

# Audit, Best Value and Community Services (ABVCS) Scrutiny Committee



## Future work at a glance

Updated: May 2013

*This list is updated after each meeting of the scrutiny committee  
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<b>Items that appear regularly at committee</b>	
Internal Audit Progress Reports	Summary of quarterly key audit findings, highlighting significant control issues and reporting on delivery of the audit plan and internal audit services' performance against performance indicators.
Strategic risk monitoring log	The latest version of the County Council's strategic risk register.
The Council's <b>Forward Plan</b>	<p>The latest version of the Council's <b>Forward Plan</b> is included on each scrutiny committee agenda. The Forward Plan lists all the key County Council decisions that are to be taken within the next few months together with contact information to find out more. It is updated monthly.</p> <p>The purpose of doing this is to help committee Members identify important issues for more detailed scrutiny <i>before</i> key decisions are taken. This has proved to be significantly more effective than challenging a decision once it has been taken. As a last resort, the <b>call-in</b> procedure is available if scrutiny Members think a Cabinet or Lead Member decision has been taken incorrectly.</p> <p>Requests for further information about individual items on the Forward Plan should be addressed to the listed contact. Possible scrutiny issues should be raised with the scrutiny team or committee Chairman, ideally before a scrutiny committee meeting.</p>

### **Items that appear regularly at committee**

Committee work programme	This provides an opportunity for the committee to review the scrutiny work programme for future meetings and to highlight any additional issues they wish to add to the programme.
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### **Future committee agenda items**

		<b>Presenting officer</b>
<b>6 September 2013</b>		
Review of the Annual Governance Report and Statement of Accounts	Report of the external auditors following their audit of the Council's statutory accounts. It allows the committee to review the issues raised and assess the management response.	Chief Financial Officer or Chief Operating Officer and external auditors
Reconciling policy, performance and resources (RPPR)	To comment on the 2013/14 policy steers for Strategic Management & Economic Development and Corporate Resources in time for Cabinet to update the policy steers in October 2013. To establish a RPPR Board of members to undertake more detailed investigations as required.	Chief Executive
Roles and responsibilities of ESCC in relation to schools: monitoring report	Update on the implementation of recommendations of the Scrutiny review of the roles and responsibilities of ESCC in relation to schools. To include update of recommendations for the Governors' Panel report dated 14 November 2012.	Fiona Wright, Assistant Director (Schools, Youth and Inclusion Support)
Library Services review	Library services Rural, Eastbourne, Mobile libraries review – consultation update	Dr Irene Campbell, Assistant Director, Community Services

<b>Future committee agenda items</b>		<b>Presenting officer</b>
<b>5 November 2013</b>		
Audit Annual Letter	Sets out the Relationship Manager's overall view of the Council's performance, including the CPA Direction of Travel Assessment, overall CPA scores and results of assessments and inspections by other bodies e.g. Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) and Ofsted.	Chief Financial Officer
Treasury Management Half-Year Report	<p>The Code of Practice for Treasury Management requires the review of the Council's treasury management performance to be reported half way through the year as well as at the end of each financial year.</p> <p>The report will set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A summary of the original strategy agreed for 2013/14 and the economic factors affecting this strategy in the first six months of this year.</li> <li>• The treasury management activity during the first six months.</li> </ul> <p>The performance to date of the Prudential Indicators, which relate to the Treasury function and compliance within limits.</p>	Chief Financial Officer
<b>12 March 2014</b>		
<b>Further ahead</b>		
External Audit Plan 2013/14	Sets out in detail the work to be carried out by Council's external auditors.	Chief Financial Officer and external auditors
External Audit Report on Grants Claim Certification	External auditors are required to certify certain grant claims; this is an annual report summarising that grant work and highlights the key issues arising.	Chief Financial Officer and external auditors
External Audit Plan for East Sussex Pension Fund 2013/14	To consider and comment upon the External Audit Plan for the East Sussex Pension Fund for 2013/14.	Chief Financial Officer and external auditors

<b>Future committee agenda items</b>		<b>Presenting officer</b>
Reconciling policy, performance and resources (RPPR)	Update on outcomes from the 2013/14 process and lessons to take forward.	Paul Dean, Scrutiny Manager

<p><b>Current scrutiny reviews and other work underway</b></p>	<p><b>Date available</b></p>

<p><b>Potential future scrutiny work</b> (Proposals and ideas for future scrutiny topics appear here)</p>	

<b>Background / information reports available to the Committee (Items in this list appear on committee agendas only when proposed for scrutiny by committee members)</b>		<b>Date available</b>
<b>Performance and risk management monitoring</b>	<p>Performance and risk monitoring are an integral part of scrutiny. The committee is alerted to the relevant quarterly <b>reports</b> that Cabinet and lead Members receive. Members can then suggest matters for scrutiny to investigate in more detail.</p> <p>In the performance reports, achievement against individual performance targets is assessed as either 'Red', 'Amber' or 'Green' ('RAG'):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Green' means that the performance measure is on target to be achieved</li> <li>• 'Amber' means that there is concern about the likelihood of achieving the performance measure by the end of the year</li> <li>• 'Red' means that the performance measure is assessed as inappropriate or unachievable.</li> </ul> <p>The 'Red' and 'Amber' indicators also include further commentary and the details of any proposed corrective action.</p> <p>A similar RAG indicator system is used in the risk reports to indicate the overall score for each risk indicator that takes account of impact and likelihood.</p> <p>Requests for further information about individual items in the performance or risks reports should be addressed to the listed contact. Possible scrutiny issues should be raised with the scrutiny team or committee Chairman.</p>	Every quarter
Update of annual expenditure on Agency Staff	Update on annual expenditure on Agency Staff. (Kevin Foster, Chief Operating Officer)	Annually
Sussex and Surrey Procurement partnership: Update	Update of Sussex and Surrey procurement partnership (Laura Langstaff, Deputy Head of Procurement)	Annually
Carbon Reduction	To consider progress in preparing for the carbon reduction commitment energy saving scheme and to reduce energy consumption. Heard previously June 2012. (Melanie Griffin, Assistant Director,	Annually

Resources)	

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