

EXECUTIVE, POLICY & COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY PANEL DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

Executive, Policy & Community
Safety Scrutiny Panel

30 May 2018

Report Author

Senior Democratic Services Officer

Portfolio Holder

Councillor Savage, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance & Coastal Development

Status

For Decision

Classification:

Unrestricted

Key Decision

No

Ward:

Thanet Wide

Executive Summary:

This report sets out the draft terms of reference of the Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel. The Panel is one of two scrutiny panels that were established to replace the former Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 10 May 2018.

Members are being asked to provide comments on the proposed draft terms of reference before they are considered by the Constitutional Review Working Party, Standards and Full Council (in July 2018).

Recommendations:

Members are requested to consider the following recommendations:

- a) To note the draft terms of reference for the Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel;
- b) To forward key comments on the draft terms of reference to the Constitutional Review Working Party for onward submission to the Standards Committee and Council.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report as the report is meant to introduce the draft terms of reference for a newly created scrutiny panel.
Legal	There are no legal issues arising directly from this report. However a robust scrutiny function that is set up in a positive critical friend environment effective decision making and policy development.
Corporate	Once the terms of reference are confirmed, the Panel would need to come up with their first work programme which should help to deliver effective

	<p>policy development by scrutinising executive decisions before implementation.</p> <p>The committee would conduct in-depth study of issues that fall under their remit. An active scrutiny programme is part of good governance.</p>								
Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	<p>Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p> <p>Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,</td> <td style="text-align: center;">✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>No implications arise directly but the Council needs to retain a strong focus and understanding on issues of diversity amongst the local community and ensure service delivery matches these.</p> <p>It is important to be aware of the Council's responsibility under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and show evidence that due consideration had been given to the equalities impact that may be brought upon communities by the decisions made by Council.</p>	Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.		Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,	✓	Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it		Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.	
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant)✓	
A clean and welcoming Environment	
Promoting inward investment and job creation	
Supporting neighbourhoods	✓

CORPORATE VALUES (tick those relevant)✓	
Delivering value for money	✓
Supporting the Workforce	
Promoting open communications	✓

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 This paper allows the Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel to consider its draft terms of reference as the first substantive item of business before setting out its work programme for 2018/19 in a subsequent meeting.
- 1.2 Any key comments emerging from this Panel meeting would be forwarded to the Constitutional Review Working Party for onward recommendation to Standards Committee and Full Council.
- 1.3 It is anticipated that Council would finalise the decision on the terms of reference for the Panel on 12 July 2018, in time for the second meeting of the Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel.

2.0 Draft Terms of reference of the Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

- 2.1 At Annual Council this May, Council agreed a new approach to the scrutiny function and established two scrutiny panels. One of the panels would focus on monitoring the budget and performance of the Council, East Kent Services and East Kent Housing, whilst the other would lead scrutiny on policy development, community safety matters and exercise the call-in function.
- 2.2 The purpose of this report is to assist the Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel to consider and comment on the draft terms of reference for their allocated work area before they are finalised by Council in July 2018.

3.0 Options

- 3.1 Members could either provide key comments to be considered by the Constitutional Review Working Party;

or

- 3.2 They could opt to note the report only.

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Reporting to:	Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager, Ext 57208

Annex List

Annex 1	Executive, Policy & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel draft terms of reference
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation

Finance	Ramesh Prashar, Head of Financial Services
Legal	Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance & Monitoring Officer