

To: Council

Date: 2 February 2015

Report of: Chair of the Scrutiny Committee

Title of Report: Scrutiny Briefing

Purpose of report: To update Council on the activities of the scrutiny function

Introduction

1. Scrutiny is continuing to work through its busy programme of Committee and Standing Panel meetings, and there are currently three Scrutiny Review Panels in progress. These Panels include Members that are not on the main Scrutiny Committee, and I would encourage all non-executive Members to become involve in Scrutiny, as and when suitable opportunities arise.
2. Building on feedback received following the Peer Challenge, Scrutiny is taking a more pro-active improvement focus and is increasingly acting as a conduit for communities of interest. The Inequalities Review Panel is a strong example of this. This Panel has been engaging with a number of outside experts and partners, and has issued a call for evidence to a wide range of interested parties, many of whom have submitted helpful contributions.

Work programme

3. The attached work programme includes updates on the work of review panels and ad hoc panels, as well as indicative agenda schedules for the Scrutiny Committee and Standing Panels.

Standard Information

4. I will always include the following information:
 - Current Panel work showing membership and progress.
 - Forward agendas – these will be indicative only.
 - The number and result of any called in decisions or councillor calls for action.

- Recommendations made and the outcome of these.
5. This information is included as appendices to this briefing but is in **DRAFT** format.
 6. I will also provide verbal updates where there has been progress since the last Committee.

Current Activity

7. We currently have three Scrutiny reviews in progress; the annual Budget Review, which will be reporting to CEB on 12 February, the Inequalities review, and a new Panel focused on supporting businesses in the city centre.
8. The Scrutiny Committee met on 8 December and 19 January to consider a diverse range of topics and issues, including; the City Council's response to the Peer Challenge feedback, Clean Streets, Educational Attainment, and New Council Controls over Anti-Social Behaviour. The Committee also began to monitor the work of the Oxfordshire Growth Board, and will continue to do so.
9. At a special meeting on 23 December, the Committee considered a call-in of the 'Sale of Temple Cowley Pool' decision. Following an informative discussion, the Committee voted to support the original decision.
10. The following decisions have been pre-scrutinised, with recommendations made to the City Executive Board. This list would be longer but a number of decisions selected for pre-scrutiny have been delayed:
 - Discretionary Rates Relief for Businesses Policy
 - Asset Management Strategy (Council's housing stock)
11. The Finance Panel meeting on 21 January includes a detailed look at the Capital programme process, and the procurement of a new banking services provider. The Panel has also recently held a number of Budget Review meetings. This work has involved a detailed line by line review of the draft budget proposals and interviews with each of the City Council's three Executive Directors and their supporting officers. The Panel is currently formulating its budget recommendations.
12. The Housing Panel met on 10 December and scrutinised the Older Person's Housing Review, and the Asset Management Strategy. These discussions resulted in a total of ten recommendations to CEB. On 22 January the Panel is scrutinising the City Council's approach to Fuel Poverty and the results of the latest tenant satisfaction survey.

Looking Ahead

13. The Inequality Review Group, led by Cllr Van Coulter, will continue to engage widely and gather evidence. In February, the Panel will speak

with Oxford Professor Danny Dorling, a representative of Age Concern, and a new social enterprise called Ignite, which focuses on the overcoming a lack of self-esteem in vulnerable young people. The Panel will also review the submissions received following its call for evidence, which ends on 31 January.

14. The 'Supporting Businesses in the City Centre' Review Panel has recently been established and is led by Councillor James Fry. Following initial scoping meetings, the Panel identified that there is scope for Scrutiny to take a lead role in two particular areas; mitigating disruption to the City Centre economy while major developments are taking place, and minimising empty shop units. As part of its evidence gathering, the Panel aims to speak with members of the Town Team representing small businesses and some of the major city Centre landlords, among others.
15. The Scrutiny Committee next meets on 3 February 2015 to look at the work of the City Council's Communities and Neighbourhoods Team, activities for older residents, and Oxford Cycle City.
16. The Finance Panel meets on 5 February to consider European funding opportunities with Anneliese Dodds MEP, who represents the South East region. I would encourage all relevant portfolio holders and shadow spokespersons to attend for this discussion. The Panel will also scrutinise the Treasury Management Strategy.
17. The Housing Panel will be considering the City Council's approach to unlawful dwellings and efforts to tackle under-occupancy at its meeting on 4 February.
18. Finally, I would like to remind all members of Council that if there is an issue they wish to see scrutinised then they are able to ask a Scrutiny Councillor to place this on the agenda of the Scrutiny Committee or, with 3 supporters, add this to the agenda themselves.

Councillor Craig Simmons – Chair of the Scrutiny Committee

Email: cllsimmons@oxford.gov.uk

Tel: 07739 803047

Andrew Brown – Scrutiny Officer

Email: abrown2@oxford.gov.uk

Tel: 01865 252230

Scrutiny Work Programme 2014 - 2015

This programme represents the work of Scrutiny, including panel work and Committee items. The work programme is divided under the following headings:

1. Standing Panels
2. Review Panels and Ad hoc Panels in progress
3. Potential Review Panels (to be established if and when resources allow)
4. Items for Scrutiny Committee meetings
5. Draft Scrutiny Committee agenda schedule
6. Items called in and Councillor calls for action
7. Items referred to Scrutiny by Council

1. Standing Panels

108

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Nominated councillors (no substitutions allowed)
Finance Panel – All finance issues considered within the Scrutiny Function.	See appendix 1	Councillors Simmons (Chair), Darke, Fooks and Fry
Housing – All strategic and landlord issues considered within the Scrutiny Function.	See appendix 2	Councillors Hollick (Chair), Sanders, Smith and Wade Co-opted Member – Linda Hill

2. Review panels and ad hoc panels in progress

Topic	Scope	Progress	Next steps	Nominated councillors
Thames Water investment to improve flooding	To continue engagement with Thames Water Utilities (TWU) at a senior level to ensure delivery of the agreements reached.	Catchment study publically launched and a press statement issued in advance. Contact made with TWU to establish governance structure.	Panel briefing on study to be arranged. Governance structure meeting dates to be set.	Councillors Darke (Chair) Pressel, Thomas and Goddard
Tacking Inequality	To review how the City Council contributes to combatting harmful inequality in Oxford, and whether there is more that could reasonably be done.	A call for evidence has been issued. A document has been developed detailing the ways in which the City Council combats inequality and opportunities and gaps identified.	Further evidence gathering meetings scheduled for 9 & 26 February.	Councillor Coulter (Chair), Gant, Lloyd-Shogbesan and Thomas
Budget Review	Annual review of draft budget and medium term financial plan	Three Budget Review meetings in w/c 12 January.	Recommendations to be agreed on 21 Jan.	Finance Panel Members
Recycling rates	To review of recycling and waste data rates, and consider community incentives and other recycling initiatives.	Continuation of previous panel which reported in July 2014. Meeting held on 8 October to consider bid for incentive funding.	Panel to visit depot and consider waste and recycling on 16 February 2015	Councillor Fry (Chair), Simmons and Hayes
Supporting businesses in the city centre	1. What can the City Council can do to mitigate disruption to the city centre economy while major developments are taking place? How can communication be improved for lasting benefit to residents and visitors? 2. What scope does the City Council have to minimise the time shop units are left empty, and to improve the appearance of empty units?	The panel met with the Town Centre manager to discuss possible areas of focus on 7 January 2015.	Scope to be considered by Scrutiny Committee on 19 January.	Councillor Fry (Chair), Darke, Benjamin and Gotch

3. Potential Review Panels – to be established when resources allow

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Nominated councillors
Cycling	Scope to be determined. Panel to consider area(s) of focus which could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review cycling funding including City and County Council contributions. Explore progress against sought outcomes and value for money achieved. 	Councillors Wolff, Upton, Pressel and Hayes
Neighbourhood working	Scope to be determined. Could to consider how to address feedback provided to the City Council by the peer review group.	TBC

Indicative scrutiny review timeline 2014-2015 (does not include ad hoc review panels)

Review	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July
Budget Scrutiny	Scoping	Evidence gathering and review	Reporting								
Inequalities		Scoping	Evidence gathering and review	Reporting	Reporting						
Supporting businesses					Scoping	Evidence gathering and review	Reporting				
Cycling							Scoping	Evidence gathering and review	Evidence gathering and review	Evidence gathering and review	Reporting

	Scoping
	Evidence gathering and review
	Reporting

4. Items for Committee meetings (in no particular order)

Topic	Area(s) for focus	Lead and other Councillors
Discretionary Housing Payments	Quarterly updates on spending profiles within a framework agreed by the Committee.	Councillor Coulter
Performance monitoring	Quarterly report on a set of Corporate and service measures chosen by the Committee.	Councillors Altaf-Khan, Coulter, Darke & Simmons
Educational attainment investment	To consider the academic progress and key stage results at schools operating the KRM model compared to those not.	Councillors Altaf-Khan, & Hayes & Thomas
Fusion Lifestyle contract performance	Regular yearly item agreed again by the Committee to consider performance against contract conditions.	Councillor Simmons
Research on the effects of welfare reform	To consider research into the impact of welfare reforms in the City.	Councillor Coulter
Clean streets	To receive an update on the City Council's approach to keeping Oxford streets clean from graffiti, detritus, littering and waste.	
Living Wage	To review how the living wage is enforced through procurement contracts	
New controls over anti-social behaviour	To receive an update on the City Council's changing approach to anti-social behaviour.	
Low Carbon Oxford	To receive an update on the progress of this scheme and plans to progress the low carbon agenda in Oxford.	
Community and Neighbourhood services	To review aims, activities and outcomes; grant distribution; community centres and associations; volunteering; Neighbourhood plans; how better on-going engagement can be established with different communities.	
Activities for older residents and preventing isolation	To receive an update on services and activities for over 50s, with a focus on preventing isolation.	
Individual voter registration	To receive an update on changes to electoral registration and to monitor how the City Council is maximising registration.	
Taxi Licencing	To review rules and processes; to understand driver issues.	
Forward Plan items	To consider issues to be decided by the City Executive Board.	

5. Draft Scrutiny Committee Agenda Schedule

Date (all 6pm, St. Aldate's Room unless stated)	Agenda Item	Lead Member; Officer(s)
3 February 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community and Neighbourhood services 2. Activities for older residents and preventing isolation 3. Cycle City 4. Grant Allocations to Community and Voluntary Organisations 2015/2016 (pre-scrutiny) 5. Purchase of St. Aldate's Chambers (pre-scrutiny) 6. Performance monitoring – quarter 3 	<p>Ian Brooke</p> <p>Luke Nipen, Vicki Galvin</p> <p>Jo Colwell</p> <p>Julia Tomkins</p> <p>Nick Twigg</p>
2 March 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Living Wage 2. Consultation and Engagement 3. Research into the local impact of Welfare Reform 4. Discretionary Housing Payments (pre-scrutiny) 5. The Culture Strategy 2015-18 (pre-scrutiny) 	<p>Simon Howick</p> <p>Sadie Paige</p> <p>Paul Wilding</p> <p>Paul Wilding</p> <p>Ceri Gordon</p>
23 March 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low Carbon Oxford 2. Ox futures programme (pre-scrutiny) 	<p>John Copley</p> <p>Jo Colwell</p>

The 5 May Scrutiny Committee meeting has been cancelled. Additional meeting date TBC.

6. Items called in and Councillor calls for action

None

7. Items referred to Scrutiny by Council

None

Finance Panel work programme 2014-15

Items for Finance Panel meetings

Suggested Topic	Suggested approach / area(s) for focus
Budget Scrutiny	Review of the Council's medium term financial strategy.
Budget monitoring	Regular monitoring of projected budget outturns through the year.
Treasury Management	Scrutiny of the Treasury Management Strategy and regular monitoring of Treasury performance.
Capital process	To receive an update on the implementation of the Capital Gateway process.
Maximising European funding	To consider how the City Council can maximise funding opportunities; invite local MEPs to contribute to the discussion.
Municipal bonds	To receive an update on the establishment of a municipal bonds agency.
Local financing	To consider whether there is a case for the City Council to generating capital financing locally through bonds or crowd-funding.
Ethical investment	To monitor the City Council's approach to implementing an ethical investment policy.
Council tax exemptions	To receive an update on the financial implications of different types of exemptions.

114

Draft Finance Panel agenda schedule

Date and room (all 5.30pm, St. Aldate's Room)	Agenda Item	Lead Member; Officer(s)
21 January 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capital programme process review 2. Banking Services Provider (confidential) 3. Budget Review 	David Edwards, Stephen Clarke, Nigel Kennedy Nigel Kennedy Cllr Simmons

5 February 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. European funding 2. Treasury Management Strategy 15/16 (pre-scrutiny) 3. Creation of a Panel to Manage the Council's Investment Portfolio (pre-scrutiny) 4. Budget Review Report 	<p>Anneliese Dodds MEP</p> <p>Anna Winship</p> <p>Jane Winfield</p> <p>Cllr Simmons</p>
25 March 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local Financing 2. Budget monitoring – quarter 3 3. Capital Strategy (pre-scrutiny) 	<p>TBC</p> <p>Nigel Kennedy</p> <p>Nigel Kennedy</p>

Meetings closed to the public:

Date and room (all 5.30pm)	Agenda Item	Lead Member; Officer(s)
3 February 2015, St. Aldate's Room	1. Review of published budget report	Peter Sloman, Nigel Kennedy

Housing Panel work programme 2014-15

Items for Housing Panel meetings

Suggested Topic	Suggested approach / area(s) for focus
Performance monitoring	Regular monitoring of performance measures for Estates Regeneration, Housing Supply and Welfare Reform and Housing Crisis.
Housing Strategy	Review headline priorities and sought outcomes in Housing Strategy at draft stage, and the action plan post-consultation.
Increasing the provision of affordable housing	Monitoring of performance measures; scrutiny of the Housing Business Plan and the Housing Strategy; consider alternative options e.g. pre-fabs and 'pods'; possible review topic.
Homelessness	Monitoring of performance measures; scrutiny of the Housing Business Plan and Housing Strategy; pre-scrutiny of homelessness grant allocations; possible review topics.
Rent arrears	Monitoring of performance measures; bi-annual update reports.
STAR survey results	Monitoring of results.
Tackling under-occupancy	Report on efforts to tackle under-occupancy; consider in rent arrears reports.
Oxford Standard	To receive a progress update on the delivery of the Oxford Standard through the Asset Management Strategy and Action Plan, including an update on work to improve thermal efficiency in the Council's housing stock.
Private sector licencing	Update report on the scheme; consider views of landlords and PRS tenants.
Unlawful dwellings	A report on the City Council's approach to tackling illegal dwellings e.g. beds in sheds, given that funding ends in April 2015.
Repairs exemptions policy	To scrutinise proposed changes to the current policy.
De-designation of 40+ accommodation	Update report on the final phase of de-designating 40+ accommodation (expected in April 15).
Sheltered Housing	To contribute to and monitor the customer profiling survey of residents in sheltered accommodation and how this data should inform future provision.
Fuel Poverty	To receive an update on the City Council's approach to the issue of Fuel Poverty. Commission/review research; consider during other items; possible review topic.
Supporting people	Verbal updates on the joint commissioning of housing support services.

Draft Housing Panel Agenda Schedules

Date, room and time	Agenda Item	Lead Officer(s)
22 January 2015, Plowman Room, 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Star Survey Results 2. Fuel Poverty 	Gary Parsons Deborah Haynes & Paul Wilding
4 February 2015, St Aldate's Room, 5.30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unlawful dwellings 2. Tackling under-occupancy 3. Housing Strategy 2015-2018 (pre-scrutiny) 	Ian Wright Bill Graves Gary Parsons
24 March 2015, Judges Room, 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non-statutory homelessness services 2. De-designation review year 4 	Shaibur Rahman Tom Porter

Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker 2014-15

118

Older Persons Housing Review – Housing Panel 10 December				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. That residents are surveyed face to face and that the City Council seeks to involve Oxford Brookes University in conducting these surveys. Tenant volunteers should also be closely consulted throughout the review.		<i>To follow</i>	Cllr Seamons / Allison Dalton	
2. That the scope of this review is expanded to include older persons living in their own homes and to those in privately rented housing. Consideration should be given to how best to do this, perhaps using sample surveys.		<i>To follow</i>	Cllr Seamons / Allison Dalton	
3. That the timescale of the review is extended by 6 months (to September 2015). If required, additional resources should be allocated in the current budget round to enable this.		<i>To follow</i>	Cllr Seamons / Allison Dalton	
4. That the review is focused on understanding the future requirements of people at the younger end of the 'Older Persons' category, so that the City Council can plan to best meet their future needs.		<i>To follow</i>	Cllr Seamons / Allison Dalton	
5. That the Board Member prioritises the creation of new social housing for single older people if the review provides evidence that this could reduce under-occupancy or meet the current or future requirements of older tenants.		<i>To follow</i>	Cllr Seamons / Allison Dalton	
6. That a Steering Group is established to oversee the review, and that this group includes at least two elected members.		<i>To follow</i>	Cllr Seamons / Allison Dalton	
Asset Management Strategy – Housing Panel 10 December				
Recommendation	Agreed	Executive response	Lead Member	Implemented

	Y/N		& Officer	Y/N / due date
1. That the City Council reviews whether it is doing all it reasonably can to ensure that tenants leave their homes in good condition before vacating them.	Y	I can agree to all the recommendations for the AMS.	Cllr Seamons / Martin Shaw	2 Feb 15
2. That the City Council strengthens partnership working to ensure that the advice and materials provided to tenants by the City Council and other agencies is joined up and consistent.	Y	Mould would not be covered in detail in a Strategy document but it is important.	Cllr Seamons / Martin Shaw	2 Feb 15
3. That the City Council reviews whether mould is a recurring issue in the stock condition survey, and ensures that where mould occurs, it is treated effectively.	Y	Information about the National Home Swap Scheme is made available but we can tighten this up.	Cllr Seamons / Martin Shaw	2 Feb 15
4. That the City Council ensures that information about the National Home Swap scheme is made available to tenants who are under-occupying, in addition to other options.	Y		Cllr Seamons / Martin Shaw	2 Feb 15
Oxford Standard – Scrutiny Committee 8 December				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. To include the Oxford Standard in the developing Asset Management Plan and provide a clear and “action planned” commitment to delivery.	Y	All recommendations are accepted with the exception of some details in recommendation 3. Budgetary constraints ultimately mean the council cannot deliver on all tenant aspirations with regards to bathroom and kitchen specifications, having instead prioritised improvements in energy efficiency.	Cllr Seamons / Stephen Clarke	2 Feb 15
2. To include the following categories of work within the Oxford Standard: • Bathrooms • Kitchens • Security • Efficiency and Heating • Environment All these categories of works should include some degree of choice for tenants where this is possible.	Y	The extensive summer consultation made clear that tenants see delivering energy efficiency measures as a top priority. The kitchen and bathroom specifications will however be upgraded, including with	Cllr Seamons / Stephen Clarke	2 Feb 15
3. That the following works are included in the Oxford Standard across the categories	In part		Cllr Seamons / Stephen	2 Feb 15

recommended. The Panel recognise that the view they have taken of best practice, within social housing providers, has been limited by time and therefore wish to propose this Standard as a minimum. This work should be carried out to programme regardless of condition... <i>(detailed proposals)</i>		respect to the following points: - Renewal cycle for bathrooms to be reduced from 30 to 25 years. The renewal cycle for kitchens will remain at 20 years in accordance with best practice.	Clarke	
4. The priority for delivering the Oxford Standard should be decided by a combination of significant pockets of disrepair (identified with the stock condition survey) and the views of residents. The Panel was conscious that respondents to the surveys were not necessarily representative geographically so would recommend that more work is done on an area by area basis to determine local priorities.	Y	- The Council will now provide a shower over bath as standard and only provide a shower instead of a bath where this is required to meet the needs of someone with a disability.	Cllr Seamons / Stephen Clarke	2 Feb 15
5. Works should be packaged together so that more efficient outcomes for residents and the Council can be achieved. For example: • If we replace windows then doors should be done at the same time (if needed) to give optimum benefits. • If the heating is to be replaced or upgraded we should consider insulation and other connected repairs at the same time. This should be a fundamental part of the planning process	Y		Cllr Seamons / Stephen Clarke	2 Feb 15
6. Delivery of the Oxford Standard should be on an area by area basis with good communication both within and outside of the area so that all tenants can easily access information on when, where, how and why. The Panel would like to review the proposals for this communication.	Y		Cllr Seamons / Stephen Clarke	2 Feb 15
7. Individual tenants should not be able to “opt out” except in very exceptional circumstances. If there	Y		Cllr Seamons / Stephen	2 Feb 15

are difficulties these should be recognised and support offered so that the work can take place. Properties should be maintained for both the present and the future.			Clarke	
8. As the Panel considered their recommendations a number of principles were voiced that can be found in the recommendations but the Panel wanted to put these in one place for clarity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes should be maintained for the present and the future so opt-outs from repairs should not be allowed except in very exceptional circumstances. • Difficulties of individual tenants should be recognised and support offered. • Optimum result for residents for the work commissioned • The “like for like principle” should be removed • Allow “choice” for tenants wherever possible • A joined up approach to delivery • Improved communication plans for tenants on what, where, when and why. Timescale for delivery of the Oxford Standard is available for each area. • The quality of work should be of a high standard judged both by the Council and tenants. 	Y		Cllr Seamons / Stephen Clarke	2 Feb 15
Discretionary Rate Relief Policy – Scrutiny Committee 8 December				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. That non-profit making organisations are clearly encouraged to contact the City Council for an early assessment of whether they may be entitled to discretionary reliefs.	Y	All rate payers receive an annual bill which contains information about reliefs. Smaller start-ups are more difficult to identify but perhaps Scrutiny could help with this.	Cllr Brown / Tanya Bandekar	TBC
Clean Streets – Scrutiny Committee 8 December				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date

1. That consideration is given to how street cleaning can be sufficiently resourced whilst the Streetscene Service responds appropriately to future flooding events.	N	As the public understands, at times of emergency such as flooding, it is vital that City Council staff are deployed to safeguard life and property. Sometimes this will mean some street cleaning being postponed until after the emergency is over.	Cllr Tanner / Doug Loveridge	NA
2. That the street cleaning service standards are circulated to elected members, so that any Member requests for additional work can be costed and considered within the current budget round.	Y	I am very happy to ask officers to circulate streets cleaning standards to be circulated to all councillors.	Cllr Tanner / Doug Loveridge	Y
3. That clarification is provided as to what legal powers the City Council has to ensure the removal of graffiti from privately owned properties. Any guidance provide (e.g. online, written correspondence) should be reviewed and updated accordingly.	Y	This seems timely and Legal colleagues will review what powers (if any) are available. The Council is also planning to invest in a new officer post to encourage graffiti removal from private properties.	Cllr Tanner / Doug Loveridge	Y
Statement of Community Involvement 2014 Review – Scrutiny Committee 10 November				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. That the Statement of Community engagement clearly sets out how members of the public can access paper versions of planning documents	Y	Very happy to accept that change to the report	Cllr Price / Lyndsey Beveridge	Y
Towards Mental Health and Wellbeing – Scrutiny Committee 6 October				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
2. That the establishment of the Member Challenge Panel for Mental Health and Wellbeing does not divert officer resources away from other Member Services such as Scrutiny. Consideration should be given to whether a budget bid is required to support this	Y	I would anticipate this challenge panel being member led, and operating for the most part informally, rather than drawing upon extensive officer support.	Cllr Turner / Val Johnson	March 2015

new Member Panel.				
3. That the Action Plan is updated and elaborated upon to include progress made against actions that are due.	Y	These are sensible comments on how to develop the action plan, and we had certainly hoped to update and monitor it.	Cllr Turner / Val Johnson	March 2015
4. That resources required to deliver the Action Plan are fully identified and costed, so that any bids for additional resources can be made as part of the current budget setting process.	Y		Cllr Turner / Val Johnson	March 2015
5. That consideration is given to the role of ethnic minority groups and faith leaders in supporting mental health and wellbeing in Oxford, and to how these can be included in the action plan.	Y		Cllr Turner / Val Johnson	March 2015
6. That consideration is given to how the action plan supports the mental health and wellbeing of service personnel and veterans, and to whether more focus on these specific groups is required.	Y		Cllr Turner / Val Johnson	March 2015
Draft Culture Strategy 2015-18 – Scrutiny Committee 6 October				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. That the Culture Strategy presents the fullest picture of Oxford's cultural offering, including cultural experiences that the City Council is not directly involved in.	Y	The Strategy is focused on cultural offerings and experiences that the Council supports (by funding or partnership working) or delivers. There's no reason why we can't explore these links.	Cllr Simm / Peter McQuitty	Feb 2015
2. That the Culture Strategy sets out how City Council functions such as licencing and planning can play an important role in supporting culture.	Y	Yes	Cllr Simm / Peter McQuitty	Feb 2015
3. That the list of organisations invited to contribute to the Culture Strategy is shared with elected members, so that they can make any further suggestions.	Y	Yes. Happy for this to be shared with anyone else members think would be helpful.	Cllr Simm / Peter McQuitty	Feb 2015
4. That consideration is given to how the City Council can encourage visitors to spend more time	Y	This will be considered by Experience Oxfordshire, who are funded by the City	Cllr Simm / Peter McQuitty	Feb 2015

in Oxford, and to whether increasing visitor length of stay should be made a priority in the Culture Strategy.		Council, and included in their Service Level Agreement. It will also be considered in the action plan under priority one; Support the sustainability of Oxford's cultural sector and improve the skills and diversity of the city's current and future creative workforce.		
Budget Monitoring 2014/15 – Quarter 1 – Finance Panel 4 September				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
7. That urgent action is taken to avoid a loss of subsidy relating to the overpayment of benefits.	Y	Extra action is already being taken, looking at training and processes. The threshold is more stringent this year due to the removal of Council Tax benefit from this calculation.	Cllr Turner / Helen Bishop	Y
8. If necessary to avoid slippage, a flexible approach should be taken to spending the £2m investment in Homelessness Property Acquisitions in 2014/2015. This could include investing in social housing instead.	In part	Note sentiment but other uses are likely to take longer.	Cllr Turner	N/A
9. The premises for the heavy vehicle testing facility should be flexible enough that it can be used for other purposes in the event that the testing facility is not successful.	Y	The facility is expected to be successful.	Cllr Turner	March 2015
10. The capital programme should be a red risk in performance reports until the new capital gateway process proven to be effective.	N	Risks are measured using the Risk Management Framework agreed by Council.	Cllr Turner	N/A
Treasury Management – Finance Panel 4 September				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. That consideration is given to how the capital process can be made more flexible so that approved projects can be brought forward to mitigate slippage elsewhere in the programme.	In part	Noted. Where possible a flexible approach will be taken. Changes to the capital programme have to be agreed by Council.	Cllr Turner	N/A

Oxfordshire Growth Board - Scrutiny Committee 23 June				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. For the Terms of Reference to explicitly set out that meeting agendas and minutes will be publicly available and that access to meetings will be possible for Councillors and members of the public.	Y	This suggestion will be referred to the Board	Cllr Price	Dec 2014
Community Engagement Policy Statement - Scrutiny Committee 23 June				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
11. To provide a clear statement in the principles on the ambition for engagement focusing on depth as well as breadth.	Y	Merged with recommendation 3.	Cllrs Price & Simm; Sadie Paige	N/A
12. To provide information on the engagement ambitions set for all consultations during the last year, what was achieved and how this fits with the principles set within the Policy Statement.	Y	To provide this information for all consultations would be a huge piece of work so a sample will be used instead, together with a forward-looking approach.	Cllrs Price & Simm; Sadie Paige	Verbal update on progress expected on 10 Nov 14. Full response to follow.
13. To suggest to the Scrutiny Committee an up and coming engagement/empowerment exercise that can act as a pilot study to demonstrate the effectiveness of the principles within this report.	Y	Two consultations identified as candidates for the pilot as per CEB suggestion. Project brief created for the pilot, which includes the objectives, and a reporting template.	Cllrs Price & Simm; Sadie Paige	2 March 15
14. To provide a table that shows how all comments received during the consultation on this Policy Statement have been handled.	Y	Expected at 10 November Scrutiny Committee meeting.	Cllrs Price & Simm; Sadie Paige	10 Nov 14
End of Year Integrated Report – 2013-2014 - Scrutiny Committee 23 June				
Recommendation	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N
2. The Committee supports the purchase of the Iffley Road building as an asset of value to the	Y	Noted (£250k has been earmarked for acquisition of property).	Cllr Turner; Nigel	N

community and recognises that negotiations are on-going. There is a gap between the asking price and the money available and the City Executive Board is asked to do what it can within reasonable value for money criteria to secure the purchase of this property.			Kennedy; Jane Lubbock	
3. To consider the contingency available to support homelessness in light of county proposals for implementing cuts in the Supporting People and if underspends from 13/14 should be maintained within this budget.	N	Current level of contingency considered to be sufficient.	Cllr Turner; Nigel Kennedy; Jane Lubbock	N/A
Fusion Lifestyle Performance 2013-2014 - Scrutiny Committee 23 June				
Additional information requested	Agreed Y/N	Outcome	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N
<p>Facility running costs It was agreed at the June meeting in 2013 that the running costs of the facilities would be shown including all capital investment and loan cost in the next report. This hadn't been done.</p> <p>Performance outside of expectations Members asked how poor performance was addressed and asked to see the issues raised and the actions/penalties taken over the last year.</p> <p>Publicity Campaign An issue was raised concerning literature used to highlight the Active Women Campaign. The images used were considered to be too stereotypical and gendered. The Committee asked that this issue be taken up with Sports England who run this national campaign.</p> <p>Views of non-card users at facilities</p>	N/A	<p>Information papers considered by Scrutiny Committee on 2 September.</p> <p>Meeting offered to Chair to discuss finance investment financing.</p>	Cllr Rowley; Lucy Cherry	Y

<p>The Committee asked to see any information on the views and experiences of non-card users.</p> <p>Falling attendance amongst young people The Committee were concerned to see this and wanted some more detailed data and information to understand more fully the reasons behind it and whether it was a particular set of circumstances or a trend.</p> <p>Information excluded from the public The Committee heard a complaint from a member of the public that the information provided outlining the running costs to the Council of each Leisure Facility should be made public because if the Council was still running these centres then the information would be available publically. The Committee heard that this was commercial information but asked that this exclusion is reconsidered by Fusion.</p> <p>Investment financing Members were interested in why the City Council financed investment spending that Fusion Lifestyle was originally required to finance, and in how much this saved the partnership.</p>				
---	--	--	--	--

