



**Labour Councillor Mark Dobson
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Scrutiny Board members
Safer and Stronger Communities

Dear colleague

Firstly, I would like to extend my sincere apologies to you that it is not possible to attend this meeting of scrutiny to discuss the environmental Services portfolio.

The reason for my absence is that I was invited to sit on the interview panel for senior directorate interviews which date unfortunately could not be rearranged.

However, I would like to assure you that as a former Chair of a scrutiny board, I both welcome and value the mechanism of scrutiny and understand the practical, positive results which can be achieved through the process. I would therefore be delighted to be invited to attend any future scrutiny meetings on any issue in my portfolio that you feel could benefit from my attendance.

Looking at my portfolio, there are certainly issues which I believe would benefit from the input of scrutiny.

The first is food waste collections, and how they can be delivered by the Council in the best and most cost effective way.

I am also aware that this board has been in recent years one of the driving forces in looking at ways to tackle dog fouling in our city,

This summer we embark on phase 2 of consultation regarding the possibility of introducing further Dog Control Orders. I believe this issue would again benefit from the expertise of scrutiny monitoring and feeding into this progress.

In regard to the Council's residual waste PFI project, I also believe scrutiny could be very beneficial in looking at how the authority communicates and engages with the public on a range of different issues.

I look forward to working with you constructively in the next year.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Mark Dobson
Executive Board Member for Environmental Services