

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report

2017/18



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INTRODUCTION

This is the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2017/18 which summarises the work of Scrutiny over the year with a focus on the impact and outcomes for Wirral residents. In 2017/18 the scrutiny function was restructured with the People Committee discontinued and two new committees Children and Families and Adult Health and Care established to provide enhanced oversight to these key areas. The approach of Scrutiny has been developed to embed the new arrangements, ensuring a valuable contribution to good governance and delivering value for money. In order to achieve this in 2017/18 the Scrutiny function has developed work in these key areas:

- Dedicated scrutiny of the Children's Services improvement journey, joint working with the Wirral Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) and enhanced Member communication with the Improvement Board
- The introduction of Reality Check visit for Members to undertake site visits on a particular service area, speaking to frontline staff and service users with a specific focus on targeted areas in Children's Services
- Increasing engagement of partner agencies in scrutiny including health partners through the new Adult Health and Care Committee and engagement with a number of third sector organisations for scrutiny of Universal Credit at dedicated workshops
- Joint working across committees to ensure effective scrutiny of cross-cutting themes
- Dedicated scrutiny of the Council's transformation programme
- Setting clear objectives for scrutiny work to have the maximum impact
- Making use of pre-decision scrutiny to influence and improve decision-making
- Joint working across the Liverpool City region to scrutinise Combined Authority initiatives and ensuring inclusion of a Wirral perspective.

The four committees have initiated six scrutiny reviews, two of which has been completed, with the remaining four scheduled for completion as part of the 2018/19 municipal year.

There were five additional one-off sessions for the consideration of matters such as emerging transformation proposals and the 2018/19 budget proposals. Committees also received a total of 148 presentations, reports and updates, dealt with seven Notices of Motion and convened four additional meetings to review decisions that had either been called-in or where a special meeting had been requested.

Further details of the breadth and scope of the work carried out by the scrutiny function can be found in the appendices to this report.

This report highlights the key successes of 2017/18 setting out the task and finish work completed in-year including the outcomes and impact of this work. The report also sets out the key priorities for scrutiny in Wirral for the coming municipal year.

CHAIRS REFLECTIONS

Councillor Tom Usher – Chair of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee

The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee was formed last year, after the publication of the Ofsted report into children's services. Since then all Members of the committee have had the opportunity to work collaboratively and take part in the formation of a busy work programme.

Since the Ofsted report on Children's Services in September 2016, there has been substantial and ongoing service transformation and investment in areas that sit under this committee's remit. Because of this, we have included an Improvement Journey Update from the Head of Service as a standing item on each of our meetings over the past year. Members were also given the chance to make inquiries about the additional funding and its proposed uses in children's social services at a budget workshop on 11th January 2018.

It is also important for Members to have a good understanding of the services they intend to scrutinise, and to be able to gather information from a number of sources. The committee decided to form a programme of Reality Check visits, gave Members a chance to focus their inquiries on a particular service area, and speak to frontline staff. The visits took place at the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub), Leaving Care Team, Early Childhood Service and the Performance Dashboard.

The committee also recognised that the various boards and organisations responsible for children's services needed arrangements in place to ensure effective communication and information sharing. A workshop was held on 23rd August 2017 between the WSCB and the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The outcome was a better mutual understanding of each organisation's responsibilities, and the drafting of a working protocol between the two bodies to ensure a better working relationship.

Pre-decision scrutiny is also an important tool of the overview and scrutiny committee. The All-Age Disability and Mental Health Transformation Project was a service area transformation relevant to both the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Adult and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A joint workshop was held on 2nd August 2017 to provide a number of recommendations before this report went to cabinet.

There is one piece of ongoing Task and Finish work in the form of the Statutory Care Plan Review. This is designed to test the effectiveness and timeliness of statutory care plans. The review will also look at the effectiveness of special guardianship orders. The scoping exercise for this piece of work has already been carried out, with evidence sessions taking place in October and December. Children's services is a large and complex service area and I would like to thank all Members of the committee for their dedication over the past year, especially vice-chair Cllr Moira McLaughlin whose experience and support has been much appreciated.

Councillor Julie MacManus – Chair of the Adult Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee

This was the first year of the new Adult Health & Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and my first year as a Committee Chair. Under the new arrangements, the Committee has continued to deliver a comprehensive work programme and I would like to thank all Members for the support they have shown me in my role as Chair.

This year as a Committee, we have further developed our partnership approach to effective Scrutiny which helps in our role of holding our Health Partners to account. The Committee has been dedicated to collaborating effectively with the many health partners throughout Wirral, to ensure the best services are available for residents – given the increasing demand and budget constraints. The Committee has also continued to ensure that the Wirral Plan pledges are delivered; taking a particular interest in the shared partnership vision around the All Age Disability Strategy and improving outcomes for Wirral residents. Towards the beginning of the municipal year in June 2017, Members were pleased to be provided with key updates and achievements against each of the priority areas within the Strategy and gaining further insight on the development of the Wirral Plan pledge.

The committee has worked on effectively supporting and scrutinising local delivery of the NHS 'Five Year Forward View'. In February 2018, I was pleased to chair a special meeting of the Committee to focus on the scope of the Health and Care Partnership for Cheshire and Merseyside's Strategic Programmes, Place Based Care Systems and their Communications & Public Partnership Engagement Plans. This was an opportunity for Members to continue their dialogue with the Partnership, and to remain engaged as the programme moves forward.

Colleagues from all parties have showed great commitment and enthusiasm to developing an active work programme throughout the year. There has been a collective will to continue to improve the scrutiny work the Committee undertakes and as a result we have seen some fantastic outcomes, adding very tangible value.

An example of note includes the excellent work around Urgent Care with pre-consultation briefings taking place for the Scrutiny Committee. This provided Members with a thorough insight of this important issue, with the input from Scrutiny supporting the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) in shaping its development going forward. Another key issue this year has been the temporary closure of the Eastham Walk In clinic, with Members of the Committee challenging the reasoning behind the closure and, not only helping to ensure that services like these remain available, but also that health providers uphold their statutory responsibility to report significant changes in service delivery.

Once again, I would like to extend my thanks to all Members, officers and stakeholders for their contribution to the great scrutiny work undertaken this year. I would also like to give my personal thanks to my Vice Chair, Cllr Moira McLaughlin, who has been extremely supportive in my first year. Her experience and knowledge has been invaluable.

Councillor Mike Sullivan – Chair of the Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee

I would like to thank all Members who sat on the Committee during the last Municipal Year. In particular, I would like to thank the Party Spokespersons for the Committee, Councillor Dave Mitchell and Councillor Steve Williams, for their collaboration into shaping the Committee's agendas across the course of the year.

Universal Credit has come to the forefront of the Committee's agenda and an initial report was presented by Council officers at a committee meeting in November 2017 following Full Service for Wirral. At a meeting of all the Chairs of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees, we agreed that it was important for Members to keep Universal Credit on the scrutiny agenda moving forward. We arranged two scrutiny workshops for all Overview & Scrutiny Members and invited both Council officers and representatives from several third sector organisations to talk about their early experiences of the impact and emerging impact following Full Service roll-out. Members welcomed these workshops as they were not only informative but highlighted challenges going forward for residents in Wirral. We will ensure that more workshops will be held in the municipal year where the impacts will be better realised and Members can help influence change and better outcomes for Wirral's residents.

The Committee is committed to ensuring that pledge updates are received to ensure Wirral is delivering the Wirral Plan. Members received an excellent presentation from officers around the Transport Strategy and were very encouraged with the work in this area. Over the years, Members have also taken a keen interest in road safety and a scrutiny review was carried out with officers to help inform Wirral's developing Road Safety Strategy. A number of reports and a Notice of Motion have previously been presented to Committee and Members were very keen to ensure that any identified issues were addressed and that Wirral has a Road Safety Plan that is fit for purpose.

Committee also received an encouraging presentation on Wirral's commercialisation agenda. This was well received by Members of all political parties. It is vital that the Council looks at all the ways additional income can be generated, considering the financial pressures on Wirral Council to continually deliver services. It was intended that pre-decision scrutiny would be carried out on the developing Commercial Strategy in the municipal year but was deferred until the proposals and draft strategy had been developed. As with previous years, pre-decision scrutiny remains a key activity in the drive to help influence Cabinet and improve outcomes for Wirral.

Committee has continued to receive updates on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) following the appointment of the directly elected Mayor for the LCRCA. As a standing item on the Committee's agenda, this has developed our knowledge and understanding of the wider issues which may impact Wirral at a local level. The work of the LCRCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee has also been reported to Committee, including the progress on scrutiny reviews and the outcomes of these.

Councillor Paul Stuart – Chair of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

I would like to extend my thanks to Committee Members for the work carried out in the last municipal year and for the collaborative working across all political parties.

A Notice of Motion was referred to Committee Members in relation to the condition of Wirral's sports pavilions within our parks, sports grounds and open spaces. As a committee, we agreed to follow up on the Notice of Motion with a visit to a number of sports pavilions so Members could independently evaluate conditions in Wirral sports pavilions and engage directly with frontline staff. Undertaking a site visit was a new approach to scrutiny for this committee and was welcomed by all Members who took part and actively engaged with front line staff. A number of important recommendations were made to the Cabinet Member for Environment, including proactively identifying opportunities for external funding and exploring income streams through advertising or sponsorship.

The Committee held a Special Meeting to consider a letter from the Secretary of State seeking further information on plan-making in Wirral because of the Council's failure to adopt a 2004 Act Local Plan. Scrutiny Members agreed that the length of time taken to develop a Local Plan was a concern and Committee will be monitoring its development moving forward with a standing item on the agenda.

The Committee was also very interested in ensuring the Council is delivering on the Wirral Plan Pledges and Members received a detailed update on the 'Attractive Local Environment for Wirral Residents' Pledge. Members of the Committee appreciated the Cabinet Member's attendance to respond to specific questions from Members regarding the delivery of this pledge.

One piece of Task & Finish work is currently ongoing in relation to Modern Slavery. With the adoption of the Council to implement Local Government Association (LGA) guidance on Modern Slavery, the Review Panel will also inform on Wirral's draft strategy as pre-decision scrutiny as part of the work carried out.

I would like to again extend my thanks to all Committee Members for their contribution to scrutiny last year.

OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS 2017/18

During 2017/18 the scrutiny function continued to develop its role in support of good corporate governance; the key achievements include:

Children's Services Improvement Journey

In 2017/18 scrutiny was further developed in relation to scrutiny of the improvement journey. There was an increased focus at committee meetings with an in depth report provided at each meeting by the Director of Children's Services to ensure all questions could be answered. This led to the development of a protocol with the WSCB to improve O&S of safeguarding arrangements. The work also led to the reality checks of different areas of children's services providing the committee with first hand insight of the workings of children's services, enabling Members to triangulate evidence from a number of different sources. This work is laying the foundations to ensure effective scrutiny is in place for future arrangements within this evolving landscape.

Holding Health Partners to Account

In 2017/18 through the new Health and Care O&S Committee improved scrutiny was developed in regard to holding health partners to account. Examples include repeat prescriptions where reports were presented in relation to the patient perspective with further follow up work regarding specific focus on vulnerable groups. Work was also carried out by committee on the on the local delivery of the Five Year Forward View where Committee views were fed into the planning process. Briefings were held on Urgent Care, ensuring the Committee were fully up to speed on this complex area before the formal consultations commence. Through this, working relationships with health partners were improved which will enhance the work of the committee moving forward.

Reality Check Visits

Reality Check visits gave Members the opportunity to undertake site visits and meet with frontline staff in order for them to increase their knowledge and understanding and to enable them to triangulate evidence from a range of sources. A number of Reality Check visits have taken place in the 2017/18 municipal year, including visits to the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) and some of Wirral's sports pavilions.

Wirral Plan

Scrutiny has maintained a clear focus on supporting the effective delivery of the Wirral Plan. Each committee reviews the pledges under their identified Wirral Plan theme with opportunity to receive detailed updates from Pledge leads on progress and challenges in specific areas. For example Business O&S reviewed progress in delivery of the Transport Strategy with a particular focus on road safety where a scrutiny review was carried out to help inform Wirral's developing Road Safety Strategy.

Scrutiny of the Transformation Programme

The Centre for Public Scrutiny promotes the effective involvement of scrutiny councillors in considering and debating major council transformation plans to make the end product more robust. In Wirral this approach is now embedded as pre-decision scrutiny of development proposals providing an opportunity to influence decisions on major transformation projects affecting all residents of the borough. For example a scrutiny workshop in relation to the Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services Transformation Programme was delivered to Members in September 2017 and pre-decision scrutiny of the All Age Disability Service transformation developments in August 2017. Feedback from these sessions has been considered in the development of business cases presented to Cabinet.

Performance Monitoring

The approach to performance reporting was embedded and enhanced. Wirral Plan Quarterly pledge themed performance reports were provided to Scrutiny Committees to enable performance to be continuously monitored and reviewed. For the new Adult Health and Care Committee a partnership performance report was developed with the oversight of Members and is provided quarterly. At the same quarterly meetings financial information was provided to ensure committees could provide oversight of finance and savings delivery.

Cross Party Collaboration

Committee Chairs continued with their practice of holding agenda setting meetings with party spokespersons prior to formal committee meetings. This provided the opportunity for all groups to influence the shape of agendas and the scrutiny work programme throughout the year. Joint Chairs' and Party Spokespersons meetings have also been convened to focus on areas for improvement and development.

Cross-Committee Joint Working

Committee chairs meet regularly throughout the year to share individual committee work plans and approaches to ensure all opportunities for cross committee working and ensuring no duplication is in place. In 2017/18 this approach was particularly effective in scrutinising Universal credit where Members from all committees jointly attended two workshop sessions with senior council officers and representatives from the third sector, including Citizens Advice and Magenta. The Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee was designated as the committee with oversight of Universal Credit. Cross-Committee joint working was also effective in enhancing the pre-decision scrutiny of the All Age Disability Service transformation developments.

Budget Scrutiny

The 2018/19 budget proposals received comprehensive pre-decision scrutiny through a series of workshops set up for each committee. These sessions influenced a number of budget decisions, for example encouraging the Cabinet to revise proposals to introduce car parking charges in various locations around the borough, and suggesting an increase to the charge for additional garden waste bins. Member feedback on the sessions will help shape the approach for budget proposal discussion with committees in 2018.

The Scrutiny Work Programme

To improve scrutiny work planning Members were supported to prioritise areas of work which would add the most value and optimise the available resources to provide an efficient and deliverable work programme for each committee. The following principles were adopted by Members at work programme planning sessions to assist with topic selection:

Principles for Prioritisation	
Wirral Plan	Does the topic have a direct link with one of the 2020 pledges?
	Will the review lead to improved outcomes for Wirral residents?
Public Interest	Does the topic have particular importance for Wirral Residents?
Transformation	Will the review support the transformation of the Council?
Financial Significance	Is the subject matter an area of significant spend or potential saving?
	Will the review support the Council in achieving its savings targets?
Timeliness / Effectiveness	Is this the most appropriate time for this topic to be scrutinised?
	Will the review be a good use of Council resources?

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wirral has three Members sitting on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee and a work programme was completed in 2017/18. Members undertook reviews on the LCRC Spatial Strategy, Air Quality and Universal Credit & Welfare Reform. The Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee received regular updates of the scrutiny activity carried out to help inform the work programme.

Member Development

Scrutiny Members have access to an intranet page including a set of tools covering all aspects of scrutiny such as a Scrutiny Toolkit, a scrutiny Library and easy access to published scrutiny reviews. A Scrutiny training session on delivering effective scrutiny is provided to all new Members. In addition, regular updates, training opportunities and best practice guides from the Centre for Public Scrutiny and other scrutiny networks are circulated to Members.

<http://wbcnet.admin.ad.wirral.gov.uk/governance/scrutiny>

THE IMPACT OF SCRUTINY IN 2017/18

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny Committee Meetings	Scope
5 regular committee meetings	<p>To review and scrutinise the strategies and plans associated with children and families within the People theme of the Wirral Plan. To review and scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services under this remit. Support/Governance of the Council’s response to the outcome of the 2016 Ofsted inspection and children’s Services improvement journey.</p> <p>This has included a combination of standing items and items identified by the Chair and Party Spokespersons for committee agendas. See appendix 3 for the full list of reports received during the year.</p>

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Safeguarding governance - Scrutiny’s relationship with the Wirral Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) and other safeguarding bodies	To strengthen the relationship between O&S and the WSCB to avoid duplication and ensure prioritised joint working.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through a joint workshop a protocol for joint working was established. • Improved contact between the two bodies. • Independent WSCB chair was accountable for delivering the WSCB annual report which led to improved scrutiny. • Agreement for pre-decision scrutiny in 2018 of new safeguarding arrangements.
All Age Disability Transformation Workshop – joint with Adult Health and Care Committee	Pre-decision scrutiny of the developing proposals for future delivery of the all age disability service to ensure that the full Business Case reflected Members views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members had opportunity to feedback their view prior to cabinet decision. • Areas of focus for the report included adaptations to properties for people with disabilities (including the relationship between occupational therapists and the social landlords) and the process for the referral by GPs of patients with mental health issues to the relevant service.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
<p>Reality Checks – Visits to a range of services to raise member awareness of issues, and to engage with service users and frontline officers. These visits allow a greater understanding of key concerns.</p>	<p>The committee agreed 4 reality checks in priority areas in children’s services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) • Leaving Care Service • Early Childhood Service – Seacombe Children’s Centre • Performance dashboard 	<p>Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members were reassured that deployment and increase of social workers within the MASH on a permanent basis appears to have created a more stable working environment and enabled the application of more consistent processes /thresholds. • Members highlighted special guardianship as an area for further review by children’s services. • Members requested further consideration be given to identifying a range of performance data which would enable scrutiny Members to monitor performance relating to the safeguarding of children on an on-going basis which is under development by children’s services. <p>Leaving Care Service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members were reassured that the service has made good progress towards achieving the recommendations outlined by Ofsted during their inspection in July 2016 • Members urged that further progress is required on individualising and improving the quality of Pathway Plans, to ensure that the young person’s voice and wishes are reflected. <p>Early Childhood Service - Seacombe Children’s Centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members wanted the service to ensure that all opportunities for integration of health with children’s services would be pursued where appropriate to enhance services for residents. <p>Performance dashboard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members were reassured of the advantages of the availability of data and ability to monitor more effectively through the new dashboard however it was noted that further developments are required to optimise the effectiveness of dashboard use.

ADULT HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny Committee Meetings	Scope
5 regular committee meetings plus an additional full committee meeting to scrutinise the local delivery of the 5 year forward view (NHS England strategic document)	To review and scrutinise the strategies and plans associated with Adult Health and Care within the People theme of the Wirral Plan. To fulfil the statutory duty to undertake the scrutiny of delivery of local health services. To review and scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services under this remit. This has included a combination of standing items and items identified by the Chair and Party Spokespersons for committee agendas. See appendix 3 for the full list of reports received during the year.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
All Age Disability Transformation Workshop – joint with Children and Families Committee	Pre-decision scrutiny of the developing proposals for future delivery of the all age disability service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members had the opportunity to influence proposals prior to cabinet decision. • The Full Business Case was subsequently developed to ensure that key points made by Elected Members, detailed in the workshop report, were addressed.
Quality Accounts of health providers	Scrutinising the draft quality account reports of the four local health providers. Wirral Community Trust, Wirral University Teaching Hospital, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Trust and Clatterbridge Cancer Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The views of the O&S committee are provided to provider organisations and The Department of Health. • The relationship between the committee and the provider organisations is enhanced. • Improves member insight of key issues in the delivery of health services in Wirral. • The work can feed into the committees work programme to ensure the right areas are prioritised e.g. child mental health. • Following member’s scrutiny through the Quality Account performance feedback sessions, Wirral Community Trust agreed to

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
		<p>amend their account to include a suggestion by Members regarding the closure of the Eastham Walk In Centre. This demonstrated the effective approach taken by Scrutiny in achieving change.</p>
Urgent Care Workshop	Scrutiny of the background to planning for development of Urgent Care proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide Members with insight on Urgent Care development to ensure Members were equipped to respond effectively to forthcoming consultation. • Member feedback was taken on board by the CCG to help shape developments.

BUSINESS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny Committee Meetings	Scope
5 regular committee meetings	To review and scrutinise the strategies and plans associated with the Business theme of the Wirral Plan. To review and scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services under the Business Committee remit. This has included a combination of standing items and items identified by the Chair and Party Spokespersons for committee agendas. See appendix 3 for the full list of reports received during the year.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
<p>Universal Credit Workshops - This was commissioned by the Chairs of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees and conducted over two scrutiny workshops with key senior officers and representatives from a number of third sector organisations in attendance.</p>	<p>The objective was to understand the early impact and emerging issues of Universal Credit on residents in Wirral and the impact on operational services for the Council. Workshops were held in February 2018 and were open to all Overview & Scrutiny Members.</p> <p>Senior officers and organisational representatives delivered an overview of their service area, highlighting their initial observations and emerging issues, before the workshops were opened up for a question and answer sessions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members and Officers have a better understanding of the early impact of Universal Credit. • Better understanding and engagement with third sector organisations involved in Universal Credit. • Further scrutiny activity is better informed in developing the work programme.
<p>Road Safety Review - This was commissioned by the Committee following a number of concerns relating to Road Safety.</p>	<p>The key objective was to help inform the development of Wirral's Road Safety Plan. Additionally, the Review Panel wanted to understand the approach taken to road safety, the funding implications and the role of partners in delivery. The review was conducted through an evidence session with Senior Officers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wirral will deliver a Road Safety plan that is fit for purpose. • Enhanced performance reporting for Members will be implemented.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny - The LCRCA Scrutiny Panel convened four times over the 2017/18 Municipal Year.	The panel carries out scrutiny reviews into areas of strategic importance for the people of the Liverpool City Region. During 2017/18 the Scrutiny Panel completed in-depth scrutiny reviews on the LCRCA Spatial Strategy, Welfare Reform and Air Quality for consideration by the Combined Authority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring Wirral's voice is heard as part of the scrutiny of LCRCA areas of activity.

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny Committee Meetings	Scope
5 regular committee meetings	<p>To review and scrutinise the strategies and plans associated with the Environment theme of the Wirral Plan. To review and scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services under the Environment Committee remit.</p> <p>This has included a combination of standing items and items identified by the Chair and Party Spokespersons for committee agendas. See appendix 3 for the full list of reports received during the year.</p>
Special Meeting to discuss Wirral's Local Plan	Members of the Committee requested a Special Meeting to discuss a letter received by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government which stated that Government had started the formal process of considering intervention for Wirral Council because of Council's failure to adopt the 2004 Local Plan Act. As a result of this meeting, the Environment O&S Committee will receive an update on progress made to adopt a Local Plan as standing item at each Committee meeting.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Reality Visit Check – Sports Pavilions A 'Reality Visit Check' was added to the work programme for Members to visit a	Members undertook a site visit for scrutiny to independently evaluate conditions in Wirral sports pavilions and engage directly with frontline staff. Eight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny supports the development and adoption of the Playing Pitch Strategy. Reassurance that the Council proactively

<p>selection of sports pavilions in Wirral</p>	<p>sites were identified and Members were interested in viewing the facilities at these and to ask questions of officers.</p>	<p>seeks all opportunities to secure external funding to enhance and upgrade the changing facilities at the borough's sports pitches.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services review is better informed as part of the ongoing transformation work.
<p>Transformation Scrutiny - Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services</p>	<p>A workshop was held for Members to review the service development proposals for Leisure, Libraries and Cultural Services, as part of the Council's transformation programme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny influenced a decision taken by Cabinet to explore additional options for each of the individual services in the scope of the review.

PRIORITIES FOR 2018/19

In the coming year the scrutiny function will continue to prioritise supporting the effective delivery of the Wirral Plan and the Council's Transformation Programme.

The scrutiny function will continue to focus on delivering the following outcomes:

- The Council's Executive is held to account
- Partner agencies are held to account
- Good governance is maintained
- Decision-making is improved
- Policy is developed and enhanced
- Service improvements are identified and implemented
- Resident or service user feedback is used to influence change
- Members are informed about the quality or effectiveness of services

In support of the above, the following key areas of focus have been identified for 2018/19:

Seeking Opportunities to Engage Better with Residents

A key aim for the coming year is to improve engagement with service users and local residents, so that their views can be used to influence policy and service improvement. This will be achieved through increased engagement with voluntary organisations, friends groups as well as conducting focus groups and surveys with residents. One key area will be Universal Credit Scrutiny.

On-going Assurance

Scrutiny must be agile and flexible in order to be able to provide effective oversight of services delivered by the Council and its partners. Seeking new ways to conduct scrutiny will support elected Members to scrutinise the broadest range of services in the most efficient way. The use of different tools to carry out scrutiny will optimise the available capacity of each committee. Examples of new assurance methods being considered in the coming year include the use of Clinical Senates - independent health experts who can work with committees to provide specialist advice and guidance.

Closing the Loop and Measuring the Effectiveness of Scrutiny

To achieve tangible impact and make sure the work of scrutiny counts, scrutiny must get better at monitoring progress against its findings and recommendations. To achieve this, scrutiny committees will ensure that progress reports from previous scrutiny reviews are scheduled on committee work programmes. This will require Members to ensure there is adequate space on committee agendas for follow-up reports. This will encourage greater ownership of scrutiny recommendations and will improve accountability regarding their implementation.

Risk Awareness and Scrutiny

Member risk awareness and the effective scrutiny of risk are essential to enable effective scrutiny particularly in times of significant change. Over the course of the municipal year, a number of Members highlighted the need for scrutiny to consider risk as part of the scrutiny work programme.

This year Scrutiny will further develop understanding of risk and risk management through a number of 'Risk awareness sessions'. This approach will help to develop and sustain a member-led risk culture that is not exclusively the domain of Cabinet. Scrutiny will consider, and act on, risk issues that present themselves in respect of organisational risk including major change programmes.

Scrutiny of Finance

Finance Officers have been presenting financial reports to Scrutiny as a standing agenda item throughout the municipal year. For 2018/19, the Scrutiny of finance will be further developed following Member feedback about their desire to have a more pro-active approach in this area. Particular focus will be on the monitoring of proposed budget savings options presented to Members at the budget setting workshops. Scrutiny will look to establish a more pro-active approach, enabling input and challenge throughout the year as Finance Officers provide updates on progress made in achieving the savings previously identified.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: TABLE OF COMPLETED / INITIATED SCRUTINY ACTIVITY IN 2017/18

Item	Format	Committee	Timescale
Wirral's Road Safety Plan	Task & Finish Review	Business O&S	Completed January 2018
Resident Parking	Task & Finish Review	Business O&S	Completed July 2017
Universal Credit	Workshops	Business O&S	Completed February 2018. Report to July 2018 Committee.
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Regional Committee	Business O&S	4 meetings during 2017/18
Modern Slavery	Task & Finish Review	Environment O&S	Initiated September 2017
Reality Check – Sports Pavilions	Reality Check	Environment O&S	Completed Sept 2017
Transforming Wirral – Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services, Future Provision of Services	Workshop	Environment O&S	Initiated September 2017
Continuing Health Care	Task & Finish Review	Adult Care & Health O&S	Initiated March 2017. Report to July 2018 Committee
Respite Services	Task & Finish Review	Adult Care & Health O&S	Initiated Feb 2017.
Statutory Care Plan	Task & Finish Review	Children & Families O&S	Initiated October 2017
Reality Check – Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub	Reality Check	Children & Families O&S	Completed Sept 2017
Reality Check – Leaving Care Service	Reality Check	Children & Families O&S	Completed Oct 2017
Reality Check – Early Childhood Service	Reality Check	Children & Families O&S	Completed December 2017
Budget Scrutiny	Workshops	All Committees	Completed January 2018

APPENDIX 2: CALL-IN MEETINGS AND NOTICES OF MOTION

Call-In Meetings

Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Date
Car Parking Charges Traffic Regulation Order – Consideration for further Representations.	18/07/2017
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Date
Leisure and Cultural Services – Future Provision of Services	19/06/2017

Special Meetings

Adult Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date
Local delivery of the Cheshire and Merseyside Five Year Forward View - Progress	13/02/2018
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Date
Wirral Local Plan – Letter from the Secretary of State	07/12/2017

Notices of Motion

Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Date
Wirral Well-Made Need for Infrastructure Support	19/11/2017
Making More Time for Pedestrians	19/11/2017
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Date
Green Belt	05/07/2017
Economic Viability Assessments from Developers	31/01/2018
Planning Ahead to Use the Community Infrastructure Levy	31/01/2018
Pavilions in Sports Grounds	21/09/2017
Fair Votes	21/09/2017

APPENDIX 3: OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS 2017/18

Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title	Format	Date
Resident Parking Task & Finish Scrutiny Review	Councillor report	04/07/2017
Road Condition Update	Officer Report	04/07/2017
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Officer Report	04/07/2017
Liverpool City Region Combine Authority Scrutiny Panel	Verbal Update	04/07/2017
Business Overview and Scrutiny Committee Briefing Packs	Verbal Update	04/07/2017
Q4 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance – Business Theme	Officer Report	04/07/2017
Financial Monitoring 2016/17	Officer Report	04/07/2017
Appointment of the Highways Representation Panel	Officer Report	04/07/2017
Business Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	04/07/2017
Resident Parking Scrutiny Review	Verbal Update	19/09/2017
Commercialisation Update	Presentation	19/09/2017
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Officer Report	19/09/2017
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee Update	Officer Report	19/09/2017
Q1 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	19/09/2017
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 1 2017/18	Officer Report	19/09/2017
Policy Inform : Business	Officer Report	19/09/2017
Business Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	19/09/2017
Fines Imposed to Utility Companies for delay in completion of work to highways	Verbal Update	19/09/2017
Universal Credit Full Service November 2017	Officer Report	29/11/2017
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Officer Report	29/11/2017
Liverpool City Region Combine Authority Scrutiny Panel	Verbal Update	29/11/2017
2017/18 Quarter 2 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	29/11/2017
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 2 2017/18	Officer Report	29/11/2017
Highways Representation Panel Minutes	Verbal Update	29/11/2017
Policy Inform : Business	Officer Report	29/11/2017
Business Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	29/11/2017
Connecting Wirral Transport Strategy – Pledge Update	Officer Report	23/01/2018
Wirral’s Road Safety Plan – Scrutiny Review	Councillor report	23/01/2018
Budget Proposals Workshop – Scrutiny Report	Officer Report	23/01/2018
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Officer Report	23/01/2018
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee Update	Verbal Update	23/01/2018
Business Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	23/01/2018
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2017/18	Officer Report	27/03/2018
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Officer Report	27/03/2018
Liverpool City Region Combine Authority Scrutiny Panel	Verbal Update	27/03/2018
2017/18 Quarter 3 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	27/03/2018
Business Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	27/03/2018

Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title	Format	Date
Attractive Local Environment for Wirral Residents – Pledge Update	Presentation	05/07/2017
Domestic Refuse Collection Service Update	Verbal Update	05/07/2017
Street Lighting – Maintenance & Improvement Update	Officer Report	05/07/2017
Highway Trees Maintenance Contract	Officer Report	05/07/2017
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Update	Officer Report	05/07/2017
2016/2017 Quarter 4 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance – Environment Theme	Officer Report	05/07/2017
The Governments Plans for improving air Quality and the Implications for Wirral	Presentation	21/09/2017
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 1 2017/18	Officer Report	21/09/2017
2017/18 Quarter 1 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer report	21/09/2017
Policy Inform	Officer report	21/09/2017
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Update	Officer Report	21/09/2017
Review of Litter and Dog Fouling Enforcement Arrangements	Presentation	30/11/2017
Feedback from Site Visits to Pavilions in Sports Grounds	Officer Report	30/11/2017
Local Authority Powers to Require Drivers to Switch off Engines when parked	Officer Report	30/11/2017
Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 2017/18	Officer Report	30/11/2017
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 2 2017/18	Officer Report	30/11/2017
Policy Inform	Officer Report	30/11/2017
Work Programme Update	Officer Report	30/11/2017
Climate Change Annual Report and Action Plan 2017	Officer Report	31/01/2018
Wirral Local Plan – Report of Progress Since 2004	Officer Report	31/01/2018
2018/19 Budget Scrutiny Report	Officer Report	31/01/2018
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Update	Officer Report	31/01/2018
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2017/18	Officer Report	28/03/2018
2017/18 Quarter 3 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	28/03/2018
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Update	Officer Report	28/03/2018

Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title	Format	Date
Briefing Packs – Children and Families	Officer Report	20/07/2017
Committee Remit & Key Issues for municipal Year	Presentation	20/07/2017
Improvement Plan – Update	Presentation	20/07/2017
Scrutiny Safeguard Review Dec 2015 –Update of Progress	Officer Report	20/07/2017
Schools Strategy	Presentation	20/07/2017
2016/17 Q4 & Year End Wirral Plan Performance – People Theme	Officer Report	20/07/2017
Financial Monitoring 2016/17 Q4	Officer Report	20/07/2017
Children and Families OSC Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	20/07/2017
Merseyside Police – Role in Safeguarding Procedures	Presentation	26/09/2017
Improvement Plan – Update plus Position Statement	Presentation	26/09/2017
Children and Social Work Act – Implications for the Wirral Safeguarding Children Board	Officer Report	26/09/2017
Workshop regarding the relationship between Scrutiny and the WSCB -Feedback	Officer Report	26/09/2017
Summary of Standards – Provisional Outcomes for Early years KS1 & KS2 August 2017	Officer Report	26/09/2017
Financial Monitoring Report Q1 2017/18	Officer Report	26/09/2017
2017/18 Quarter 1 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	26/09/2017
Policy Inform	Officer Report	26/09/2017
Feedback from Joint Workshop on all – Age Disabilities and Mental Health Transformation Project	Officer Report	26/09/2017
Reality Check visit to the Multi Agency Safeguarding HUB (MASH) Feedback	Officer Report	26/09/2017
Children and Families OSC – Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	26/09/2017
Improvement Journey - Update	Presentation	14/11/2017
Safeguarding Children Annual Report (2016/17)	Presentation	14/11/2017
Domestic Abuse – Strategy Delivery Update	Officer Report	14/11/2017
Financial Monitoring 2017/18	Officer Report	14/11/2017
2017/18 Quarter 2 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	14/11/2017
Reality Check Visit to the Leaving Care Services - Feedback	Officer Report	14/11/2017
Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	14/11/2017
Improvement Journey - Update	Presentation	25/01/2018
Preventing Family Breakdown – Children on the Edge of Care	Presentation	25/01/2018
Delivery of ‘ Children Ready for School Pledge’ - Update	Officer Report	25/01/2018
Reality Check Visit – Early Childhood Service – Feedback Report	Officer Report	25/01/2018
Summary of Standards, provisional Outcomes for KS 4 & KS 5	Officer Report	25/01/2018
Children & Families OSC – Feedback from Budget Scrutiny (2018/2019)	Officer Report	25/01/2018
Children and Families OSC – Work Programme Update Report	Officer report	25/01/2018
2017/2018 Quarter 3 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	22/03/2018
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2017/2018	Officer Report	22/03/2018
Improvement Journey - Update	Presentation	22/03/2018
Learning From Audit	Officer Report	22/03/2018
Reality Check Visit – Performance Dashboard – Feedback Report	Officer Report	22/03/2018

Title	Format	Date
Improving Life Chances Strategy – Pledge Update	Officer Report	22/03/2018
Pupil Attendance & Exclusions In Wirral Schools	Officer Report	22/03/2018
Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Update	Officer Report	22/03/2018

Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title	Format	Date
Adult Care and Health OSC – Briefing Packs	Verbal Update	28/06/2017
Key Issues for Health and Care	Officer Report	28/06/2017
Review of services provided by Change, Grow, Live (CGL)	Presentation	28/06/2017
Outcome of CQC Inspection for CGL	Presentation	28/06/2017
Repeat Prescription Pilot Scheme	Presentation	28/06/2017
Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Outcomes from the CQC Inspection	Presentation	28/06/2017
All Age Disability – Update on Strategy Delivery	Officer Report	28/06/2017
2016/17 Quarter 4 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance – People Theme	Officer Report	28/06/2017
Adult Care and Health OSC Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	28/06/2017
Eastham Walk In Centre	Verbal Update	13/09/2017
Dynamic Purchasing Scheme for CHC (NHS Continuing HealthCare) Beds.	Officer Report	13/09/2017
National Service Model – Short Break (Respite) Services	Verbal Update	13/09/2017
Cumulative Impact on Public Health Scrutiny Review	Officer Report	13/09/2017
Annual Social Care Complaints Report 2016/17	Officer Report	13/09/2017
Better Care Fund – Plan and Priorities	Officer Report	13/09/2017
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 1 2017/18	Officer Report	13/09/2017
2017/18 Quarter 1 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	13/09/2017
Policy Inform	Verbal Update	13/09/2017
Adult Care and Health OSC Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	13/09/2017
Eastham Walk In Centre – Update on Impact	Officer Report	28/11/2017
Urgent Care Transformation	Officer Report	28/11/2017
Place Based Care Arrangements for Wirral	Officer Report	28/11/2017
Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) Service	Officer Report	28/11/2017
Response to CQC Publication on Quality	Officer Report	28/11/2017
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 2 2017/18	Officer Report	28/11/2017
2017/18 Quarter 2 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	28/11/2017
Policy Inform	Verbal Update	28/11/2017
Adult Care and Health OSC Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	28/11/2017
Dynamic Purchasing Scheme for CHC (NHS Continuing HealthCare) Beds - Impact	Officer Report	30/01/2018
Draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)	Officer Report	30/01/2018
Adults Safeguarding Annual Report	Officer Report	30/01/2018
Social Care and Health Integration	Officer Report	30/01/2018
Adult Care and Health OSC – Feedback from budget workshop	Officer Report	30/01/2018
Adult Care and Health OSC Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	30/01/2018
Local Delivery of the Cheshire and Merseyside Five Year Forward View	Presentation	13/02/2018

Title	Format	Date
Independent Review of the Wirral Patient Led Repeat Ordering	Officer Report	20/03/2018
Community Phlebotomy Service Update	Officer Report	20/03/2018
Future Commissioning Strategy for People with Disabilities	Officer Report	20/03/2018
Thorn Heys - Update	Verbal Update	20/03/2018
Financial Monitoring Report Quarter 3 2017/18	Officer Report	20/03/2018
2017/18 Quarter 3 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	20/03/2018
Eastham Walk In Centre – Update	Officer Report	20/03/2018
Response to the Ombudsman's Report relating to the Mental Capacity Act	Officer Report	20/03/2018
Review of draft Quality Accounts – May 2018	Officer Report	20/03/2018
Adult Care and Health OSC Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	20/03/2018