

# MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 4

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

9 NOVEMBER 2015

<h3>ATTENDANCE OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AT THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD</h3>
---

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide information in respect of the scheduled attendance of Members of the Executive at the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB).

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is **RECOMMENDED** as follows:
  1. That Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board are appraised of the work of the Executive Member for Finance and Governance.
  2. That Board Members question the Executive Member in respect of her portfolio and any issues which arise at the meeting.

#### BACKGROUND

3. Arrangements are in place in the Council to ensure that potential issues for consideration via the scrutiny process (i.e. by the Overview and Scrutiny Board or the relevant scrutiny panel) are highlighted and brought forward as necessary.
4. Overview and Scrutiny also has a responsibility to “hold the Executive to account.” This can happen in a number of different ways and at different stages in the decision-making process, for example
  - Before decisions are made - such as by examining policy options or considering issues included in the Council’s forward work programme.
  - Immediately after decisions are made, but prior to their implementation, through the call-in process; and
  - After decisions are implemented, through monitoring and evaluation of their effects.

5. Overview and Scrutiny can be involved in holding the Executive to account as a whole, by using the methods outlined in the preceding paragraph, or on an individual basis. The OSB's role in this area has been strengthened in recent years, with arrangements having been made for individual Members of the Executive to attend OSB.
6. This has given OSB Members the opportunity to hear directly from each Executive Member on matters such as their aims and aspirations, progress made, objectives and priorities and also any emerging issues or pressure areas relating to their portfolio. The process has also presented an opportunity for OSB to highlight and question any issues of concern or difficulty (for example in respect of service areas where targets have not been reached or where objectives have not been achieved) and to question what action will be taken to address such issues.
7. Arrangements have been made for Councillor N Walker - Executive Member for Finance and Governance to attend the meeting. Details of the relevant Executive portfolio are attached at **Appendix 1**.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8. There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

**Contact Officer:**

Alan Crawford

Scrutiny Officer

Legal and Democratic Services

Telephone: 01642 729707(direct line)

e mail: alan\_crawford@middlesbrough.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIO	SCOPE OF PORTFOLIO
<p><b>Executive Member for Finance and Governance</b></p> <p>(Lead ADs: Assistant Director, Finance &amp; Investment and Assistant Director, Organisation &amp; Governance)</p>	<p><b>Scope</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Human Resources</li> <li>▪ Legal Services</li> <li>▪ Democratic Services</li> <li>▪ ICT</li> <li>▪ Business Continuity</li> <li>▪ Communications</li> <li>▪ Policy, Performance and Information</li> <li>▪ Equality and Diversity</li> <li>▪ Risk Management</li> <li>▪ Project and Programme Management</li> <li>▪ Financial probity</li> <li>▪ Value for Money</li> <li>▪ Teesside Designated Authorities Budget</li> <li>▪ Commissioning</li> <li>▪ Investment Programme</li> <li>▪ Change Programme Issues</li> <li>▪ Asset management</li> <li>▪ Loans and Investments</li> </ul> <p><b>Policy Framework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strategic Plan</li> <li>▪ Integrated Regional Strategy</li> <li>▪ Sub Regional Strategy</li> <li>▪ Council's Budget Strategy</li> <li>▪ Capital Strategy</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Plans and Strategies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum Standard for Performance Management</li> <li>▪ Corporate Data Quality Policy</li> <li>▪ Corporate Equality and Diversity Policy</li> <li>▪ People Strategy</li> <li>▪ Implementing Electronic Government</li> <li>▪ Central Services Plan (where relevant to the portfolio)</li> <li>▪ Corporate Risk Management Strategy</li> <li>▪ Strategic Risk Register</li> <li>▪ Corporate Business Continuity Plan</li> <li>▪ Health and Safety Plan</li> </ul>

- Annual Audit and Inspection Letter
- Internal and External Audit
- Financial Resilience Assessment
- Medium Term Financial Plan
- Treasury Management
- VFM Strategy

**Service Functions**

- Community Councils
- Corporate Performance Management
- Data Quality Champion
- Human Resources
- Information Services
- Member Support Services
- Risk Management and Business Continuity Champion
- Health and Safety
- Registrars
- Town Twinning
- Design Champion
- Financial Services including VFM
- Revenue, Investment and monitoring
- Risk and Insurance
- Internal and external Audit issues
- Corporate Legal Matters
- Mouchel – Strategic Management and Service Performance
- Strategic Procurement
- Housing Benefits and Council Tax
- IT including E Government issues
- Responsibility (jointly with Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Regeneration) for DigitalCity Business Trading Ltd including appointment of suitable Directors to act on the Council's behalf.
- Estates and Valuations

In circumstances where it is considered that an Executive Member would have a prejudicial interest or by virtue of the fact that they are a member of the Thirteen Housing Group, that the matter will be referred to the Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Regeneration.