

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

APPOINTMENT OF PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY CHAMPION

14th June 2023

Report of Chief Officer - Governance

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To enable Members to make an appointment for the current Municipal Year.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) The Committee is requested to consider appointment of a pre-scrutiny champion.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 APPOINTMENT OF PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY CHAMPION

Pre-Decision Scrutiny Champion

This is the process by which members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee become involved with decisions at a stage before the decision is formally taken.

This approach proves beneficial as it:

- Involves non-executive councillors at the pre-decision stage.
- Reduces the need for call-ins through developing an understanding of an issue and ensuring that reports for decision adequately reflect different options and approaches.
- Adds value to reports through wider consultation.

There are many ways in which pre-decision scrutiny can be undertaken and achieved as follows:

- Examination of the List of Forthcoming Key Decisions.
- Information obtained arising from discussions with Cabinet Members and Chief Officers.
- Examination of the Council Plan and budget information.

The role of the Pre-Scrutiny Champion is to take the lead and help develop this process. He/she can:

- Liaise with Members of Overview and Scrutiny to highlight potential areas for pre-decision scrutiny.
- Consider and review the List of Forthcoming Key Decisions.
- Assist other Councillors (including Members of the Committee) to identify pre-scrutiny issues and propose ways in which these can be approached.
- Provide comments on the structure and functioning of the List of Forthcoming Key Decisions to assist the City Council with its improvement and advancement.

The Committee is asked to appoint a Councillor to undertake the task of Pre-Scrutiny Champion.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK	
There are no direct implications as a result of this report.	
CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)	
There are no direct implications as a result of this report.	
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
There are no legal implications as a direct result of this report.	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	
There are no financial implications as a result of this report.	
OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, such as Human Resources; Information Services; Property; Open Spaces:	
None.	
SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.	
MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Contact Officer: Stephen Metcalfe Telephone: 01524 582073 E-mail: sjmetcalfe@lancaster.gov.uk
None.	