

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF POLICY AND CORPORATE RESOURCES
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****COUNCILLOR JIM SHORROCK****CO-ORDINATING DIRECTOR:
ANDREW LIGHTFOOT.****DATE: 27th June 2013****OVERVIEW – NEXT THREE MONTHS**

As members will be aware, following a decision made at annual council the structure of scrutiny committees has been changed in time for the first meetings in this municipal year. The council now has four overview and scrutiny committees covering four distinct areas, with chairs and vice chairs supported by senior officers at each committee; namely:

- Policy and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee; chair Cllr Jim Shorroock and vice chair Cllr Carl Nuttall.
- Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee; chair Cllr Sylvia Liddle and vice chair Cllr Julie Slater.
- Health and Adults Overview and Scrutiny Committee; chair Cllr Ron O’Keeffe and vice chair Cllr Phil Riley.
- Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee; chair Cllr Naushad Surve and vice chair Cllr Derek Hardman.

The format for the first three rounds of meetings for all four scrutiny committees was designed very carefully to address the wishes members expressed both at the annual review of scrutiny and annual council: In the first round of meetings each respective committee requested their executive members advise of them of their priorities, challenges and pledges, and how these aligned with the Corporate Plan. For the second round of meetings the Forward Plan is being brought back to agendas, with executive members being requested to suggest items that may be appropriate and benefit from pre-decision scrutiny. At the third round of meetings in September each of the committees is expected to make recommendations on the reviews they have carried out in the last three months, receive responses from the executive members on recommendations they made in the last municipal year and agree the continuing work programme for the next three to six months, in addition to which there will be a report back on the first six months budget.

**POLICY AND CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

The Committee will meet on the 3rd July and receive the priorities, challenges and pledges of the leader of the council and the executive member for resources. Additionally at this meeting Members will be required (as a standing item) to note the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, (RIPA) report, and to confirm the recommendations that went to the annual review of scrutiny: namely; To note the Council’s usage of RIPA between 7th February 2012 and 19th March 2013. To note that an inspection of the Council’s use of covert surveillance was going to be undertaken by the Office

of Surveillance Commissioners on 6th June 2013. To note the changes introduced by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012, and that the annual review confirmed that the RIPA Policy remained fit for purpose and agreed it continued to be used for the next 12 months.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

At the meeting on the 12th June the Committee received the priorities, challenges and pledges of the executive members for children's services, schools and education and leisure culture and young people. This committee now has representation from young people, including the VOICE group and the deputy youth MP, alongside the Foster Carers Association and diocesan representatives. The committee is seeking to be more inclusive of young people and will be looking to co-opt relevant organisations and bodies to support the delivery of their work programme.

REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

At the meeting on the 19th June the Committee received the priorities, challenges and pledges of the executive members for regeneration, environment, leisure culture and young people and neighbourhood housing and customer services. It should be noted that the executive member for leisure culture and young people has been asked to attend the children and young people committee, but only for items that are relevant to scrutiny reviews that affect young people.

HEALTH AND ADULTS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

At the meeting on the 17th June the Committee received the priorities, challenges and pledges of the executive member for health and adult social care. Importantly this committee now includes an element of public health within its remit: The differences between council scrutiny, healthwatch and the health and wellbeing board having been outlined both at the committee's first meeting on the 17th of June and the first meeting of the health and wellbeing board on the 24th June. Following the recent Keogh Review of Blackburn hospitals, a briefing session was arranged for all members by the director of public health in light of the concerns raised in reports from other hospitals in the United Kingdom: Mark Brearley, chief executive of East Lancashire Hospital Trust and Dr. Renike Schram came and spoke to members on 10th June, to explain (and give Members a more holistic picture of) the Hospital Outcomes and the Keogh Review.