

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



## Future work at a glance

Updated: March 2015

*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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<b><i>Future committee agenda items</i></b>		<b><i>Presenting officer</i></b>
<b>17 July 2015</b>		
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
Updated risk management framework	A report requesting the Committee to endorse the updated risk management framework.	Russell Banks, Head of Assurance
Carbon management report	Annual carbon management report. To include detailed information on energy use by the Council.	Kevin Foster, Chief Operating Officer
Procurement: Category Management Strategies and Savings Sign Off	A report on two procurement strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Category Management strategies</li> </ul>	Laura Langstaff, Head of Procurement

<b>Future committee agenda items</b>		<b>Presenting officer</b>
Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Savings Sign Off Approach</li> </ul>	
<b>15 September 2015</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.	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"> <li>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.</li> <li>The treasury management activity during the first six months.</li> <li>The performance to date of the Prudential Indicators, which relate to the Treasury function and compliance within limits.</li> <li>The outturn report</li> </ul>	Marion Kelly, Chief Financial Officer
<b>17 November 2015</b>		
Annual update on usage of Agency Staff	Annual update on the usage of agency staff at East Sussex County Council and progress on establishing the bank of casual staff.	Kevin Foster, Chief Operating Officer
Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR)	To provide the Committee with further information relating to the RPPR process that was requested at the last Committee meeting.	Becky Shaw, Chief Executive

<b><i>Future committee agenda items</i></b>		<b><i>Presenting officer</i></b>
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
<b>March 2016</b>		
External Audit Plan 2015/16	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 2015/16	To consider and comment upon the External Audit Plan for the East Sussex Pension Fund for 2015/16	Marion Kelly, Chief Financial Officer, and external auditors

<b>Current scrutiny reviews and other work underway</b>	<b>Date available</b>
<p><b>Agile Working Reference Group</b> 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>	<b>Ongoing</b>

<b>Potential future scrutiny work (Proposals and ideas for future scrutiny topics appear here)</b>
<p><b>Updates on the progress of the School Risk Review Group</b> 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 &amp; 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> <p><b>Public Health</b> The Committee to be kept informed of the Public Health Department's one off funding projects.</p>

<b>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)</b>		<b>Date to be circulated</b>
SPACES Programme	Update report circulated quarterly on the Strategic Property Asset Collaboration in East Sussex (SPACES) Programme	Quarterly
School Risk Review	A briefing on the School Risk Review Group's policy for recruiting and training local education	January 2015

Group's LEA training policy	authority (LEA) governors.	
Update on projects receiving one off funding	To update the Scrutiny Committee on progress in relation to each of the four projects receiving one off funding from the Public Health Grant	January 2015

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