

Scrutiny Topic Review Proposal [1/06/2023] *[via e-form]*

1.What is the topic that you would like to scrutinise?

Constitutional review and modernisation of (outdated) Planning committee procedures

2.Who has raised the topic?

Cllr Andy Caulfield

3.Why should the Review be undertaken?

When I first raised full constitutional review in this cttee last summer, I subsequently specifically raised with (then) senior planning and legal officers the need for specific Planning Cttee constitutional review & modernisation (having dealt with opaque and outdated procedures both as a resident and new Cllr). I was told this would be addressed. A year on, it has not been. It would be useful for this Cttee, instrumental in driving fuller openness & transparency, public access of residents to WBC and much needed ongoing modernisation of the way WBC operates, to look into the desired changes to planning cttee constitution and procedures to encourage long overdue updates and improvements now.

Selection Criteria

Please refer to the Overview and Scrutiny Topic Selection Flowchart available in the Scrutiny Toolkit

4.Selection Criteria (select any that apply).

Scrutiny Review is likely to result in improvements for local people.

Topic falls within a Community or Corporate priority.

Topic represents a key issue for the public.

Service is performing poorly.

High level of dissatisfaction with the service.

5.Rejection Criteria (select any that apply)

There are no known Rejection Criteria.

Prioritisation

6.How strongly does the topic relate to the Council's key aims and priorities (select one)?

Strong evidence linking the topic to the Council's key aims and priorities.

7.How would the topic link to the Council's key Aims and Priorities?

Greater openness & transparency , access for residents and modernisation of out dated procedures

Impact

8.How much of the community would benefit (select one)?

Substantial benefits community wide or for a significant proportion or section of the Community.

9.What benefits could result from the Scrutiny Review?

Improved, modernised and fairer procedures and greater access for residents