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**Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL**

Title of meeting:	Scrutiny Management Panel Full Council Meeting
Subject:	Update report on Scrutiny
Date of meeting:	8 July 2016 12 July 2016
Report by:	Director of Community and Communication
Wards affected:	N/a
Full Council	Yes

1. Purpose

The City Council's Constitution requires information reports to be provided to the Scrutiny Management Panel and subsequently full Council on the work undertaken by the scrutiny panels.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that

- (1) the report be noted and the work done by the panels be acknowledged.**
- (2) Thanks be formally recorded to all those members of the public, witnesses and officers who contributed to the reviews.**

3. Information Requested

Work undertaken by each panel

Economic Development, Culture & Leisure Scrutiny Panel (EDCL Panel)

a) Retail Review

During the 2014/15 municipal year the panel, chaired by Councillor Julie Swan, undertook a review "Revitalising Local High Streets and Secondary Shopping Areas in the City" which was completed in March 2015 and submitted to Cabinet on 11 June 2015, where the recommendations were endorsed. The report's recommendations focused on the importance of existing and encouraging new traders' associations and the need for these to meet to share best practice. Further, that the associations should also liaise with the appropriate officers to take forward improvements to the retail areas and attract the necessary funding. During the review the Events Application form was reviewed and simplified which was welcomed by the traders.

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One of the ideas arising from the review was for use of vacant units in the local shopping areas for cultural projects at Allaway Avenue in Paulsgrove, dependent upon Heritage Lottery Funding being confirmed.¹

b) Student Opportunities

For the 2015/16 municipal year the panel, chaired by Councillor Jennie Brent, looked at *'How to develop wider opportunities - especially to consider involving students from the University and those in other further education to the mutual benefit of the students and the City Council'*

The panel decided that this topic lent itself to a different type of review from the usual evidence gathering over several meetings. Instead, the panel decided to invite all witnesses to attend a one-off evening event on 24 November 2015 (or provide written submissions to be represented). This allowed the panel members to be involved in the discussions and feed-back the views of those attending. This format was also a good networking session for taking forward volunteering opportunities by those involved in this field. It was also a useful forum to highlight the positive contribution of students to community life with the main contributors being representatives from the University's Directorate and Students' Union, from Pompey in the Community and local colleges whose students are encouraged to participate in work experience/placements and aspiration raising events as well as voluntary events (both one-offs and continued projects) in Portsmouth. The City Council's own involvement in the Portsmouth Together project to co-ordinate volunteering experiences was also highlighted and the need for co-ordination of activities.

The panel looked at examples of good practice across Portsmouth from institutions that engage with volunteers and utilise their resource across the city-wide community. The panel sought to identify how pupils in schools and students at College and University are engaged and encouraged to maximise their opportunities and areas of mutual benefit within the locality. This included work placements through the City Council and volunteering placements with various departments as well as apprenticeships with local firms.

The way in which this review was carried out drew support from all political groups represented and cross-party team working was much in evidence throughout the review process.

The report was signed off on 23 March 2016 and went to Cabinet on 9 June 2016 where the panel's recommendations were approved in line with the responses noted in section 4 of the response report.

Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel (HSC Scrutiny Panel)

Hospital Discharge Arrangements in Portsmouth

The Housing and Social Care Scrutiny Panel signed off its report, following six evidence gathering meetings hearing from service providers at the City Council including hospital

¹ An information report went to the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure & Sport on 18 March 2016

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and health service, housing, occupational therapists and adult social care, Clinical Services at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Age UK Portsmouth, the Integrated Commissioning Unit and Hampshire Domiciliary Care Providers. The Cabinet on 5 March 2015 supported the following recommendations: to continue to improve communication between professionals, to require care agencies to provide feedback to the discharge planning team, to encourage further evening and weekend discharges and continued involvement with patients and their families in the discharge process, and to improve relationships between ASC and PHT.

Cabinet did not support recommendation 1b regarding giving next of kin status to officers as the then Head of Adult Services advised that this was incompatible with their professional status.

Support services for people aged 16-25 living in isolation

The panel received evidence from the Young Persons Support Team, All Saints Hostel, the Portsmouth Foyer, social work students, City Council housing officers, Motiv8, the Teenage Pregnancy Team, Young Parents Support Team and the Positive Family Future Transformation Team. During the review it became apparent that from the evidence gathered the following were experiencing induced feelings of isolation; young parents, young people thrown out of the family home or left by the family, young carers and young people leaving foster care. The report was signed off by the panel on 24 March 2016. It is expected that the report and the response to it will be presented to Cabinet in September.

Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel

A Review into Pupil Premium in Portsmouth Schools

The panel carried out a review into pupil premium in Portsmouth schools which was signed off in February 2015. The aim of the review was to investigate how schools are using and reporting pupil premium monies and whether the Council could identify and disseminate good practice. It was also intended to use the process to ensure that all schools are sharing information about pupil premium appropriately. The panel received evidence from education officers, governors and head teachers to understand the different ways pupil premium grant (PPG) is being used, the impact it is having on schools, the role of the LA in supporting schools with pupil premium and the level of awareness of governors on the use of the pupil premium grant in their schools. A short questionnaire was also sent to all chairs of governors to ascertain further information about the level of involvement of governing bodies. After analysing the responses from the questionnaire it was found that while many governing bodies review PPG at their Finance Committee, the impact of PPG is not being reviewed as much as it could be. The majority of governing bodies said that PPG was well understood by all governors in their schools. However the responses also suggested that further training specifically on PPG would be welcomed to ensure that governors understand fully how to measure the impact.

The Panel noted that overall standards in Portsmouth have risen since PPG has been introduced and PPG eligible children are catching up with the non PPG children. However, as highlighted in the Ofsted Annual Report 2014, more needs to be done in the city. The panel noted some excellent initiatives that are in place for improving education outcomes for pupils and understood that different interventions worked for

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different schools and there is no 'one size fits all' with regard to pupil premium programmes.

A number of recommendations were made by the panel all of which were supported when the report was considered by Cabinet at its meeting in March 2015.

Review of Progress against the Youth Offending Team Action Plan

The panel carried out a review into the Youth Offending Team Action Plan, which was drawn up following an Ofsted inspection in November 2013 which had identified particular weaknesses in Portsmouth, together with higher than average rates of reoffending. The review was completed in June 2015.

The panel received evidence from both internal and external witnesses. It noted that good progress is being made with reducing re-offending rates and reducing custody rates with figures continuing to decrease, although the figures for first time entrants had increased slightly as compared with 12 months ago. The panel welcomed the progress made to date on implementing the actions on the YOT improvement plan and particularly welcomed the co-location of CAMHS and substance misuse workers within the YOT Team.

Recommendations were made by the panel and the report went to Cabinet in September 2015 where the recommendations were supported.

A Review into Home to School Transport and Access to Primary School Places

The panel completed this review in February 2016. The aim of the review was to look at developing proposals around home to school transport especially where children have been unsuccessful in being allocated a place at their first choice school and to consider the more general issues relating to access to primary school places and the distance away from their home. The panel received evidence from officers in the admissions team, pupil place planning team and school transport team to understand the current arrangements for allocating home to school transport and primary school places, and learned what the council is doing to meet the demand for primary school places.

The panel noted that since the introduction of the home to school transport policy in 2014 there has been a decline in non-statutory travel assistance and there has been a reduction in the overspend on the transport budget for 2014/15. It also noted that the council's sufficiency programme has created additional primary school places to meet the current demand and there are contingency plans in place for some schools to run a 'bulge year' if necessary. The panel felt that the issue of primary school places has largely been addressed and is being monitored and the main focus should now be on ensuring there are enough secondary school places.

The report and response report were considered at the Cabinet meeting on 9 June where the recommendations in the scrutiny panel's report were supported subject to the following: in relation to the panel's recommendation (4) concerning moving the sibling criteria above catchment area for primary schools, the outcome of government consultation will be awaited before anything is done in this regard. Also in relation to

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recommendation (5), the council will be undertaking an options analysis during 2016/17 before considering a city-wide consultation.

Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

Review of road safety around schools

The aim of the review was to assess the role of education in improving the safety of pupils, the role of enforcement of the current traffic regulations and to evaluate the effectiveness of the road safety measures that are currently in place outside schools. This review was concluded in March 2015.

The panel concluded that everyone has a role to play to ensure the safety of our children by complying with the parking regulations and teaching children road safety.

Cabinet accepted the panel's recommendations in line with the responses noted in paragraph 4 of the response report by the Director of Transport, Environment, and Business Support.

Review into how community safety partners can work together to reduce demand and cost for intensive specialist services currently supporting individuals with complex needs.

At its meeting on 13 October 2015 the Scrutiny Management Panel allocated the review of community safety to the TECS scrutiny panel. The review is ongoing.

In relation to complex cases of anti-social behaviour, the panel is aiming to identify ways that services could work more effectively together to 1) manage individuals with complex needs 2) reduce demand, 3) encourage residents to self-help and 4) intervene earlier to avoid cases becoming increasingly difficult to resolve.

Health, Overview & Scrutiny Panel

Over the last 12 months, the panel scrutinised regular updates from local NHS organisations and Portsmouth City Council. It also looked at:

- The provision of HIV medication
- Congenital heart services review.
- Lowry Unit Project Closure
- Better Care Fund, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and the Care Act 2014
- Reconfiguration of vascular services
- Cervical Screening Update
- Dementia Update
- Healthy Weight Strategy and Challenges around Obesity
- Tamarine Respite Care Unit
- Healthwatch Annual Report
- Guildhall Walk Health Care Centre proposals from the CCG

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- Independent review of deaths of people with a Learning Disability or Mental Health problem in contact with Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust - April 2011 to March 2015.
- Introduction to Integrated Personal Commissioning
- Portsmouth Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report
- Solent NHS Trust - mental health, St James and Baytrees and drug and alcohol pathways in the city
- Repatriation of Vectis Way Phlebotomy Clinic Proposal

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Signed by (Director)

Appendices: None

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location