

Interview – Simon Hill (Assistant Director: Governance & Performance Management) 06/10/14

1. Bits work well while other parts do not.
 - Constitution and Housing panels work well. Others do not have such a focused work programme.
 - Some parts are really looked at while other parts have no oversight at all.
 - There is no input from members on the important things they want to look at (only dealing with things brought to them by Officers to a certain degree).
 - Effective discussions and interviews at panel level.
2. Delivers what members may want.
 - Think there was confusion between the responsibility chart being a work programme.
 - Members need to be a bit more selective on what they look at for Scrutiny.
 - **Question** – Is there a need for a separate Audit and Governance Committee and Standards Committee (not statutory Committees). If changing to a new structure could these not be absorbed in to the Governance Panel? This could then save up time and resources to then have capacity for more Task and Finish Panels.
3. You could slice up the subject matters in different ways.
 - Members could be very selective over Scrutiny that you undertook as opposed to having five panels that meet regularly.
 - Currently inward looking Scrutiny but not outward looking (for public services) e.g.
 - Night time lighting
 - Nightclubs in the centre of town (noise levels and recent stabbings)
 - What are members being asked on the street by the public? (This relates back to question two – if more Task and Finish panels can be facilitated then they can look at these areas).
 - If wanting to save money (do members want this) then there is a need to reduce the amount of work being undertaken e.g. there would need to cut down on over 40 meetings a year (as each officer covers this amount).
4. Whatever the members want, we support.

Interview – Simon Hill (Assistant Director: Governance & Performance Management) 06/10/14

- If radically different choice, we need resources to match. Budget would already have been agreed for staffing for new year so may not be able to match e.g. if increasing number of meetings or panels.
- 5. Members implement a system by new municipal year and own the proposal. Members need to be happy with the choice and feel it is running successfully.
- There should be a review of the success of the project

Additional info

- If choosing the new structure – how is the Constitution review going to be handled? Will this go to the Governance Panel or could it go to a Task and Finish panel who report to the Governance Panel) as this is a large and major task to undertake.
- It needs to be ensured that all members are happy with proposals so that it is a member led process.
- O&S should not focus on performance management (apart from areas that are not performing) as that is Cabinets role. Should also not allow structure to be officer led.