

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the Coat of Arms of the City of Edinburgh. The crest includes a crown with four thistles, a shield divided into four quarters (a saltire, a stag's head, a ship, and an eagle), and a motto scroll at the bottom.

Agenda Item 7

Scrutiny Plan 2020

Falkirk Council

Title: Scrutiny Plan 2020
Meeting: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 30 January 2020
Submitted by: Director of Corporate and Housing Services

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report invites the Committee to agree the arrangements for the establishment of scrutiny panels in 2020.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- (1) notes the Scrutiny Plan for 2020; and**
- (2) forms a scrutiny panel to undertake the review of the Pupil Equity Fund (PEF).**

3. Background

- 3.1 Council agreed on 4 December 2019 that the Scrutiny Plan for 2020 will contain two areas for review. The first panel would examine PEF and its outcomes in closing the attainment gap. This panel was expected to begin in January and complete its work by June. The second panel's focus is still to be determined.
- 3.2 The Committee will receive reports on the following topics during the first half of 2020 and make a recommendation to the meeting of Council on 24 June 2020 on the second topic for review as part of the plan:-
- Council of the Future arrangements;
 - Community empowerment and community involvement in the delivery of services;
 - Community Learning and Development (CLD); and
 - Bullying and racism policies in schools.

4. Considerations – Scrutiny Plan

- 4.1 The panel will be supported by officers from both Children's Services and the Democratic Services team. The panel is expected to begin its review as soon as possible with a view to concluding its work in time to report to the Committee on 4 June 2020. To assist with the scheduling of panel meetings, Council agreed in September 2019 that Thursday afternoons would be utilised, where possible, for meetings.
- 4.2 A panel may consist of up to five members but may not include members of the Executives. The Committee is asked to agree the size of the panel; the majority of members should be from the opposition, as should the convener.
- 4.3 The second panel will meet from July to November 2020.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 There has been no consultation on this report.

6. Implications

Financial

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Resources

- 6.2 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

Legal

- 6.3 There are no legal implications.

Risk

- 6.4 None

Equalities

- 6.5 No equality and poverty impact assessment is required.

Sustainability/Environmental Impact

- 6.6 No sustainability assessment is required as part of compiling this report.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 Falkirk Council agreed the Scrutiny Plan for 2020 in December. The first review is of PEF with a second topic to be identified by the Scrutiny Committee in the first half of 2020. A Scrutiny Panel will be established to undertake the review of PEF.

Director of Corporate and Housing Services

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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.