

Guiding Principles/Questions for designing an Overview & Scrutiny Structure

1. Overview & Scrutiny must have the capacity to cover all of our internal services and external challenges.
2. Overview & Scrutiny must have the capacity, ability and enthusiasm to take a full and active part in our Improvement agenda.
3. We must ensure efficiency of attendance from Cabinet and Chief Officer Team (COT) members at committee meetings.
4. All of the committees should have broadly similar workloads.
5. Overview & Scrutiny must have a clearly defined and valued role in corporate governance and improvement.
6. Overview & Scrutiny must have the ability and capacity to provide well evidenced solutions to recognised problems.
7. Overview & Scrutiny must have be Member led, whilst taking into account the needs of the organisation and the views of the public, our partners and our regulators.
8. Overview & Scrutiny must be credible to all our Members, our public, partners and regulators.
9. Overview & Scrutiny must be able to balance the small pictures - detailed scrutiny - with big pictures -more imaginative overview.
10. Overview & Scrutiny must have flexibility, durability and appetite for change.
11. Should the O&S structure focus be the Council's Improvement priorities or the operating model?
12. Is six committees of fifteen Members the right number or should this be reduced or increased?
13. What will the officers need to support change and help them to implement it?
14. What does the public need to comment on/influence change through consultation on policy and service reviews?