

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



Future work at a glance

Updated: October 2014

*This list is updated after each meeting of the scrutiny committee
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Items that appear regularly at committee	
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 Forward Plan	<p>The latest version of the Council's Forward Plan 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 call-in 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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<i>Future committee agenda items</i>		<i>Presenting officer</i>
17 March 2015		
External Audit Plan 2014/15	Sets out in detail the work to be carried out by the Council's external auditors.	Marion Kelly, 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.	Marion Kelly, Chief Financial Officer, and external auditors
External Audit Plan for East Sussex Pension Fund 2014/15	To consider and comment upon the External Audit Plan for the East Sussex Pension Fund for 2014/15.	Marion Kelly, Chief Financial Officer, and external auditors
Strategic Workforce Plan and People Strategy	A report on the Strategic Workforce Plan and People Strategy, once they have been agreed and put in place, to help the Committee gain a better understanding of how they will help to develop the required cultural and behavioural changes across the Council necessary to achieve the BSD outcomes.	Kevin Foster, Chief Operating Officer
Reconciling policy, performance and resources (RPPR)	Update on outcomes from the 2014/15 process and lessons to take forward.	Paul Dean, Member Services Manager

Future committee agenda items		Presenting officer
23 June 2015		
Internal Audit Strategy 2015/16 and Annual Plan	Sets out the internal audit strategy, including key themes and detailed coverage across departments for the year ahead.	Russell Banks, Head of Assurance
Internal Audit Services – Annual Report and Opinion 2014/15	Provides an overall opinion on the Council’s framework of internal control; summarises the main audit findings and performance against key indicators.	Russell Banks, Head of Assurance
Monitoring Officer’s Annual Review of the Corporate Governance Framework	Sets out an assessment of the effectiveness of the Council’s governance arrangements and includes an improvement plan for the coming year, and the corporate assurance statement which will form part of the statement of accounts.	Philip Baker, Assistant Chief Executive
September 2015		
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.	Marion Kelly, Chief Financial Officer, and external auditors
Reconciling policy, performance and resources (RPPR)	To begin scrutiny’s involvement in the RPPR process. To establish a RPPR Board of members to undertake more detailed investigations as required.	Becky Shaw, Chief Executive
Treasury Management Half Year Report and Outturn Report	<p>The Code of Practice for Treasury Management requires the Council to review its treasury management performance. The report will set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of the original strategy agreed for 2014/15 and the economic factors affecting this strategy in the first six months of this year. • The treasury management activity during the first six months. • The performance to date of the Prudential Indicators, which relate to the Treasury function and compliance within limits. 	Marion Kelly, Chief Financial Officer

<i>Future committee agenda items</i>		<i>Presenting officer</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The outturn report	

Current scrutiny reviews and other work underway	Date available
<p>Agile Working Reference Group Reference Group comprising Cllrs Blanch, Barnes, Keeley, Standley and Whetstone that meets with key officers to comment on the progress of the Agile Programme after key stages in the Programme.</p> <p>Public Health Seminar A seminar to provide a detailed briefing on the public health performance indicators and public health outcomes framework. The seminar will take place following the East Sussex Better Together joint review board (see below).</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>TBC</p>

Potential future scrutiny work (Proposals and ideas for future scrutiny topics appear here)
<p>East Sussex Better Together (ESBT) / Health and social care integration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of the Better Care Fund (BCF) • impact on support for people with long term conditions <p>Proposal to establish a join review board with representatives from scrutiny committees to investigate the cross cutting impacts of the ESBT programme. It is recommended that each committee volunteers two members.</p> <p>Library and Information services Future updates (as necessary) on initiatives for income generation including sales, library fines and franchising.</p> <p>Future of Communications team in East Sussex County Council A report on the proposed future of the Communications Team.</p> <p>Updates on the progress of the School Risk Review Group The Committee to be kept informed of how the School Risk Review Group has reduced reputational and financial risk to the Council from schools once its plans have been fully implemented (the Chairs of Audit, Best Value & Community Services Scrutiny Committee and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee to consider how best to scrutinise the work of the School Risk Reviews Group going forward).</p>

**Potential future scrutiny work
(Proposals and ideas for future scrutiny topics appear here)**

Public Health

The Committee to be kept informed of the Public Health Department's commissioning programme, such as the tranche reviews and one off projects.

Background / information reports circulated to the Committee (Items in this list are circulated to Members by email and appear on committee agendas only when proposed for scrutiny by committee members)		Date to be circulated
School Risk Review Group's LEA training policy	A briefing on the School Risk Review Group's policy for recruiting and training local education authority (LEA) governors.	November 2014
Infrastructure changes to Beachy Head	A technical report on infrastructure changes to Beachy Head in order to demonstrate that the expenditure on infrastructure would be beneficial and the best use of resources	TBC 2014

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