



## Report of the Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 15 November 2022

### 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
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<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Debbie Smith
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Amanda Thomas

#### 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 are established.

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

- 2.1 Road Safety Working Group – REMOVE Councillor Will Thomas.

#### 3. Other Matters

- 3.1 Scrutiny Panels / Working Groups have the ability to co-opt non-voting members that will add value to their work e.g., reaching out for expert

knowledge or skills from others. A protocol for co-option was agreed by the Committee in 2014 and, adding to this, a guide for co-opted members was agreed in 2016 to aid them in their role.

- 3.2 The Committee should note that the Adult Services Performance Panel has agreed to renew its co-option of Mr. Tony Beddow who has expertise in health services.

#### **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