

Scrutiny Review Topic Selection

Set out below is a copy of the online form set up for Councillors to submit a Scrutiny Review Topic Selection for consideration at a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

This form must be completed in full with as much detail as possible.

Your name:	Kevin Davis
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Date Drafted:	17/06/2022
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Proposed Scrutiny Topic:	Pre-decision scrutiny regarding proposed arrangements for grants.
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Selection criteria	
If your proposed Scrutiny Review Topic falls under any of these rejection criteria, it may not be a suitable topic to progress	
Criteria for Scrutiny Review:	
Scrutiny Review likely to result in improvements for local people.	X
Topic falls within a Community or Corporate priority.	X
Topic represents a key issue for the public.	X
A service is performing poorly.	
High level of dissatisfaction with a service.	
Criteria for rejecting a Scrutiny Review Topic:	
Topic already being addressed.	
Matter is subjudice or prejudicial to the Council's interests.	
Specific case falls within the Council's complaints procedure.	
Topic involves individual disciplinary or grievance matter.	
Proposed topic is unlikely to result in improvements for local people.	

Outcomes of the Review

Why should the Scrutiny Review be undertaken?

At the Executive on 16/06/2022 the Review of Community Grants paper (EXE22-046) seeks to change the way community grants are administered by the Council. The proposals will likely lead to far less transparency and possibly no democratic oversight of the grants process from 2023/24.

As the budget for community grants is in excess of 10% of Council Tax receipts, residents should be sufficiently happy that their Council Tax is being well spent with Councillors maintaining a full understanding and scrutiny of the budget.

What benefits could result from the Scrutiny Review?

By scrutinising this paper and the proposed new grants arrangements, it will enable the O&S to come to an informed decision, and advise Council of the benefits or otherwise of outsourcing grant decisions.

What level of impact will the Scrutiny Review have?

Substantial benefits community wide or for a significant proportion or section of the Community.	X
Moderate benefits for two or more client groups or substantial benefits for only one client group.	X
Minor benefits for two or more client groups or substantial benefits for only one client group.	
Minor benefits for only one client groups.	
No benefits likely to result.	

Topic Review Process

Resources to be included in the Scrutiny Review:

WBC Officer Time Committee.	Finance team
Report and/or presentation.	
Councillor time.	
Portfolio Holder Involvement.	Yes – to answer questions
Expert or External Representatives participation.	Community Foundation for Surrey
Establishment of a Task Group.	No

Site visits.	No
Research and Evidence.	Evidence to be presented that shows who has been consulted and their responses as outlined in 6.1 of the Executive report.
Consultation Exercise.	No
Other	
<p>Please add explanatory note for any resource selected above.</p> <p>The Community Foundation for Surrey must be invited so that Councillors can question how the grants will be administered and exactly what the democratic oversight will be.</p>	
<p>Please add any further information that you think would be useful in the consideration of this Scrutiny Review Topic.</p>	

Once submitted, if your Scrutiny Review Topic meets the selection criteria and enough information has been provided, it will be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their next meeting, where they will decide whether to add the topic to their Work Programme.