

# Developing Scrutiny

As has been our practice in previous Annual Reports we have published an Action Plan for the coming year. We have also reviewed last years Plan and made an assessment on how well we have met our previous ambitions.

The Action Plan this year reflects what we consider to be the main areas for development. A key focus remains ensuring that Scrutiny is a worthwhile process and adds value to the running of the Council. By doing this we will ensure that Scrutiny has a meaningful role to play in the running of the City. This in turn will encourage elected Members, partners and communities to become actively involved in the Scrutiny process.

Other goals include building on the key relationship between the Executive and Scrutiny and brining into focus the importance of Scrutiny in driving improvements within the Local Area Agreement.

How we meaningfully scrutinise the Budget must also be an area where we can improve our performance.

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## Action Plan 2007/08

## Progress

Improve the way in which Recommendations are monitored

OSC have agreed a new method for tracking and monitoring recommendations. This method will make it easier for the Boards to identify progress and obstacles in implementing recommendations. Recommendations made following scrutiny work will be SMART in order to assist in their implementation and to ensure measurable outcomes are achieved

Improve Budget monitoring

OSC will implement the revised arrangements for scrutiny of the budget which includes quarterly financial health checks and links to performance management.

Improve Performance Management

Scrutiny has in place a robust system for monitoring performance. This includes the Executive referring to OSC overall performance and any areas of issue.

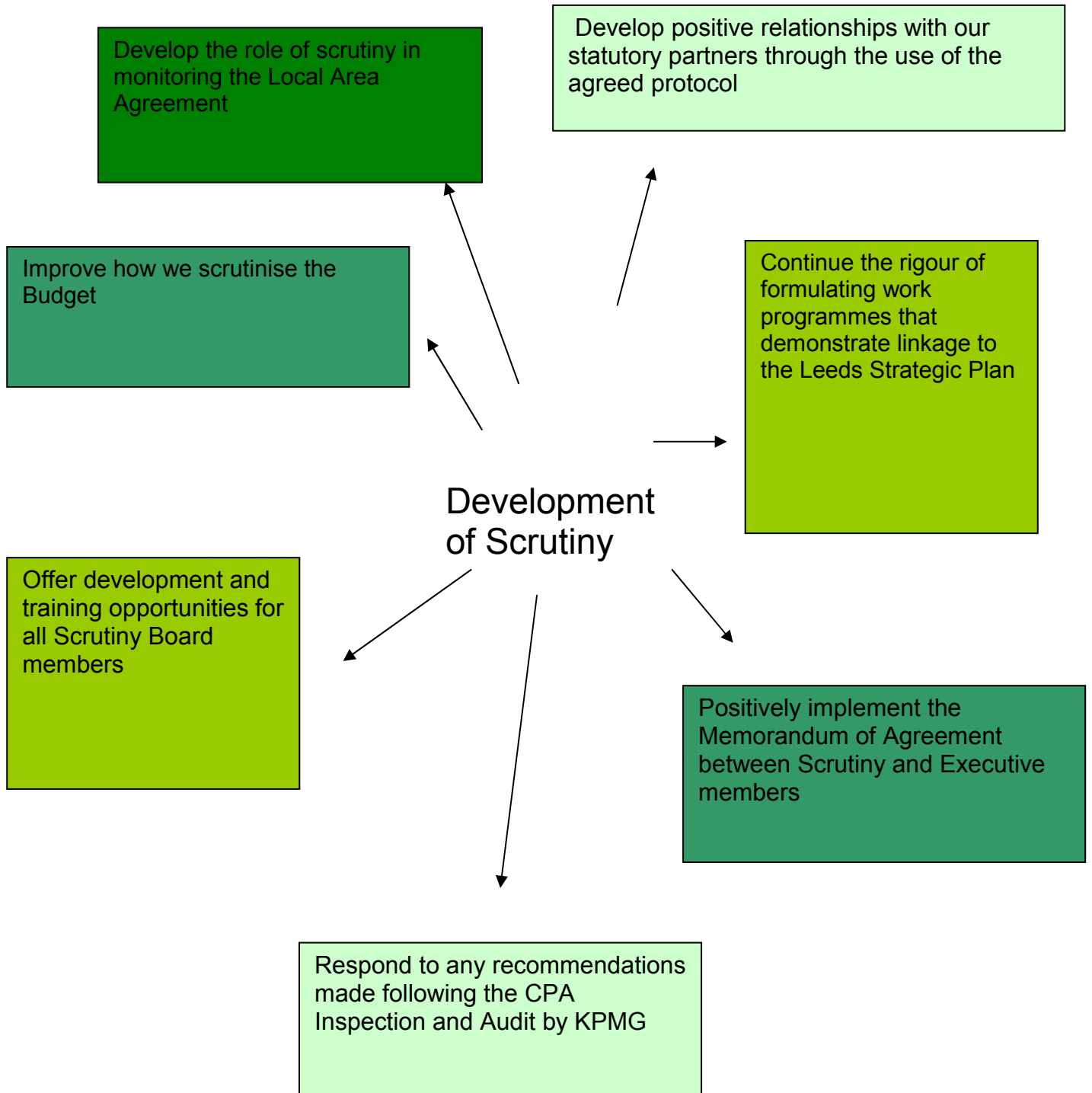
Discuss with the Chief Democratic Services Officer improvement to the Forward Plan of Key Decisions including the classification of key decisions by Strategic Outcome.

Discussions are currently underway as to how the Forward Plan might be improved.

**Responding to the Local Government Act**

Work has begun on how best to manage Councillor Calls for Action and the scrutiny of statutory partner within the Local Area Agreement.

# Action Plan 2008/09



# Scrutiny Publications 2007/08

Guide to Scrutiny – comprehensive publication

Revised and updated Information Leaflets:

Guide to Scrutiny – officers

Guide to Scrutiny – Members

Guide to Scrutiny – external witnesses

Final Reports issued by Scrutiny Boards in 2007/08:

- Fountain Primary School
- Services for 18 – 13 year olds
- Education standards
- The localisation of health and social care services in Leeds
- Reviewing the commissioning of passenger transport & taxi & private hire contracts
- Consultation Processes
- Wharfemeadows Fence Inquiry
- Housing Lettings

Statements issued by Scrutiny Boards in 2007-08

- Inclusion
- The NHS Dental Contract: One year on
- Teenage Pregnancy in Leeds
- Obesity in Leeds
- Comments of the Leeds Strategic Plan
- Disability employment strategies
- Sickness absence
- Shared Spaces
- Council's role in reducing CO2 emissions

Operational Documents

- Memorandum of Understanding between Executive Board and Overview and Scrutiny
- Protocol between Scrutiny and Statutory Public Sector Partners in Leeds.

A list of all final reports since 1999 can be found on our internet site.  
[www.leeds.gov.uk/scrutiny](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/scrutiny)

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