



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Forward timetable of consultation and decision making

Scrutiny Commission 26 June 2025

Wards affected: All wards

Overview & scrutiny statutory guidance

Report of the Director (Corporate & Street Scene Services)

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform Scrutiny Commission of the overview and scrutiny statutory guidance for councils, combined authorities and combined county authorities published in 2024 and to consider how members can review the content to ensure the council's scrutiny arrangements comply with the guidance.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 A task & finish group be set up as outlined in paragraph 3.5.

3. Background to the report

- 3.1 In April 2024 the government issued statutory guidance in relation to overview and scrutiny in order to reinforce the role that overview and scrutiny has in effective decision making.
- 3.2 The guidance seeks to ensure that councils are aware of the purpose of overview and scrutiny, what effective scrutiny looks like, how to conduct it effectively and the benefits it can bring. It includes policies and practices that all authorities should consider adopting.
- 3.3 Local authorities must have regard to the guidance when exercising their functions, meaning that it does not have to be followed in every detail, but it should be followed unless there is a good reason not to.
- 3.4 The guidance covers matters such as organisational culture, resourcing, membership, training, access to information and gathering evidence.

- 3.5 It is recommended that a task & finish group be set up to hold a single meeting in order to review the guidance and recommend to Scrutiny Commission any changes in practice. It is recommended that the group consist of the chair and vice-chairs or their nominees and is chaired by the chair of the Scrutiny Commission.

4. Exemptions in accordance with the Access to Information procedure rules

- 4.1 To be taken in open session.

5. Financial implications [initials of person writing the implications]

- 5.1 [Finance to insert – reports must be submitted to Finance by the deadline stated on the list of deadlines which can be found on the intranet. If there are no implications, it is for the relevant Finance Officer to state ‘none’]

6. Legal implications (ST)

- 6.1 None.

7. Corporate Plan implications

- 7.1 Whilst this report has no direct implications on the corporate plan, the work of the Scrutiny Commission supports all values within the plan.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 None at this stage.

9. Risk implications

- 9.1 None.

10. Knowing your community – equality and rural implications

- 10.1 This report does not have implications for any community or group, however the work of the Scrutiny Commission promotes inclusion and equality.

11. Climate implications

- 11.1 This report does not have implications on climate change. Individual reports to the Scrutiny Commission will include their own climate implications.

12. Corporate implications

- 12.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community safety implications
 - Environmental implications
 - ICT implications
 - Asset management implications
 - Procurement implications
 - Human resources implications
 - Planning implications
 - Data protection implications
 - Voluntary sector
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Background papers: None

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