

FINANCE & PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY

TERMS OF REFERENCE / RESPONSIBILITIES

Membership: Nine members appointed by Annual Council, in accordance with appointments to overview & scrutiny bodies.

Purpose: to discharge functions conferred by the Local Government Act 2000

General role of overview & scrutiny

- i) review and/or scrutinise decision made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions, as an internal "critical friend";
- ii) make reports and/or recommendations to Council and /or the Executive in connection with the discharge of any functions;
- iii) consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants or the activity of other public bodies operating within the Borough;
- iv) exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Executive or Executive decisions delegated to individual Executive Members or officers;
- v) approve an annual work programme;
- vi) the Scrutiny Commission will put in place a system to ensure that referrals to the Executive, either by way of report or for reconsideration, are managed efficiently within the terms of the Constitution;
- vii) appoint where appropriate a Panel to review a specific issue or topic on a task and finish basis;
- viii) consider "Councillor Calls for Action" and Petitions as referred under the Petitions Scheme.

Specific functions of the Finance & Performance Scrutiny

- To review and scrutinise the performance and data quality of the council in relation to its performance targets overall and in particular service areas and investigate how underperformance may be remedied
- To consider how services can be developed and enhanced from the perspectives of the council and customers
- To consider and make recommendations on the budget & policy framework in accordance with the provisions of the council's constitution
- To refer matters to council where it believes the Executive has taken a decision not in accordance with the budget & policy framework
- To scrutinise the financial position of the authority
- To comment on budgetary proposals and, where appropriate, making alternative budgetary proposals to the Scrutiny Commission
- To ensure effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies
- To ensure effective scrutiny of the risk management processes of the council including corporate risks and service risks
- To give consideration to other relevant issues as are referred to the committee by the Scrutiny Commission, Executive or officers.