

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

9 November 2016

SCRUTINY BOARD

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

1. Scrutiny Board attended Executive (Performance Monitoring) on 16 August 2016 and contributed to 'in-depth' discussions on performance with regard to:
 - Highway Maintenance
 - Winter Maintenance
 - Waste Management.

A number of key issues were raised by Scrutiny Board members, including:

- The long term, trend costs associated with gritting the county's roads and the maintenance of sufficient salt supplies to meet increased demand in the event of a harsh winter
 - The potential impact of 'Brexit' upon the future of the Teckal agreement for the Allerton Park facility
 - The additional funding made available to maintain the county's roads, from the Local Enterprise Partnership and Government, and how and where this would be used.
2. Scrutiny Board has not met since County Council on 24 February 2016, in its role as a co-ordinating body for overview and scrutiny. In response, I have led a review and refresh of the current arrangements. The aim of this process is to re-assert the role and responsibilities of Scrutiny Board, ensuring that:
 - There are no gaps or un-necessary overlaps in overview and scrutiny across the council
 - Opportunities for joint scrutiny are realised
 - There is a forum for overview and scrutiny committee Chairs to act as critical friends, provide challenge and promote good scrutiny method and practice
 - Council –wide performance issues can be investigated to see whether there is a need for overview and scrutiny to pursue particular lines of enquiry
 - Forward planning of the overview and scrutiny committee work programmes and horizon scanning to pick up emergent issues.

The intention is to have the first meeting of Scrutiny Board in its new format in early November 2016.

County Councillor Elizabeth Casling
Chairman: Scrutiny Board

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