



How can the voluntary sector strengthen local government scrutiny?

Voluntary, Community & Faith Sector Health & Wellbeing Forum
Tuesday 5th March 2019, 10am-12noon







Aims

- Overview Scrutiny Committees in Sheffield and how they work
- Meet the Chairs of the Healthier Communities and Adult Social Care Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee
- Find out how the voluntary and community sector can engage effectively with the scrutiny process



Agenda

- 9.45** Refreshments
- 10:00** Welcome and introduction -
Judy Robinson, Chair, Healthwatch Sheffield Advisory Group
- 10.10** Scrutiny in Sheffield
Emily Standbrook-Shaw
- 10:30** Panel discussion
Denise Fox, Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee
Pat Midgley, Chair Healthier Communities and Adult Social Care Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee
- 10:50** Break for refreshments
- 11:00** Scrutiny Committee Takeover
- 11:45** Concluding remarks
- 12:00** Close

Scrutiny in Sheffield

Healthwatch VCF Forum March 2019

Emily Standbrook-Shaw, Policy and Improvement Officer



How does decision making in the Council work?

Full Council

**Leader and
Cabinet**

**Regulatory
Committees**

**Audit &
Standards
Committee**

**5 x Scrutiny
Committees**

Sheffield City Council

What is the role of Scrutiny?

Centre for Public Scrutiny – 4 Principles of effective scrutiny:

- Provides ‘critical friend’ challenge to executive policy makers and decision makers
- Enables the voice and concerns of the public and its communities
- Is carried out by independent minded governors who lead and own the scrutiny process
- Drives improvement in public services and finds efficiencies and new ways of delivering services

How does Scrutiny work in Sheffield?

- 5 Scrutiny Committees

Overview and
Scrutiny
Management
Committee

Children,
Young People
and Family
Support

Economic and
Environmental
Wellbeing

Healthier
Communities
& Adult Social
Care

Safer &
Stronger
Communities

- Cross party, politically proportionate
- Additional membership on some Committees eg statutory co-optees on CYPFS Scrutiny Committee and HealthWatch as observer on HCASC Scrutiny Committee
- Sub/Regional Scrutiny structures for health and City Region.

What can Scrutiny do?

- Pre-legislative Scrutiny
- Call-in of decisions
- Task and finish groups
- Performance Monitoring
- Additional powers around scrutiny of NHS funded services
- Make recommendations to decision makers.

How does Scrutiny operate?

- Meet formally in public, at least 6 times a year
- Opportunity for members of the public to attend and ask questions and present petitions
- Request information and attendance from Cabinet Members, Council Officers and officers from other organisations operating in Sheffield
- Invite 'witnesses' to come and give evidence
- Getting out of the Town Hall and speaking to people

Getting Involved

- Work Planning – bringing issues to Scrutiny's attention
- Asking public questions and presenting petitions at formal meetings
- Responding to 'Calls for Evidence'
- Being a witness at a formal meeting
- Talking to Scrutiny Councillors as part of their evidence gathering process.

Questions....?



Contact and Further Information

- Scrutiny@Sheffield.gov.uk
- 0114 27 35065
- <http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/scrutiny>
- Centre for Public Scrutiny - <https://www.cfps.org.uk/>



Scrutiny Committee Takeover

Imagine you're part of the Health Scrutiny Committee and it's the start of the planning year...

- How would you decide which topics to include in the forward plan?
- Who would you talk to?
- Agree the top 3 topics you want the opportunity to discuss at the Scrutiny Committee.

Scrutiny Committee Takeover

Imagine you're part of the Health Scrutiny Committee and it's the start of the planning year...

- How would you plan the sessions so that they're inclusive, engaging and hear from a range of perspectives?
- What would your Key Lines of Enquiry be?
- How could voluntary organisations and communities contribute effectively?



**Thank you for taking part today.
Please complete an evaluation form
and stay in touch!**

