



SCRUTINY COMMISSION

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To: Councillors Seaton, Needham (Vice-Chair), B. Gray, Harper-Davies, Lennie, Rattray (Chair) and N. Taylor (For attention)

All other members of the Council
(For information)

You are requested to attend the meeting of the Scrutiny Commission to be held in Committee Room 2, at the Council Offices, Southfields, Loughborough on Monday, 5th February 2024 at 6.00 pm for the following business.

Chief Executive

Southfields
Loughborough

26th January 2024

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES
2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 5 - 13

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 8th January 2024.

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, AND OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

4. DECLARATIONS OF THE PARTY WHIP

5. QUESTIONS UNDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES
11.16

No questions were submitted.

6. UPDATE ON VOID PROPERTY INFORMATION 14 - 20

A report of the Director of Housing and Wellbeing to provide an update on the position in respect of voids (empty properties) at Council accommodation, the recent actions taken, in progress, and planned to reduce both the number of voids and the length of time properties stand empty.

7. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF ANY SPECIFIC FINANCIAL MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CABINET

There are no items of this nature on the Cabinet agenda for the Commission to consider.

8. CABINET ITEMS FOR PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY

The following items have been identified for pre-decision scrutiny from the Cabinet agenda for 8th February 2024.

(a) Housing Strategy 21 - 48

A Cabinet report of the Head of Strategic Housing to obtain Cabinet approval for the updated version of the Charnwood Borough Council Housing Strategy.

(b) Economic Development Strategy 2023 - 27 49 - 75

A Cabinet report of the Head of Economic Development and Regeneration to present an updated Economic Development Strategy for the Borough for the period 2024 – 2027.

9. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY - CABINET RESPONSE 76 - 77

A report of the Cabinet setting out its responses to recommendations of the Committee on pre-decision scrutiny items.

10. SCRUTINY PANELS 78 - 86

A report of the Director of Finance, Governance and Contracts to consider updates on the work of scrutiny panels.

11. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 87 - 91

A report of the Director of Finance, Governance and Contracts enabling the

Commission to review and agree the scrutiny work programme.

12. SCRUTINY COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME

92 - 105

A report of the Director of Finance, Governance and Contracts setting out the list of forthcoming Executive Key Decisions and the group's Work Programme for consideration, in order to identify items for future scrutiny.

For information, further meetings of the Group are scheduled as follows:

4th March 2024

2nd April 2024

29th April 2024

SCRUTINY QUESTIONS

What topics to choose?

- What difference will scrutiny make?
- Is this an area of concern – public/performance/risk register?
- Is this a corporate priority?
- Could scrutiny lead to improvements?
- What are the alternatives to pre-decision scrutiny?

Pre-decision scrutiny

- What is Cabinet being asked to agree?
- Why?
- How does this relate to the overall objective? Which is ...?
- What risks have been identified and how are they being addressed?
- What are the financial implications?

- What other options have been considered?
- Who has been consulted and what were the results?
- Will the decision Cabinet is being asked to take affect other policies, practices etc.?

Basic Questions

- Why are you/we doing this?
- Why are you/we doing it in this way?
- How do you/we know you are making a difference?
- How are priorities and targets set?
- How do you/we compare?
- What examples of good practice exist elsewhere?