

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

18 July 2018

SCRUTINY BOARD – STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

Members will be aware that Scrutiny Board brings together the Chairs of the five thematic overview and scrutiny committees at the Council and the Older Peoples' and Young People's Champions. It provides an opportunity for a whole council view of scrutiny activity, which avoids gaps and overlaps and helps establish a lead committee for areas of joint interest. It also provides a forum in which the key performance issues for the Council can be reviewed and items for further scrutiny identified.

Scrutiny Board last met on 8 June 2018. At that meeting:

- The key findings from the Northamptonshire County Council Best Value Inspection Report were reviewed. Whilst there was no immediate concern that something similar would happen here, it was noted that this was one of a number of high profile incidences over the past 10 years where governance has failed in the public sector.
- An update on the new Area Constituency Committees and a discussion on how overview and scrutiny at a county level could work with these new committees.
- The Older People's Champion, Cllr Karen Sedgwick, gave an update on her work, in particular local examples of community-based end of life care. The Scrutiny of Health Committee had previously conducted an in-depth review of end of life care in the county.
- The work programmes for the five committees were reviewed and areas of common interest identified.

Members of Scrutiny Board attended the Executive Performance Monitoring meeting on 12 June 2018, to raise questions regarding key areas of the Council's performance, including determining what work was being done to:

- Increase disease free life expectancy and also to reduce the inequalities in disease free life expectancy across the county
- Increase the take up of NHS Health Checks in the county
- Reduce smoking prevalence
- Move more of the Council's services on-line.

The next meeting of Scrutiny Board is on 10 August 2018. In addition to scrutinising council-wide performance, the meeting will review:

- Proposals for increasing performance reporting to overview and scrutiny committees
- Options for a peer review of overview and scrutiny at the Council.

Chairman
Cllr Jim Clark
2 July 2018.