

**NOTE OF THE INQUORATE MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE HELD ON FRIDAY 24 MAY 2019**

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**Present:** S Baines, J Baker, H Ellis, D Jenkins, P Kane, S Nazir, E Pearson, M Pollard, L Smaje, R Watson

(*Guests:* K Berroum, S Hinchcliffe, L Porter, M Nolan, B Still)

**Apologies:** I Cuthbertson, D Foster, G Isherwood, D Ragan, B Rhodes

**The meeting was inquorate. 10 members present. 12 needed for quorum.**

The Chair informed members about she had been invited to a member's workshop on strategic approach to risk by the Governance and Audit Committee and provided members with a quick overview of proposed changes to Scrutiny Standing Orders.

Members discussed the draft 2019/20 corporate plan, proposed key performance indicators (KPIs) for 2019/20 and achievement against KPIs set in the existing 2018/19 corporate plan. Comments included:

- Should be a greater mention of scrutiny in the corporate plan.
- The sections on environmental work and outcomes should be expanded.
- Whether the Combined Authority has joined councils in formally declaring a climate emergency should be clarified.
- The ongoing Skills Commission be mentioned in corporate plan and KPIs as a key piece of work next year.
- Corporate plan does not appear to take into account or mention district council strategies and work.
- There could be better crossover between the main four goals, eg how '21<sup>st</sup> century transport' policies support achieving 'clean growth' and vice versa.
- Should be a greater focus and reference to outcomes for customers and people throughout. How will a certain policy affect people?
- Corporate plan should be aimed at a public audience – perhaps a summary version could be produced or an 'animation' similar to the one produced to promote the budget.
- There should be a greater differentiation between strategic KPIs/targets and 'business as usual' management performance KPIs.
- If any KPIs are expected to finish mid-year, there should be a consideration and explanation of what happens next.
- The upcoming major review of scrutiny should be included as a KPI for Legal & Governance Services.
- Some members suggested that the internal apprenticeship target was too low, and could aim for more than the minimum required by the levy.
- Raising the profile of the Combined Authority and its work should also be a key priority.

Members requested briefing notes providing more detail on:

1. Overview of low uptake in AGE grant programme PHASE 2 and which grant criteria was changed to increase uptake.
2. Explanation of current/planned work on procurement policy with regards to local supply chains in the region.
3. Background info on upcoming the 'Climate Summit' and Blue & Green Infrastructure Plan/Strategy.
4. Overview of Broadband rollout and the 'ongoing challenges in contract 2' mentioned in the report.
5. Further information on the Growing Places Fund and planned changes to its delivery.

Members were happy with the scrutiny annual report and discussed the following matters relating to scrutiny:

- A workshop be held on 28 June 2019 to consider the work programme for the year ahead in a more focused and detailed way.
- The Combined Authority's senior leadership team was asked to provide a report providing an overview of the key decisions, policies, strategies and service changes planned in 2019/20.
- A standing 'overview report' item was suggested. It would act as a monitor to update scrutiny members of implementation of post recommendations or developments on issues they have previously considered e.g. industrial strategy, apprenticeships, floods etc
- Members were urged to include the energy strategy, climate issues and fuel poverty on next year's work programme by departing member, Cllr D Jenkins.
- The committee should consider more external facing scrutiny next year, more site visits and discussing issues with the people affected by them, not just interface with officers.
- Members were provided with a short summary of the new statutory guidance and noted in particular the sections on raising scrutiny's profile, organisational culture, the creation of executive-scrutiny protocols and training for scrutiny members.