

Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources)

Date: 22 May 2017

Subject: Commissioning – draft scrutiny inquiry report

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. At the beginning of the previous municipal year (2015/16), the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) considered undertaking a piece of work around 'commissioning' – the focus being to look at the principles, benefits and practicalities of developing a centralised commissioning hub, which aimed to ensure services are commissioned consistently across the Council, based on the evidence of what works and what is value for money.
2. This inquiry has now concluded and the Board is in a position to report on its findings and recommendations resulting from the work undertaken and information gathered. The Board's draft report is attached at Appendix 1 to be formally considered and agreed.
3. Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 13.2 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be reported to the Scrutiny Board and considered before the report is finalised". The Director (Adults and Health) has provided the following comment / advice for consideration of by the Scrutiny Board:

'Staff have found the Scrutiny Inquiry thought-provoking and challenging (in a good way). We will now need to undertake a period of consultation in order to co-ordinate a response with our Executive Board members and Scrutiny Chairs as the recommendations impact upon their portfolio area.'

4. Once the Board publishes its final report, the appropriate Director(s) will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations within three months.

Recommendations

5. Members are asked to consider and agree the attached report following its inquiry into commissioning.

Background documents¹

6. None used

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.