



## Report of the Chair

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 13 April 2021

### Membership of Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups

<b>Purpose:</b>	The Scrutiny Programme Committee is responsible for appointing members and conveners to the various Scrutiny Panels / Working Groups that are established. This report advises of relevant matters that need to be considered.
<b>Content:</b>	This report is provided to facilitate any changes that need to be made.
<b>Councillors are being asked to:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• agree the membership of Panels and Working Groups reported, and any other changes necessary.</li></ul>
<b>Lead Councillor:</b>	Councillor Peter Black, Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee
<b>Lead Officer &amp; Report Author:</b>	Brij Madahar, Scrutiny Team Leader Tel: 01792 637257 E-mail: <a href="mailto:brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk">brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk</a>
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Debbie Smith
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Paul Cridland

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 In accordance with Council report 18 October 2012, when current scrutiny arrangements were agreed, the Scrutiny Programme Committee is responsible for appointing members and conveners to the various Scrutiny Panels / Working Groups that it establishes.

#### 2. Proposed Revision to Current Scrutiny Panel / Working Group Membership

2.1 None.

### **3. Performance Panel Conveners**

- 3.1 In accordance with the Committee's wishes, Performance Panels are expected to confirm / appoint conveners at their first meeting of the municipal year, and report this to the Committee. The Committee should note that the Natural Environment Performance Panel met on 22 March and confirmed Councillor Peter Jones as Panel convener for the 2020/21 municipal year.

### **4. Guiding Principles**

- 4.1 When determining membership / conveners or agreeing any changes there are some key considerations for the Committee:
- It is necessary for more than one political group to be represented on each Panel / Working Group.
  - These bodies also need to be of a manageable size in terms of team working and effective questioning.
  - To ensure that all political groups have opportunities and are engaged.
  - Good scrutiny practice places emphasis on respect for minority party wishes around both chairing of such bodies and the work programme.
  - Being fair and balanced in the appointment of conveners, when there is interest from more than one councillor, e.g. giving opportunity to those who have not acted as convener previously.
  - The Committee should reflect on the existing 'balance' of conveners to help inform future appointments.
  - A minimum of three members should be present at all Panel / Working Group meetings.

### **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no specific legal implications raised by this report.

### **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 There are no specific financial implications raised by this report.

**Background Papers:** None

**Appendices:** None