

POLICY SCRUTINY GROUP – 13TH NOVEMBER 2018

Report of the Head of Strategic Support

ITEM 9 PROGRESS WITH PANEL WORK

Purpose of Report

To update the Group on the current position regarding scrutiny panels.

Background

The Scrutiny Management Board is responsible for establishing scrutiny panels and determining their scope, terms of reference and timing, and considering and approving recommendations from scrutiny panels. The Policy Scrutiny Group is responsible for monitoring the progress and methods of scrutiny panels against the work programme and timetable agreed by the Scrutiny Management Board.

Current Position

At its meeting on 24th January 2018, the Scrutiny Management Board commissioned a scrutiny panel on the Council's five-year housing land supply. The panel reported back to the Scrutiny Management Board on 24th October 2018 and the panel's report will be considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 15th November 2018.

Also at its meeting on 24th October 2018 the Board considered a proposal to establish a scrutiny panel to consider the likely impacts of the planned waste incinerator near Junction 23 of the M1 motorway. Having considered a proposed scope document, the Board decided not to establish a panel because although there would have been benefits in establishing a scrutiny panel, in particular in relation to engaging with the public and making information more accessible, there were limits to what scrutiny of the matter could achieve given that decisions about the establishment of the incinerator had already been made and regulation of the site would be the responsibility of the Environment Agency rather than the Council.

There are therefore currently no scrutiny panels, other than the Budget Scrutiny Panel, at the current time.

Background Papers: None

Officer to contact: Michael Hopkins
Democratic Services Officer
(01509) 634969
michael.hopkins@charnwood.gov.uk