

Appendix A

Scrutiny Training with the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny 2023

Date	Training Session	Summary of session	Invitees and Attendees
11 9 23	The Essentials of Effective Strategic Scrutiny	To give Members a clear overview and understanding of scrutiny's strategic role in helping to improve and shape council policy and plans through constructive scrutiny and enquiry.	All Cllrs who sit on a Scrutiny Committee, along with Substitutes (48) Attended by <i>nine</i> councillors.
11 9 23	Questioning and Listening – Essential skills for Scrutiny Cllrs	This session provided an opportunity for members to acquire & develop questioning techniques in a scrutiny setting. The seminar covered how effective, organised and prepared questioning can significantly improve member contributions and overall success of scrutiny sessions, explaining and teaching various techniques and strategies and how they best fit within given situations or objectives.	All Cllrs who sit on a Scrutiny Committee along with substitutes (48) Attended by <i>eight</i> councillors.
29 9 23	Chairing and Leading Scrutiny Committees	Attended by chairs and vice chairs this session provided a clear understanding of the role of the chair in getting the best out of their committee through clear leadership and inclusive chairing. Advice on how their role would extend beyond the committee in developing strong relationships, advocating for scrutiny and being active in the setting of agendas and work programmes	Chairs and vice-chairs of scrutiny committees (six) Attended by <i>five</i> councillors.

2 10 23	Council Finance, Budget and Commercial Scrutiny	<p>Members were encouraged to recognise the vital role of scrutiny in helping to constructively test and challenge to council's corporate priorities and the robustness of financial planning to support them.</p> <p>They gained an understanding of how scrutiny can test assumptions, risks and pressures that underline budgets and medium-term financial plans, and will help with developing questioning strategies to test budget and financial plans and hold to account political decision makers for the delivery of their plans.</p>	<p>All Councillors and substitutes involved with Corporate Scrutiny (18)</p> <p>Optional invitation also sent to other Scrutiny members and subs (29)</p> <p>Attended by <i>five</i> councillors.</p>
9 11 23	Children's Services and Safeguarding	<p>To give Members a clear understanding of their role in ensuring that Children and Family Services are effective.</p> <p>To identify sources of data and information to assist scrutiny along with considering a range of effective questions and lines of enquiry for scrutiny of these services.</p> <p>Discussions around the importance of understanding relationships with key partner agencies, health services and children's health service providers was also discussed.</p>	<p>All committee members & Subs Corporate & Health Scrutiny (31)</p> <p>Attended by <i>seven</i> councillors.</p>
29 11 23	Health & Social Care Scrutiny	This session should give Members a clear understanding of their role in ensuring that the council	All Cllrs & Subs on Health Scrutiny (17)

		is delivering good essential services in social care and that the ASC and Health partnership and integration arrangements are working effectively and furthermore, that health providers are addressing the priorities of residents	Optional invite to be extended to all other non-executive members. <i>Awaiting attendees list</i>
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