

Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel

Terms of Reference

1. Why this topic is important:

- Scrutiny of Public Services Boards by local scrutiny committees is a statutory requirement set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and associated statutory guidance.
- Scrutiny plays an important role; ensuring that partnership working is accountable to elected local councillors.
- Swansea Public Services Board is the overarching strategic partnership of public service providers in the area – scrutiny of this partnership supports the scrutiny of service performance more generally.

2. What is the purpose of the Panel?

The overarching purpose of the panel is to consider:

What difference is Swansea Public Services Board making for citizens?

The remit of the Panel includes only the activities of the Public Services Board as a partnership and excludes scrutiny of individual partner organisations.

3. What are the possible lines of inquiry?

The Panel will support the Scrutiny Programme Committee to scrutinise the Public Services Board. The Act says that:

Each Local Authority must ensure its overview and scrutiny committee has the power to:

- a) Review or scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the public services board;*
- b) Review or scrutinise the board's governance arrangements;*
- c) Make reports or recommendations to the board regarding its functions or governance arrangements;*
- d) Consider matters relating to the board as the Welsh Ministers may refer to it and report to the Welsh Ministers accordingly; and*
- e) Carry out other functions in relation to the board that are imposed on it by the Act.*

In addition to these functions the Panel's Lines of Inquiry can include (but not be limited to), the following:

1. The effectiveness of the Wellbeing Assessment
2. The effectiveness of the Wellbeing Plan
3. How well the Public Services Board is meeting its well-being duties, and is considering the seven well-being goals and five ways of working
4. The effectiveness of performance measurement arrangements

5. The level of commitment from individual partners to the work of the Public Services Board
6. The effectiveness of the Public Services Board in communicating its work, objectives and outcomes to its stakeholders
7. The effectiveness of the Public Services Board in addressing the issue of pooled funding to tackle priorities

These Lines of Inquiry, some of which follow from the work of the Local Service Board Scrutiny Panel, are to be considered when the Panel develops its workplan.

5. Who will sit on this Panel?

The Panel will be a multi-agency panel with a core membership of 13 including seven scrutiny councillors and six invited non-executives from local partner agencies. The scrutiny councillors will provide links to the committee and performance panels. The invited partner non-executives will be from the organisations listed in the Act as statutory members and statutory invited participants (excluding the Council and the Welsh Ministers).

The seven scrutiny councillors will be:

Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee (Convener)	Vice Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee (Convener)
Convener (or representative from) the Schools Performance Panel	Convener (or representative from) the Child and Family Services Performance Panel
Convener (or representative from) the Service Improvement and Finance Performance Panel	Convener (or representative from) the Adult Services Performance Panel (proposed - to be confirmed by the committee)
Convener (or representative from) the Development & Regeneration Performance Panel	

The non-executive members of partner organisations who will be invited to join the Panel are as follows:

Public Services Board Statutory Members / Invited Participants	Invitee
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board (Statutory Member)	Non-executive Board Member
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (Statutory Member)	Member of the Performance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee , Mid and West Wales Fire Authority
Natural Resources Wales (Statutory Member)	Non-executive Board Member
The Chief Constable of South Wales	Member of the South Wales Police and

Police (Invited Participant)	Crime Panel
The South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner (Invited Participant)	
Probation Service Representative (Invited Participant)	Non-executive (tbc)
Swansea Council of Voluntary Services (Invited Participant)	Non-executive management Committee Member

In addition to the core membership the panel will be entitled to co-opt additional members on a temporary basis the length of which to be determined by the Panel. Co-optees should not be acting in an executive capacity for any of the Local Service Board partner agencies and may only be invited to join the Panel with the unanimous agreement of Panel members.

6. How will the Panel report to the Scrutiny Programme Committee and elsewhere?

The Panel will report via letters from the Convener to the Chair of Swansea Public Services Board. These letters, together with responses from the Chair of the Local Service Board, will be placed on the appropriate agenda of the Scrutiny Programme Committee. In addition it is expected that these letters will be formally considered by Swansea Public Services Board at full meetings.

The Panel will also provide a progress report to the Scrutiny Programme Committee no less than twice a year.

7. Public Engagement

The Panel will seek to gather evidence from the public as an ongoing aspect of its work.

Meetings of the Panel will be open to the public to observe and an item for public questions will be included on each agenda.

To promote public awareness updates from the Panel will be provided through the Swansea Scrutiny website and shared through social media.

Letters and agenda packs will be published via the scrutiny publications page.