Agenda Item 6

Scrutiny Survey Responses

#	1. Do you feel that you've had sufficient opportunity to contribute to the scrutiny work programme over the last 12 months?	2. What issues or topics do you think scrutiny should look at over the coming municipal year?	3. Do you think scrutiny adds value to decision making?	4. Do you have any other feedback or suggestions as to how the City Council's scrutiny process could be improved?
1	No	Public Communications	No	More members of the opposition parties
2	Yes – but I'm short of time	Better partnership with the County Council; graffiti; how the City Council can help to improve the health of people in the City; how to improve educational attainment; how to ensure that CAN does more effective community engagement; how to ensure that the County Council improves the maintenance of roads and pavements, including repainting lines.	Yes – I like the careful and largely positive responses from CEB.	More officer time.
3	As a CEB member, I am not directly involved in the development of the programme, but the Labour Group has considered this and discussed the shape of the programme and we think that we have a very balanced approach to scrutiny.	Transport (the OTS). The continuing problems of educational under attainment, mental health services, homelessness	Definitely; I would just want to flag up an over involvement with CEB papers pre scrutiny rather than picking up cross cutting or wider policy issues where there have been really important contributions – eg on flooding and drainage	I think it would be good to get scrutiny recommendations a lot earlier before a CEB meeting if they relate to the papers for decision at that meeting; this would allow for more discussion and dialogue.

4	Yes	Pleased they are monitoring PSPOs	Yes	It would be useful for the committee to revisit recommendations they have made This may already be happening, but it would reassure councillors that EB are responding appropriately.
5	Yes	Low rates of return for feedback on city council consultations and the budget. What efforts are being made to engage with the public so that we have a better idea about opinion and impact of policies.	Yes I think that the budget review was influential. As a board member the suggestions sometimes offer guidance.	The scrutiny panel has a large workload. Perhaps more councillors need to be members so that they are able to specialise in topics that are of particular interest
6		Could we look at the Youth Ambition, and the joint working protocol for youth service delivery with the county. What does the Oxford model look like ?is it value for moneyetc are our targets to high ?		
7	Yes (insofar as it is appropriate for me to do so).	Obviously the budget. Economic development. Child poverty. Sustainability of housing stock. Primary care in Oxford.	Yes, unequivocally. It is best when it is not commenting on CEB reports but pursuing a wider agenda, and is not just hearing from councillors and officers, but wider stakeholders.	The most obvious improvement would be to set the decision-framing Labour group meeting on the budget as a final back-stop date for that report.

8	Yes. Certainly.	In view of the pressure of time, the priority in the areas and Panels with which I am familiar will be to take forward outstanding items from this year. Other possible new topics include Heritage & Conservation, which could review the impact if the Design Review Panel; and Graffiti.	Yes. Certainly.	
9	Yes.	Continue work on local economy and housing, plus a review of local democracy and it's relationship to residents and businesses.	Yes	We need to go back to having more scrutiny committees, which may mean less panels.
10	Not much in fact – as a non-member of the Committee. Some as a member of the Finance Panel.	List coming later today!	It should – but sometimes reports come too late , better to have them before they are finalised for CEB	Having separate Scrutiny committees for separate services, or groups of services, would help people to become knowledgeable about a particular service, not just look at isolated parts of all services. In particular, I think budget scrutiny needs to be open to all councillors- not even just the Scrutiny committee, which did not happen this year due to the time being too short. All councillors should

	have sight of the suggested bids and savings and be able to comment before they are put into a committee report – maybe brought together at a full Scrutiny Committee meeting and then the comments forwarded to CEB.
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