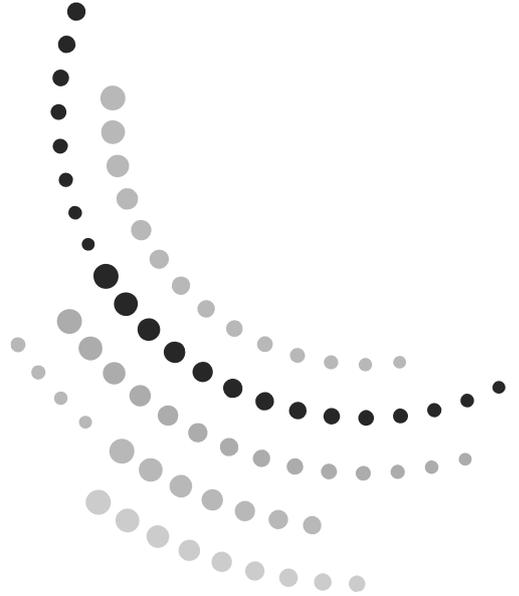




Rutland
County Council



Scrutiny Annual Report 2021-2022

Version	Version 1.0
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Date Produced	August 2022

Approved by Full Council	
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Summary of Document

The Annual Scrutiny Report provides a summary of the work undertaken by individual Scrutiny Committees and the Scrutiny Commission during 2021-22.

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1.0 FOREWARD

- 1.1 The municipal year 2021/22 saw the Council continue to work in the eye of the global pandemic and the increasing financial pressures caused, in part, by a significant reduction in funding. The Council continued to identify options to reduce net cost in an extraordinarily reactive environment and a growing demand for Council support and services.
- 1.2 The easing of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions entailed officers returning to their substantive posts with many continuing to work virtually from home.
- 1.3 The Scrutiny Committees also continued to operate virtually through the municipal year but some meetings were held in person and these helped to maintain the positive working relationships.
- 1.4 The main challenge faced this year was the restructure of the Governance team. A number of officers left the Council and Governance was completely re-formed by early 2022 with the recruitment of a new Governance Manager, Governance Officer and Scrutiny Officer, to work alongside the existing Civic Officer.
- 1.5 An Interim Deputy Director Corporate Governance (Monitoring Officer) was also employed whilst the recruitment process for a permanent Director of Legal and Governance was undertaken.
- 1.6 This has been a busy year for the Scrutiny Commission and this report details the variety of topics that have been considered by individual scrutiny committees throughout the past municipal year.
- 1.7 Outside of the scheduled scrutiny meeting programme, the Scrutiny Commission met regularly in order to coordinate the work of Scrutiny, to share best practice and to develop the work programme in accordance with the Scrutiny Commission Terms of Reference.
- 1.8 This Annual Report meets with constitutional requirements but it also gives the opportunity to reflect on the year and recognise achievements whilst looking forward to a new way of scrutiny working following the Scrutiny Review.
- 1.9 We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Scrutiny function this year including all Members of the Council, Officers, partners and the public.

2.0 SCRUTINY COMMISSION

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Commission is made up of the three Chairs of Scrutiny. There was a change in membership in December 2021 when Councillor G Waller became the Chair of Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee following the promotion of Councillor S Harvey to Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Care.
- 2.2 As Chairs, we have met regularly during the municipal year 2021-22 and discussions have included developing Annual Work Plans, holding planned agenda setting meetings and holding pre-meets to organise and explore questioning to make the most of available meeting time.
- 2.3 The Scrutiny Commission has also taken the opportunity to brief each other of the work and meetings of their individual Scrutiny Committees and used the meetings to learn from each other to develop best practice.
- 2.4 The Scrutiny Commission was supported until September 2021 by the Statutory Scrutiny Officer, Joanna Morley and has since been supported by the new Scrutiny Officer, Jane Narey.
- 2.5 The East Midlands Councils Scrutiny network has provided scrutiny members with the opportunity to share knowledge, work programmes and information, as well as providing an opportunity to explore national developments concerning scrutiny.



**Councillor
Paul Ainsley
Chair
Children and Young
People Scrutiny
Committee
Chair of the
Scrutiny
Commission**



**Councillor
June Fox
Chair
Growth,
Infrastructure
and Resources
Scrutiny
Committee**



**Councillor
Sam Harvey
Chair
Adults and Health
Scrutiny
Committee
May – Dec. 2021**



**Councillor
Gale Waller
Chair
Adults and Health
Scrutiny
Committee
Jan. – April 2022**

3.0 SCRUTINY IN RUTLAND – OVERVIEW

- 3.1 In summary the main purpose of Scrutiny, as set out in Part 5 of the RCC Constitution dated December 2020, was to:
- i. Develop policy
 - ii. Hold the Cabinet (Executive) to account
 - iii. Carry out investigations into specific issues
 - iv. Carry out and service Best Value reviews etc.
 - v. Provide a means for consulting the community, service users, service providers and other interested parties.
 - vi. Act as expert witnesses on services
 - vii. Scrutinise external bodies providing services to or affecting the community.
- 3.2 At Rutland, the Scrutiny function was split between 3 committees:
- i. Adults and Health
 - ii. Children and Young People
 - iii. Growth, Infrastructure and Resources
- 3.3 Each of the Scrutiny Committees scheduled 5 ordinary meetings throughout the 2021-22 Municipal Year, plus the meetings held in January to scrutinise the budget.
- 3.4 An additional meeting was held by the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee in December 2021 and the Growth, Infrastructure and Resources Scrutiny Committee held a special meeting in October 2021 and an informal briefing in November 2021.
- 3.5 Further details of the topics considered by each Scrutiny Committee, along with the outcome of reviews can be found below.

4.0 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4.1 Summary of Items Considered

Date	Topic	Brief Details
24 June 2021	Rutland Children's Services Offer	Update on the progress of the review of RCC's children's services offer and an opportunity for scrutiny to consider whether the right priorities were being followed and whether anything more needed to be considered.
	Annual Work Plan	Discussion on substantive items for scrutiny and inclusion in the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee work plan for the municipal year 2021-2022.
30 September 2021	Addressing the Impact of COVID on the Education of Rutland Children and Young People	Information on the response from the Rutland education sector to mitigate the impact of the disruption to the education of children and young people in early years settings and schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.
	Review of Children's Services Ofsted Improvement Plan	Update on the progress of actions taken in response to the areas for improvement identified by Ofsted.
	Children's Services Q1 Performance	Update on the key performance indicators (KPIs) for Children's Services for consideration and comment by the committee.
16 December 2021	Review of Commissioned Services and Youth Offending	Update on the key processes and developments in Children's Services commissioning.
	SEND Recovery Plan Projects: Update	Information regarding the inclusionary offer for children with SEND and the actions in place to develop confidence in inclusion of the SEND sector wide system and workforce and to address the growing demand for services and increased pressure on the Delegated Schools Grant, (DSG) High Needs Budget, (HNF)
	Children's Services Q2 Performance	Update on the key performance indicators (KPIs) for Children's Services for consideration and comment by the committee.

26 January 2022	Draft Revenue and Capital Budget 2022/23	This Special Joint Scrutiny Committee was asked to provide comments and views on the draft budget before the final budget report was recommended by Cabinet to Council in February 2022.
	Fees and Charges 2022/23	The Special Joint Scrutiny Committee was asked to provide comments and views before the report was sent to Cabinet in February 2022 for approval.
24 February 2022	Development of Family Hubs and the Early Help Offer	To update the Committee on the national and local Family Hub programme and to note the opportunities and actions to develop a Family Hub for Rutland.
	Domestic Abuse Strategy: Update	To raise awareness of the local authority responsibilities and duties following the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 in April 2021 which came into force in October 2021 and to present the findings from the local strategic needs assessment and provide opportunity to review the subsequent Domestic Abuse Strategy.
	Children's Services Q3 Performance	Update on the key performance indicators (KPIs) for Children's Services for consideration and comment by the committee.
21 April 2022	Children's Services: Update	To inform the Committee on the progress being made in children's social care and actions taken in response to the areas for improvement identified by Ofsted and our own quality assurance processes.
	SEND Service Performance and Update	To update the Committee on the developments and performance of the SEND service and to note the drivers which require a whole system change.

4.2 Chair's Review – Councillor P Ainsley

This was a busy year and the annual work plan reflected a wide range of topic areas.

With a view to assisting with the development of policy, the first CYP scrutiny meeting of the municipal year provided an opportunity to input into the new Rutland Children and Young People's Strategic Plan / Children's Service Offer and for scrutiny to consider whether the right priorities were being followed and whether anything more needed to be considered.

Scrutiny was concerned about the impact of COVID on educational outcomes and what steps were being considered / taken to address academic catch up and the steps being considered / taken to provide mental-health support for our young people.

The final committee of the year followed up on concerns raised by three deputations from SEND parents. After a healthy and vigorous debate, the committee recommended that the Children's Services actively engaged with the newly formed parent group, SEND Active Rutland, to assist in the improvement of communication with parents.

It is with regret that I note that the final CYP scrutiny committee was held on the 21st April 2022 and that Council has resolved to trial a new one committee approach, over the next 12 months.

5.0 GROWTH, INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5.1 Summary of Items Considered

Date	Topic	Brief Details
10 June 2021	Q4 Outturn Finance Management Report	To inform the committee of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisional revenue and capital outturn for 20/21 including the impact of COVID-19 on the Councils finances. Latest position on the 21/22 budget. Latest Medium Term Financial Plan position including the financial gap.
	Waste Strategy Consultation Document	Comment requested on the Public Consultation Document that went live on 7 June 2021
	Catmose Sports Contract Update	Committee to review the proposals to be put to Cabinet regarding funding for the Catmose Sports facility in advance of consideration by Cabinet at their meeting on 15 June 2021.

	Annual Work Plan	Discussion on substantive items for scrutiny and inclusion in the Growth, Infrastructure and Resources Scrutiny Committee work plan for the municipal year 2021-2022.
16 September 2021	Municipal Waste Management and Streetscene Strategy 2021-2035	To brief the Committee on the new updated strategy which will reflect current pressures, opportunities and legislative changes.
	Waste Options Appraisal	To brief the Committee on the Stage 1 Options Appraisal modelling results and the preferred option for progression to the Stage 2 modelling.
	Climate Action Network Group: Progress to Date	Verbal update from the Portfolio Holder for Communities, Environment and Climate Change on the progress made by the Climate Action Network Group (including the Biodiversity Task and Finish Group)
	Parking Strategy: Update	Verbal update from the Portfolio Holder for Communities, Environment and Climate Change on the development of the new parking strategy.
7 October 2021 SPECIAL MEETING	Leisure Contract: Business Case	To consider the development of the draft Rutland Leisure and Wellbeing Needs Analysis and provide comments such that recommendations for Cabinet can be developed to shape the future of leisure provision for the County.
9 November 2021 INFORMAL BRIEFING	Final Highways Strategy	To brief the Committee on the Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (HIAMP) following public consultation.
	Waste Strategy	To brief the Committee on the procurement process and timeline for a new waste collection contract.
18 November 2021	Mid-Year Revenue Finance Update	To provide all Members with an update on the revenue budget position for 21/22 and the future outlook and in particular progress on closing the financial gap which stood at £2.7m for 22/23 (at the time the Council set its original budget in February 2021).
	Mid-Year Capital Programme Update	To provide all Members with an update on the delivery of the capital

		programme as at the end of September 2021.
	Developer Contributions	To notify Scrutiny on the background to and current management and administration of developer contributions, including the Community Infrastructure Levy and to enable the Scrutiny Committee to comment on the draft Infrastructure Funding Statement, prior to its consideration by Cabinet in December.
	Biodiversity Task and Finish Group: Final Report	To present the findings of the Biodiversity Task and Finish Group.
27 January 2022	Draft Revenue and Capital Budget 2022/23	This Committee was asked to provide comments and views on the draft budget before the final budget report was recommended by Cabinet to Council in February 2022.
	Fees and Charges 2022/23	The Committee was asked to provide comments and views before the report was sent to Cabinet in February 2022 for approval.
10 February 2022	Oakham Town Centre: Update	Request from a member of the public for an update regarding improvement works to Oakham Town Centre.
	4Oakham: Update	To brief the Committee on the current status of the project group.
	The Interim Trajectory of Development and CIL Income	To brief the Committee on the progress with the interim assessment of the trajectory of future development, potential CIL income and the impact on the infrastructure.
	Grounds Maintenance and Forestry Procurement: Update	To brief the Committee on the procurement process and timeline for a new grounds' maintenance contract and a forestry contract.
	Waste Contract: Update	To update the Committee on the progress made in the procurement process for a new waste collection contract following public consultation.
	Leisure Contract: Update	To update the Committee on the progress made in the procurement process for a new leisure contract.
	Minerals Authority Contract	Request for the matter of the contract award for the provision of minerals and waste planning advice to be referred to the

		Scrutiny Committee for its consideration particularly on the arrangements for the performance monitoring of the contract to ensure value for money.
	Carbon Management Controls: New Legislation	Motion from Councillor A Brown that the Council becomes more proactive in looking after Rutland's environment in light of proposed new legislation.
7 April 2022	Culture Review	For the Committee to consider the initiation of the Rutland Culture Review and provide comments to inform a future Cabinet decision on the project, which will shape the future of cultural provision for the County.
	Revised Parking Policy: Update	To update the Committee on the public consultation regarding the revised Parking Policy.
	Domestic Waste and Related Contracts - Options	To outline the available options for a new waste collection service and to make recommendations on the best option for waste collection in Rutland.
	Leisure Update	To update the Committee on the progress of the leisure review and to recommend to Cabinet the preferred option for the future of the Catmose Sports facility.

5.2 Chair's Review – Councillor J Fox

At the beginning of the municipal year the committee made the decision to be involved in the Waste Contract and Leisure Business Case from the initial consultation stage. This provided an opportunity to comment and give constructive feedback throughout the year.

We also visited the County's offering in our Leisure Facilities, so we were able to give an informed contribution.

Although it was an extremely busy year with a very heavy agenda, I know myself and the members of the committee really enjoyed the year and found our input to be extremely rewarding and worthwhile.

6.0 ADULTS AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6.1 Summary of Items Considered

Date	Topic	Brief Details
17 June 2021	Access to Primary Care Services	To brief the Committee on issues regarding access to primary care services as a result of the pandemic.
	Health Performance	To update the Committee on Rutland health performance, or where not accessible, East Leicestershire and Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group level performance based on available data in May 2021.
	Adult Services Performance Figures	Update on the key performance indicators (KPIs) for adult services for consideration and comment by the committee.
	Annual Work Plan 2021-2022	Discussion on substantive items for scrutiny and inclusion in the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee work plan for the municipal year 2021-2022.
9 September 2021	Place Led Plan	To brief the Committee on the proposed changes to the NHS and of the work done to date.
	Performance Management: Update	Update on the key performance indicators (KPIs) for adult services for consideration and comment by the committee.
25 November 2021	Provision of Post COVID Support	To update the Committee on the post COVID support given by Adult Social Care, carers and care homes including an update on service pressures, capacity and the impact upon services from the new care homes within Rutland.
	Access to Primary Care for Rutland Residents	Joint presentation from the LLR Clinical Commissioning Groups, the Primary Care Network and Oakham Medical Practice on the issues regarding access to primary care services as a result of the pandemic.
	Public Health and CCG Quarterly Performance Data	Outlines the position on Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR)

		Health System Governance, Structure and Design Group formation and an update on the 2021/22 NHS Oversight Framework. As the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) move from three CCGs to an Integrated Care System (ICS), the governance reflects the move to work towards a shared vision and ownership of health solutions.
9 December 2021 ADDITIONAL MEETING	Draft Rutland Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Place Led Plan)	To discuss the draft Rutland Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Place Led Plan) which was open for public consultation.
26 January 2022	Draft Revenue and Capital Budget 2022/23	This Special Joint Scrutiny Committee was asked to provide comments and views on the draft budget before the final budget report was recommended by Cabinet to Council in February 2022.
	Fees and Charges 2022/23	The Special Joint Scrutiny Committee was asked to provide comments and views before the report was sent to Cabinet in February 2022 for approval.
17 February 2022	Enhanced Public Health Offer	To update the Committee on the increased amount of commissioned Public Health support received by RCC from the Leicestershire Public Health team to enable a more comprehensive and strategic Public Health offer across Rutland through the work of the Council and the wider Integrated Care System.
	Election of a New Vice Chair	To elect a new Vice Chair following the departure of Councillor S Harvey and the appointment of Councillor Waller as the new Chair.
	Rutland Health and Wellbeing Strategy	To request feedback from the Committee on the Joint Rutland Health and Wellbeing Strategy Delivery Plan, which was part of the wider Rutland Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-27.
	Primary Care Task & Finish Group: Preliminary Report	To update the Committee on the preliminary findings of the Primary Care Task and Finish Group regarding its

		investigation into the access of primary care services by Rutland residents.
31 March 2022	Access to Primary Care for Rutland Residents	Update from Lakeside Healthcare Stamford regarding how The Sheep Market Surgery and St. Mary's Surgery in Stamford were operating and the progress made regarding the improvement plans.
	Primary Care Task and Finish Group: Final Report	To update the Committee on the findings of the Primary Care Task and Finish Group regarding its investigation into the access of primary care services by Rutland residents and its recommendations for the long-term demand for primary care.
	Adult Services Performance Data and Risk Register	Update on the key performance indicators (KPIs) for adult services for consideration and comment by the committee and ensuring that it matches the current identified risks and identifies any possible priorities for review in 2022/23.

6.2 Chair's Review – Councillor G Waller

The COVID pandemic dominated the work of this committee, both directly and indirectly. Directly, we considered its impact on the population of Rutland, for example on residents' ability to access primary health care because of changes to services brought by the pandemic. Indirectly, it did on occasion make it difficult for us to meet with health colleagues because of their COVID related commitments. We were, however, impressed with the delivery of COVID vaccinations in Rutland and commended staff and volunteers for their work.

Access to health services formed a major part of the year's work as we heard from LLR's Clinical Commissioning Group on what actions they were taking to improve access and considered the draft Rutland Health and Wellbeing Strategy and how the strategy would be part of the development of the Integrated Care System and Rutland being managed as a "Place" under this new system.

Following complaints from residents, a Task and Finish Group was commissioned to review primary care (see below for more details). This focussed on Rutland but, aware that many Rutland residents on the East of the County access primary care in Stamford, we also scrutinised staff from

Lakeside Health Centre, Stamford, following their unsatisfactory CQC report. We wanted to reassure Rutland's residents that Lakeside were taking steps to improve.

RCC's representatives on the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee played a full part in the work of this committee (see below). We were particularly concerned about dental outcomes in Rutland and raised a number of questions. We recommended dentistry be considered by the Adult and Health Scrutiny Committee but our NHS colleagues were unable to attend our meetings. This issue will be revisited in 2022-23 municipal year. We also used the joint scrutiny committee to raise issues around access to services, including mental health services, for those of us living in Rutland as so many services are only delivered in Leicester.

I note the new scrutiny arrangements from 2022-23 but am confident that both health and social care issues will be considered, as appropriate, under the new arrangements.

7.0 JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7.1 In addition to the items above, we were and still are part of the Joint Health Overview Scrutiny with our colleagues in Leicester City and Leicestershire. The purpose of the Joint HOSC is to scrutinise health issues and consultations that impact across the whole of the LLR area.

7.2 Summary of Items Considered

Date	Topic	Brief Details
6 July 2021	Analysis of UHL Acute and Maternity Reconfiguration Consultation Results	Presentation update on the UHL Acute and Maternity Reconfiguration Consultation results.
	COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Update	Presentation update on the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme with a focus on recent data including vaccination patterns across the City and County.
13 September 2021	Dental Services in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and the NHS England and NHS Improvement Response	Report providing an overview of NHS dental services commissioned in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and an update on the impact of the

	to Healthwatch SEND Report.	ongoing COVID19 pandemic on those services.
	Transition of Children's Services from Glenfield Hospital to the Kensington Building at Leicester Royal Infirmary Progress Report.	Presentation detailing progress on the transition of the Children's Services from the Glenfield Hospital to the Kensington Building at Leicester Royal Infirmary
	COVID-19 and the Autumn/Winter Vaccination Programme: Update	Verbal update on the COVID 19 and Autumn/ Winter vaccination programmes including recent data and vaccination patterns across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.
	UHL Acute and Maternity Reconfiguration – Building Better Hospitals: Update	Verbal update on the UHL Acute and Maternity Reconfiguration
	Integrated Care Systems Update	Verbal update from the Independent Chair, David Sissling of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care System, on his vision for the Integrated Care Systems.
16 November 2021	Updated Report on Dental Services in LLR; NHS England & NHS Improvement Response to Healthwatch SEND Report	Updated report on the provision of NHS dental services commissioned in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland together with an overview of the ongoing effects of the COVID 19 pandemic and the steps being taken to restore and recover service provisions
	COVID-19 and the Autumn/Winter Vaccination Programme: Update	Update on the COVID-19 and the Autumn/Winter vaccination programme.
	Black Maternal Healthcare and Mortality	Report on black maternal healthcare and mortality, including details of what the local maternity and neonatal system is doing to address health inequalities and poor outcomes for women of a black and minority ethnic background.

	Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care System Update	Report providing an overview of the LLR Integrated Care System considering recent guidance issued by NHS England and the Health and Care Bill.
15 February 2022	Findings and Analysis of the Step Up to Great Mental Health Consultation – Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland CCGs and LPT	Report and joint presentation from CCGs and LPT, explaining the proposals and associated background information in relation to the Step Up to Great Mental Health Consultation, as well as analysis of responses and highlighted themes
	Outcome of the LPT CQC Inspection	Report and presentation providing a summary of the CQC inspection process, along with details of areas of strength and improvement that have been identified
28 March 2022	Integrated Care System: Update	Report on the progress made towards the establishment of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board.
	COVID 19 and Vaccination Programme: Update	Verbal update on the current position around COVID 19 and the ongoing vaccination programmes.
	Update on General Activities at University Hospitals Leicester	Verbal update on general activities regarding University Hospitals Leicester
	EMAS - New Clinical Operating Model and Specialist Practitioners	Update report on the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) Clinical Operating Model and the introduction of Specialist Practitioners.
	Re-Procurement of the Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS)	Presentation on the re-procurement of the Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS).
	Interim Update on LPT Response to CQC Inspection – Dormitory Eradication Programme	Report on eliminating mental health dormitory accommodation at LPT together with a brief update on

		the LPT response to CQC inspection.
	Transforming Care in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland – Learning Disabilities Update	Report on the improvement performance and outcomes for people who live in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland with a learning disability or autism.

8.0 TASK AND FINISH GROUP: BIODIVERSITY

- 8.1 At its meeting on the 14th October 2019, Full Council resolved to set up a Task and Finish Group to inform the review and development of a Biodiversity Strategy for Rutland.
- 8.2 The purpose of the Task and Finish Group was to gain an understanding of biodiversity issues and explore best practice at other Councils and in other areas to identify ways in which biodiversity in Rutland may be improved. These findings would form the basis of recommendations which would inform the review and development of a Biodiversity Strategy for RCC.
- 8.3 The Group intended to report back to Council on its findings in March 2020 but the meeting was cancelled due to the pandemic.
- 8.4 The final report was presented to the Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee on the 18th November 2021, where the Task and Finish Group was formerly closed. It was also agreed that Councillor Stephenson would report to Cabinet detailing the group's recommendations and how they had played an important part in informing the Members' Climate Action Group.

9.0 TASK AND FINISH GROUP: PRIMARY CARE

- 9.1 At the meeting on the 11th October 2021, Full Council agreed to the formation of a time limited, cross-party Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to review Primary Care in Rutland.
- 9.2 The formation of the group had been the result of a number of factors namely:
- As the pandemic had progressed, so had members correspondence from residents highlighting concerns on accessing Primary Care.
 - Healthwatch Rutland had been receiving reports from residents and raising concerns since December 2020.
 - Nationally, face-to-face access to General Practice was a concern.

- d) In September 2021, Rutland County Council had voted to withdraw the Draft Local Plan and begin the process again. This had left a gap in the medium to long-term infrastructure planning.
 - e) In April 2022, the new Integrated Care System (ICS) would be implemented and this would be a service led system.
- 9.3 The purpose of the group was to review current access to Primary Care and help co-produce a future vision that would address emerging issues in this area.
- 9.4 The Group's Terms of Reference were approved by Council on the 11th October 2021, with Councillor Paul Ainsley as Chair and Councillor Samantha Harvey as Vice-Chair. These were subsequently updated in January 2022 (see Appendix A) with Councillor P Browne as the Vice Chair, following Councillor Harvey's promotion to Cabinet.
- 9.5 The membership of the Primary Care Task and Finish Group was comprised as follows:
- 1. Councillor P Ainsley CHAIR
 - 2. Councillor P Browne VICE CHAIR
 - 3. Councillor E Baines
 - 4. Councillor D Blanksby
 - 5. Councillor G Brown
 - 6. Councillor M Jones
 - 7. Councillor L Toseland
- 9.6 The Group met regularly between November 2021 and March 2022 and a detailed Work Plan was produced (see Appendix B).
- 9.7 Following presentation of the final report to the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee on the 31st March 2022 and the Rutland Health and Wellbeing Board on the 5th April 2022, it was agreed that an additional public survey would be completed by January 2023. The public survey would be driven by the Health and Wellbeing Board to gauge public satisfaction with improvement in the key areas identified by the Primary Care Task and Finish Group.

10.0 SCRUTINY REVIEW: MOVING FORWARD

- 10.1 The Constitution Review Working Group began a review of the Council's scrutiny functions in November 2021 following a request by Audit and Risk Committee and Council at their meetings on the 30th November 2021 and 13th December 2021 respectively.

- 10.2 The review was led by the Monitoring Officer and began in November 2021 with an all-member survey which was followed by a series of remote interviews with Members and Senior Officers.
- 10.3 The review identified that:
1. There was a lack of shared understanding about the purpose of scrutiny.
 2. There were a significant number of meetings given the Council's scale and these led to very few recommendations that had resulted in service improvement or had helped to achieve corporate or partnership priorities.
 3. Members did not believe the current arrangements were effective in providing Value for Money.
 4. The number of meetings was not helping to focus or prioritise work.
 5. There was limited evidence of public involvement.
 6. There had not been sufficient training or development for Members.
 7. The quality of the chairing of meetings was mixed.
 8. Agenda setting was not driven by Scrutiny objectives or a forward view and was very reactive or followed the Cabinet agenda.
- 10.4 The recommendation from the review was that there should be a radical change to the scrutiny function at Rutland County Council. It proposed a move away from the three service scrutiny committees to one strategic body, with commissioning powers to set up small Working Groups, Task and Finish Groups, Single Issue Panels and/or Inquiries to undertake the detailed challenge work within their respective remits.
- 10.5 The final report ([Report No. 74/2022](#)) was presented to Council at its meeting on the 11th April 2022. Council approved the following recommendations:
1. That the Scrutiny function should be relaunched, championed by the Scrutiny Commission, the Leader of the Council, and the Chief Executive, with a Rutland Scrutiny Improvement Plan setting out the ambition and expectations for the function based on a partnership of mutual respect, transparency, and constructive challenge.
 2. That the Council should move away from the existing 3-committee and commission system for overview and scrutiny to a single Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 3. That a review would be undertaken on the effectiveness of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee in March of 2023 after a full municipal year's operation with a report back to Council.
- 10.6 The new Terms of Reference for the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the subsequent revised Constitution were approved at Annual

Council on the 9th May 2022 as part of the Review of the Constitution (Report No. 89/2022).

- 10.7 As of the 10th May 2022, the three scrutiny committees – Adults and Health, Children and Young People and Growth, Infrastructure and Resources – were formally disbanded and the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee was created.

11.0 FURTHER INFORMATION

If you would like further information about the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee, please contact the Governance Team:

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APPENDIX A

Primary Care Task and Finish Group – Terms of Reference

Approved by Council: 11 October 2021

1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define the Terms of Reference for the scrutiny task and finish group on Primary Care in Rutland.

2. Background

- i. As the pandemic has progressed, so has members correspondence from Residents highlighting concerns on accessing Primary Care.
- ii. Healthwatch Rutland have been receiving reports from residents and raising concerns since December 2020
- iii. Nationally, face to face access to General Practice is a concern.
- iv. In September 2021, Rutland County Council voted to withdraw the Draft Local Plan and begin the process again, this means the strategic medium to long-term infrastructure plan now has to be reviewed.
- v. Housing growth and access (alongside transport) are some of the key concerns/issues that have been raised recently and form part of the emerging Rutland Place led Plan (otherwise known as the joint health and well-being strategy)
- vi. In April 2022, the new Integrated Care System (ICS) will be implemented, this is a service led system.
- vii. There is therefore an urgency in reviewing this matter and the wider contribution the Council can play in resolving these issues

3. Aims and Objectives

- To understand what Primary Care is available to the residents and how this can be accessed and understand the resident's perspective of this, highlighting the gaps.
- To understand the current and projected demand for primary care services
- To understand the projections and potential locations of new housing developments within the County
- To develop an understanding on the medium-term pressures on the infrastructure estate of Primary Care
- To develop an understanding of the NHS Capital Investment programme and the local funding priorities

- To make recommendations on “quick wins” to help close the gap between what is available and the resident’s perspective of this.
- To explore how different delivery models, including the use of technology, could reduce pressures on the operational estate
- To make recommendation based on the findings for the long-term infrastructure planning for Primary Care in Rutland.

4. Proposed Scrutiny Task and Finish Group Members

At a meeting on the 22nd September 2021, the Scrutiny Commission proposed to bring forward a combined scrutiny Task & Finish Group to evaluate and gain evidence on the matter.

It is proposed that the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee oversee the work of the Task and Finish Group.

Membership of the group will be politically balanced in accordance with Procedure Rule 15 and nominations should be sent to Governance by 29 October.

- There is an expectation that members will be co-ordinating and delivering face to face and telephone interviews as part of the initial evidence gathering sessions, as such, members will need to have some flexibility of time, especially in the first two months.
- It is proposed that the Group will comprise 7 Councillors to enable the Group to be comprised of those Councillors who have the time available to enable them to actively participate.

5. Chairman

Councillor Paul Ainsley will Chair. Councillor P Browne will be Vice-Chair.

6. Length of Review

The review is expected to take no more than six months and the Group will be aiming to deliver their final report to Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee for referral to April’s Council meeting.

7. Timetable

The timetable, and the frequency and timing of meetings will be determined by the Task and Finish Group at their first meeting. However, there will be a meeting in November 2021, December 2021 and March 2022.

8. Methodology/Approach

The following information will be considered by the Group:

- Gain evidence from patients, carers, residents and Healthwatch on their experience of accessing care.
- Gain evidence from practices on the delivery of care
- Gain an understanding of how different models and technology can help improve access
- Understand and report on how infrastructure is modelled by the CCG and the operational estate is currently maintained
- Gain an understanding of how the NHS capital investment programme is developed and funded and the implications for the local area
- Understand how, as a Local Authority, we can work with, and influence, stakeholders to improve medium- and long-term infrastructure planning.

9. Reporting

- An interim report will be delivered with provisional findings and recommendations in January 2022, this also allows time to support and supplement the Rutland Place-led plan.
- The Group will submit a final report to Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee for endorsement and approval of its recommendations to Cabinet and Council

10. Officer Support

The Group will be assisted by the Governance Team for secretariat

The group will also be assisted by John Morley, Strategic Director of Adult Services and Health, and Penny Sharp, Strategic Director Place.

11. Finance

It is not anticipated to require additional budget in this financial year.

APPENDIX B

Primary Care Task & Finish Group: Work Plan

DATE / TIME		TASK		COMPLETED
18-Nov-2021	11:00	Agenda Setting	T & F Agenda Setting and Time scales	COMPLETED
22-Nov-2021	-	Deadline for submission of T&F docs for initial meeting		COMPLETED
29-Nov-2021	18:30	T & F GROUP INITIAL MEETING	Approval of documents	COMPLETED
08-Dec-21	18:00	T&F GROUP MEETING Proposed Consultation Launch Assumes H&W board meeting for discussion of Place Led Plan will be held on 22nd Feb	Comms to assist with launch activities. HWB 22nd Feb	COMPLETED
05-Jan-2022	18:00	T&F GROUP MEETING		COMPLETED
07-Jan- 2021	-	Patient Consultation Complete	Redirect to Have your say Healthwatch Rutland	COMPLETED
11-Jan-2022	-	GP Questionnaire sent out		COMPLETED
17-Jan-2022	11:00	T&F GROUP MEETING Write initial report		COMPLETED
25-Jan-2022	18:00	T&F GROUP MEETING GP Questionnaire complete		COMPLETED
02-Feb-2022	12:00	DEADLINE for initial report to be with Governance for Adults	Publish Date: 09/02/22	COMPLETED

		and Health Scrutiny meeting on 17/02		
07-Feb-2022	18:00	T&F GROUP MEETING Start compiling final report		COMPLETED
07-Feb-2022	12:00	DEADLINE for report to be with Governance for Special Health and Wellbeing Board meeting on 22/02	Publish Date: 14/02/22	COMPLETED
17-Feb-2022	19:00	Adults and Health Scrutiny	Present Initial Report	COMPLETED
21-Feb-2022	19:00	T&F GROUP MEETING Feedback from Primary Care Network and LLR CCGs		COMPLETED
22-Feb-2022	14:00	Special Health & Wellbeing Board	Present Initial Report	COMPLETED
07-Mar-2022	18:00	T&F GROUP MEETING Review of final report		COMPLETED
10-Mar-2022	10:30	T&F GROUP MEETING Final meeting		COMPLETED
16-Mar-2022	12:00	DEADLINE for report to be with Governance for Adults and Health Scrutiny meeting on 31/03	Publish Date: 23/03/22	COMPLETED
21-Mar-2022	12:00	DEADLINE for report to be with Governance for Health & Wellbeing Board meeting on 05/04	Publish Date: 28/03/22	COMPLETED
28-Mar-2022	12:00	DEADLINE for report to be with Governance for Full Council meeting on 11/04	Publish Date: 01/04/22	COMPLETED

31-Mar-2022	19:00	Adults and Health Scrutiny	Present Final Report	COMPLETED
05-Apr-2022	14:00	Health & Wellbeing Board (Final Plan)	Present Final Report	COMPLETED
06-Apr-2022	-	Leader and Cabinet Members	Send Final Report	COMPLETED
11-Apr-2022	19:00	Full Council	Present Final Report	COMPLETED

Events Attended

05-Dec-2022	Christmas Fayre at Cutts Close
15-Dec-2022	Oakham Late Night Shopping
17-Dec-2022	Uppingham Late Night Shopping

**A large print version of this document is
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Rutland
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