



Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board 2021/22 Municipal Year Summary Report

Introduction

The role of Scrutiny is recognised nationally as a critical and integral part of the overall improvement landscape for local government, including the general accountability and governance arrangements for local councils and some other local statutory bodies.

The general Terms of Reference for all Scrutiny Boards are set out in Leeds City Council's Constitution – available here: [Scrutiny Boards \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/scrutiny-boards).

While general Terms of Reference is applied to all Scrutiny Boards, the variations in the Scrutiny Boards' remits, together with their special responsibilities, are captured within [Article 6 of Leeds City Council's Constitution](#).

Article 6 also sets out the Council's agreed 'Vision for Scrutiny' which follows the nationally agreed 'Four Principles of Good Scrutiny' and sets out a number of conditions that need to be present to enable the vision to be fulfilled locally.

Scrutiny Boards usually meet in public, holding key decision makers to account, as well as providing 'critical friend' challenge and support whenever service delivery outcomes and performance expectations are not being met.

Purpose of the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources)

The remit of the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) involves focusing on the council's central strategic and regulatory functions, including financial services, human resources, digital and information services, elections, registrars, licensing, local land charges and council tax processing.

The Board also oversees cultural related activities to deliver the city's cultural ambitions and has special responsibility for any other matters that do not fall within the remit of any other Scrutiny Board.

Membership

Membership of all Scrutiny Boards broadly reflects the political balance of the Council and cannot include members of the Council's Executive. There is also provision for Scrutiny Boards to appoint additional non-voting Co-opted Members.

For the 2021/22 municipal year, the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) included the following members:

- Councillor Sharon Burke
- Councillor Peter Carlill
- Councillor Diane Chapman
- Councillor Sam Firth
- Councillor Sharon Hamilton
- Councillor Julie Heselwood
- Councillor Andy Hutchison
- Councillor James McKenna
- Councillor Matthew Robinson
- Councillor Andrew Scopes
- Councillor Simon Seary

Further information about individual Councillors can be accessed by clicking the names above.

Principal Scrutiny Adviser: Rob Clayton

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Scrutiny Board Chair

Councillor Andrew Scopes was appointed as Chair of the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) during the Council meeting held on Thursday 20th May 2021.

A Statement from the Scrutiny Board Chair acknowledging key areas of work undertaken by the Scrutiny Board during the 2021/22 municipal year is set out below.

Completed Work Schedule for the 2021/22 Municipal Year

Each Scrutiny Board schedules eight formal or 'consultative'¹ meetings throughout the course of a municipal year which are open to the public. The decision to hold any additional meetings is left to the discretion of each Board.

Scrutiny Boards also adopt other methods of evidence gathering outside of the public meeting setting, such as site visits and working group meetings. The primary purpose of a working group meeting is to obtain and/or develop information which cannot realistically be undertaken within the confines of a formally convened Scrutiny Board meeting. A working group cannot discharge the primary purpose of a Scrutiny Board i.e. it cannot undertake or conduct Inquiries independently from its parent Scrutiny Board, issue reports/recommendations (other than to its parent Scrutiny Board) or in any way present itself to a third party as representing the views of the parent Scrutiny Board.

The completed work schedule of the Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources) for the 2021/22 municipal year has been provided as part of this summary report. This presents an overview of all meetings held throughout the year and the work items considered as part of each meeting. The work schedule also includes links to the agenda papers, minutes and webcast recordings of the Scrutiny Board's publicly accessible meetings.

¹ Consultative meetings are held remotely and webcasted live to enable public access. However, they are not a public meeting held in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.



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Councillor Andrew Scopes Chair of Scrutiny Board (Strategy and Resources)

“This year the work of the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board has continued to reflect on the impact of Covid-19 and the ongoing recovery measures across the local health and care system. In particular, the Board looked at understanding and addressing the symptoms of ‘long Covid’ and liaised closely with the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust to consider the impact of the Covid-19 Omicron variant on local service delivery.

Having previously engaged with NHS England back in September 2020 to consider the initial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the provision and accessibility of local dental services, the Board also undertook further scrutiny this year to understand the current position surrounding access to local NHS dental services from the perspective of primary, community and secondary care services, including urgent dental care services.

With the new Health and Care Act 2022 introducing significant reforms to the organisation and delivery of health and care services in England, we also focused our attention on the implications of such reforms in context for health and social care in West Yorkshire and Leeds. With the expectation of new Integrated Care Systems being put onto a statutory footing from July 2022, the Board maintained a watching brief surrounding the development of the local Integrated Care System. In January 2022, the Board provided feedback on the draft constitution of the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) as part of the broader consultation process being led by the West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership. In acknowledging the intention of the West Yorkshire ICB to discharge duties through delegation to place-based committees, we also monitored the development of the Leeds Committee of the ICB.

In accordance with existing legislation, NHS commissioners and service providers have a duty to consult local authorities (through the health scrutiny function) where any proposal is under consideration for a substantial development of the health service or a substantial variation in the provision of such a service. Linked to this, the Board was consulted on plans to redesign the Community Neurological Rehabilitation Service in Leeds. The timeliness of this meant that the Board was able to share its views prior to a final decision being made. We therefore considered the themes and emerging priority areas emerging from the patient and public engagement process in terms of informing the developing model of delivery for the Community Neurological Rehabilitation Service.

As part of the Board’s remit around active lifestyles, we also considered and welcomed the development of the Physical Activity Ambition for Leeds that is being led by Active Leeds and Public Health together with partners across the city. To help gain an insight into the offer being provided across different communities, Board Members also carried out site visits to Active Leeds facilities across the city.

I would very much like to thank the Executive Members, officers and all partners for their support and active contributions to the work of the Scrutiny Board over the last twelve months and I am also very grateful to my fellow Board Members for their passion and ongoing commitment towards addressing the health and wellbeing needs of Leeds residents”.



SCRUTINY BOARD (STRATEGY AND RESOURCES) Work Schedule for 2021/2022 Municipal Year

June	July	August
<u>Agenda, minutes & recording for 21 June 2021</u>	<u>Agenda, minutes & recording for 19 July 2021</u>	No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.
<p><u>Consultative meeting</u></p> <p>Scrutiny Board Terms of Reference and Sources of Work (DB)</p> <p>Performance Update (PM)</p> <p>Scrutiny Inquiry – Agile Working and Estate Realisation - Staff and HR Feedback (PDS)</p> <p>DIS – Vision, Project and Programme Management (PSR)</p>	<p><u>Consultative meeting</u></p> <p>Budget 2021/22 Service Reviews (PM)</p> <p>Scrutiny Inquiry – Future working arrangements, Agile Working and Estate Realisation (PSR)</p> <p>Agency Staff at Leeds City Council (PM)</p> <p>DIS – Vision, Project and Programme Management – Second Report (PSR)</p>	
Working Group Meetings		
Site Visits		

Scrutiny Work Items Key:

PSR	Policy/Service Review	RT	Recommendation Tracking	DB	Development Briefings
PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring	C	Consultation Response



SCRUTINY BOARD (STRATEGY AND RESOURCES) Work Schedule for 2021/2022 Municipal Year

September	October	November
<u>Agenda, minutes & recording for 20 September 2021</u>	<u>Agenda, minutes & recording for 18 October 2021</u>	<u>Agenda, minutes & recording for 29 November 2021</u>
BAME CLT Action Plan – Update (PM) DIS – Vision, Project and Programme Management – Third Report (PDS) Electoral Services Update - voting behaviour, postal voting and turnout (PM) Scrutiny Inquiry – Agile Working and Estate Realisation – Interim Statement/Inquiry Report – Formal Approval (PSR)	Medium Term Financial Strategy – 2022/23 – 2026/27 and Financial Health Monitoring (PM) Improving Recycling in Leeds (PDS) Year of Culture/Economy/Recovery (PM) Annual Corporate Risk Management Report (PM)	Improving Recycling in Leeds (PDS) Agency Staffing (PM) Scrutiny Inquiry – Future Ways of Working Asset Management and Staff Well Being Update (PDS)
Working Group Meetings		
Site Visits		

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December	January	February
No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.	<u>Agenda, minutes & recording for 24 January 2022</u>	<u>Agenda, minutes & recording for 14 February 2022</u>
	Staff Inclusion Update (PM) Performance Report (PM) 2022/23 Initial Budget Proposals (PDS)/ Financial Health Monitoring (PSR) Best City Ambition Consultation (PDS)	DIS – Service Desk Performance (PM) Customer Contact – self-service, digital exclusion and performance (PDS) FOI Performance/ Elected Member FOI Process (PM)
Working Group Meetings		
13/12/21 – Budget Working Group & Customer Contact – self-service, digital exclusion and performance (PM)		
Site Visits		

Scrutiny Work Items Key:

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PDS	Pre-decision Scrutiny	PM	Performance Monitoring	C	Consultation Response



SCRUTINY BOARD (STRATEGY AND RESOURCES) Work Schedule for 2021/2022 Municipal Year

March	April	May
<u>Agenda, minutes & recording for 28 March 2022</u>	No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.	No Scrutiny Board meeting scheduled.
Procurement – Social Value, Cost Savings (PM) Year of Culture/Economy/Recovery – Second Report (PM) Waste Inquiry - Improving Recycling in Leeds – Summary of Evidence/Scrutiny Statement - (PDS)		
Working Group Meetings		
Site Visits		

Scrutiny Work Items Key:

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