carried out.

### **Sustainability/Environmental Impact**

- 7.6 No sustainability assessment has been completed as part of compiling the report.

## **8. Conclusions**

- 8.1 The scrutiny committee is invited to determine the topics it wishes to refer to Council for inclusion in the Scrutiny Plan, establish the Performance Panel and establish the scrutiny panel on fly-tipping and associated issues.

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Date: 9 August 2017

### **Appendices:**

None.

### **List of Background Papers:**

No papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.