



## Report of the Chair

Scrutiny Programme Committee – 12 August 2019

### 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 Mary Jones, 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>	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 Development & Regeneration Performance Panel.

ADD Councillor Philip Downing

Following this change the revised membership of this Panel will be 16:

**Labour Councillors: 5**

Philip Downing	Peter Jones
Joe Hale	Mike White
Terry Hennegan	

**Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 7**

Peter Black	<b>Jeff Jones (CONVENER)</b>
Wendy Fitzgerald	Mary Jones
Chris Holley	Susan Jones
Lynda James	

**Conservative Councillors: 4**

Steve Gallagher	Paxton Hood-Williams
David Helliwell	Will Thomas

**3. Performance Panel Conveners**

- 3.1 In accordance with the Committee's wishes, and since the last Committee meeting, the following Performance Panel has met and appointed a convener for the 2019/20 municipal year, noted as follows:

<b>Performance Panel</b>	<b>Convener</b>
Development & Regeneration (17 July)	Councillor Jeff Jones (re-appointed)

As with the other Performance Panel conveners, Councillor Jeff Jones will continue to attend Committee meetings as co-opted member, and be a member of the Public Services Board Scrutiny Performance Panel.

NB – the first meeting of the Natural Environment Performance Panel will be arranged as soon as possible, in order that a convener can be appointed and work plan discussed / agreed.

**4. New Panels and Working Groups**

- 4.1 Following agreement of a new work programme expressions of interest were sought from all non-executive councillors to lead and/or participate in the following panels and working groups:

- Inquiry Panel
  - Procurement
- Working Groups
  - Brexit
  - Staff Health & Well-being
  - Road Safety

4.2 The interest from councillors is reported for agreement (see **Appendix 1**).

## **5. Guiding Principles**

5.1 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 meetings.

## **6. Membership List of Existing Scrutiny Panels / Working Groups**

6.1 A complete membership list of existing Scrutiny Panels and Working Groups is attached for the Committee's information - see **Appendix 2**.

## **7. Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no specific legal implications raised by this report.

## **8. Financial Implications**

8.1 There are no specific financial implications raised by this report.

**Background Papers:** None

**Appendices:** None