

Overview and Scrutiny

Key factors for assessing review issues

1 Public Interest

Overview and Scrutiny provides the key mechanism for involving the public and so one of the first considerations must be if the issue is of concern to the public. Indeed experience has shown that the public will only attend and be involved in scrutiny processes if issues are of local concern.

2 Rationale for selection

Why should we do this? Where has the pressure come from? Is the request for review addressing a real need or responding to someone's whim? Any review should 'add value' to the work of the authority and this should be a major consideration when proposing issues for review.

3 Evidence

This is evidence gathered to support the need for a review, what are the facts? Poor performing service (performance indicators) How many members of the public have complained? How many letters have been received? Etc (See above).

4 Desired Outcome

What are we seeking to achieve by undertaking this review? This is not determining the outcome of the review but making it fairly clear from the outset what the review should be seeking to achieve as an outcome, this could include:

- Ensuring appropriate consultation
- Improve service delivery
- Addressing corporate priorities
- Addressing a need
- Review policy
- Making an impact