

Interview – Alan Hall (Director of Housing) 07/10/14

1. Doesn't cover the work of all directorates and all executives (portfolios and portfolio holders)
 - It's a bit ad hoc at the moment
 - Housing panel is a useful forum for officers with 2 main benefits;
 1. A lot of pre scrutiny occurs e.g. Housing allocation scheme – which works really well. There is a lost opportunity at the moment for pre scrutiny.
 2. Monitoring progress on work streams and action plans e.g. business plans – report every 6 months to O&S panel (Housing).
 - There are a group of members who are specialists in their areas
2. Fully support it as it covers all of the councils work (portfolio and officer terms)
 - Grouped clearly and logically
 - Suggests equal workload for each of the four panels
 - Management restructure had a lot of thought of grouping four logical functions. There is an opportunity to do the same here.
 - Officers only need to attend one Scrutiny panel per cycle – avoids officers going to a range of meetings and there is a cost saving involved.
3. Four panels is preferred structure.
 - Cabinet members might not like having to go to more Scrutiny Panels per cycle. If concern to members then could have four O&S panels – each panel covering 2 portfolios each;
 1. (A) Planning policy & (B) Environment & (C) Safer, greener transport (Derek Macnab – Lead Officer)
 2. (A) Housing & (B) Leisure & Community Services (Alan Hall – Lead Officer)
 3. (A) Finance & (B) Technology & support (Bob Palmer – Lead Officer)
 4. (A) Governance & Development Management & (B) Asset management & Economic Development (Colleen O'Boyle – Lead Officer)

They could meet each quarter to discuss all business related to each Panel (and therefore sub sections).

4. If we stay the same and we don't make any changes.

Interview – Alan Hall (Director of Housing) 07/10/14

- Officers and members having to go to a range of meetings at each cycle.
- 5. A new system where all executive and officer functions are covered by a scrutiny panel with an equality of workload with consistent Terms of reference dealing with both issues common to all scrutiny panels and ad hoc issues which makes the best use of officers and policy holders time.

Any other comments

- **Question** - Start times of panel meetings need to be considered e.g. Housing panel starts at 5:30pm, other panels start at different times. Should they all start at the same time or do they agree at the start of the year what time they will start?
- Potentially new scrutiny panels could take on Task and Finish Panels. If something needs to be looked at then can set them up.
- Every non Cabinet Member (48) should have the opportunity to sit on a scrutiny panel (12 per Panel) – raises issue with **proportionality**. Every non Cabinet member should be allocated to a Scrutiny Panel.