

19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## **Proposals for delivery of Scrutiny**

### **Introduction / background**

The Council acknowledges the important role scrutiny has in its decision-making process. However it is recognised both locally, regionally and nationally, that during this critical time maintaining the expected level of scrutiny may not be possible. In its place, selective scrutiny work will focus on the critical issues affecting our residents with a clear intention of supporting the City's recovery.

In respect of the scrutiny function there is a statutory requirement to convene a minimum of one committee. For the City of York, the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee [hereafter referred to as CCSSMC] satisfies this requirement [Local Government Act 2000; Article 6 of the constitution]. All other scrutiny committees promoted by the City of York are classed as sub committees of the CCSSMC.

The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 (the "Regulations") which became into force on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020, provide for alternative arrangements for Local Authority meetings which are required to be held between 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020 and 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021. These Regulations mean that all constitutionally prescribed meetings, which includes scrutiny committees, can now be hosted remotely. Separate Standing Orders / guidance has been issued by the Monitoring Officer to make the necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution.

This guidance will remain under review by the Monitoring Officer.

### **Proposal**

A meeting of the CCSSMC will be convened as the Council's statutory scrutiny committee within two weeks of the meeting of the Executive having taken place (where timetabling permits).

It is intended that CCSSMC will commence meeting from July 2020.

### **Procedure for conduct of the meeting**

Any meeting of the CCSSMC will follow the Standing Orders for Remote Meetings published by the Monitoring Officer on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

## **Role of the Chair and Vice Chair of CCSSMC**

The Chair, in consultation with the Vice Chair, of CCSSMC will:

- act as a co-ordinator for information exchange with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the sub-committees

The Chair and Vice Chair of CCSSMC will:

- consult with the Monitoring Officer in the review of the Council's provision of the scrutiny and the implementation of these Procedures; and
- in consultation with the Chief Officer, set a relevant agenda for future meetings of CCSSMC taking into account any national guidance and resource availability (Officers and ICT for example).

## **Call-in**

The provisions of call-in will still apply under these procedures. Any call-in request will be considered by the CCSSMC. The Call-In procedure does not apply where the decision taken is considered to be urgent and in accordance with the urgent decision making guidance.

## **Work Programmes and Task and Finish Groups**

Until further notice, all current work programmes and task and finish groups will be suspended.

Any proposals in respect of either the re-commencement or launch of a new work programme or task and finish group will require consultation with and the consent of the Chair of CCSSMC, the relevant Chief Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the s151 Officer, and where necessary, the Director of Public Health, before any work is undertaken so as to ensure that the topic is relevant and that in the current circumstances resources are available (Officer or otherwise) to support it.

Janie Berry

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