



12 November 2021

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 22 NOVEMBER 2021

A meeting of the Scrutiny Committee will be held at 6pm on Monday 22 November 2021 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Rugby.

Members of the public may view the meeting via the livestream on the Council's website.

Mannie Ketley
Executive Director

A G E N D A

PART 1 – PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. Minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13 September 2021.

2. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence from the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of:

(a) non-pecuniary interests as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors;

(b) pecuniary interests as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors;

(c) notice under Section 106 Local Government Finance Act 1992 – non-payment of Community Charge or Council Tax.

Note: Members are reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of their non-pecuniary interests at the commencement of the meeting (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a pecuniary interest, the Member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies.

Membership of Warwickshire County Council or any Parish Council is classed as a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct. A Member does not need to declare this interest unless the Member chooses to speak on a matter relating to their membership. If the Member does not wish to speak on the matter, the Member may still vote on the matter without making a declaration.

4. Finance and Performance Monitoring Q1 and discussion with the Finance, Performance, Legal and Governance Portfolio Holder.
5. Appointment to Warwickshire County Council Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
6. Motion from Council – Graffiti.
7. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme (table attached).

Membership of the Committee:

Councillors Eccleson (Chair), Gillias, Mrs Hassell, Mahoney, Mrs New, Mrs O'Rourke, Mrs Parker, Roodhouse and Dr Williams

If you have any general queries with regard to this agenda please contact Linn Ashmore, Democratic Services Officer on 01788 533522 or email linn.ashmore@rugby.gov.uk. Any specific queries concerning reports should be directed to the listed contact officer.

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Report Title:	Appointment to Warwickshire County Council Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Name of Committee:	Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	22 November 2021
Contact Officer:	Linn Ashmore Democratic Services Officer 01788 533522 or linn.ashmore@rugby.gov.uk
Summary:	A member of the Scrutiny Committee is sought to be appointed to Warwickshire County Council's Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to replace the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Wellbeing.
Financial Implications:	There are no financial implications arising from this report.
Risk Management Implications:	There are no risk management implications arising from this report
Environmental Implications:	There are no environmental implications arising from this report
Legal Implications:	Appointments are made in different capacities. The nature of each outside body, its constitution, and the nature of the appointment may affect any personal liabilities of councillors. There may be requirements under an outside body's constitution to make appointments.
Equality and Diversity:	There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

Scrutiny Committee - 22 November 2021

Appointment to Warwickshire County Council Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Public Report of the Chief Officer - Legal and Governance

Summary

A member of the Scrutiny Committee is sought to be appointed to Warwickshire County Council's Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to replace the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Wellbeing.

1. BACKGROUND

Council on 22 September 2021 considered the report of the Chief Officer – Legal and Governance concerning the appointment of a member of this Council's Scrutiny Committee to the Warwickshire County Council's (WCC's) Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The current appointment of the Leisure and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder to WCC's Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee needs to be revised since WCC advised that this conflicts with Paragraph 8.2.3 of its Constitution which states:

*“Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
One co-opted member from an overview and scrutiny committee of each district/borough council in Warwickshire. The co-opted members shall be voting members on matters relating to health services. Except where statutory arrangements provide otherwise, a co-opted member shall be appointed for two years and shall hold office until the earliest of the following events: i. on the expiry of 2 years from the date of appointment; ii. On ceasing to be a member of their appointing body; iii. On receipt of his/her resignation; or iv. On ceasing to be an elected member of an overview and scrutiny committee of the district/borough council.”*

The decision of Council was that delegated authority be given to this Committee to appoint one of its members to the WCC Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee is asked to appoint a member of the Committee to the WCC Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee in order that this Council's representation on that committee can continue.

The Committee usually meets five times a year on Wednesdays at 10am.

Name of Meeting: Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 22 November 2021

Subject Matter: Appointment to WCC Adult Social Care and Health
Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Originating Department: Legal and Governance

DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY YES NO

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Doc No	Title of Document and Hyperlink

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Report Title:	Motion from Council - Graffiti
Name of Committee:	Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	22 November 2021
Contact Officer:	Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing
Summary:	On 22 September 2021, Council considered a motion submitted on notice on the topic of graffiti and resolved that a cross party task group be established.
Financial Implications:	There are no immediate financial implications.
Risk Management Implications:	There are no risk management implications arising from this report.
Environmental Implications:	There are no immediate environmental implications arising from this report.
Legal Implications:	There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.
Equality and Diversity:	There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

Scrutiny Committee – 22 November 2021

Motion from Council – Graffiti

Public Report of the Chief Officer - Leisure and Wellbeing

Summary

On 22 September 2021, Council considered a motion submitted on notice on the topic of graffiti and resolved that a cross party task group be established.

The Committee is asked to consider and approve the scope for the review and agree the membership of the task group.

1. MOTION FROM COUNCIL

On 22 September, Council considered a motion submitted on notice by Cllr Rabin and seconded by Cllr Daly, and subsequently amended by Cllr Roodhouse and Cllr Douglas. The motion is set out below.

“Our Street Cleansing Team spends approximately £8,000 a year on removing almost 200 graffiti ‘tags’ and obscene images from our public buildings, subways, parks and recreation areas in the last three years. They clean up often obscene daubing on local canal bridges, bus shelters, pathways, subways and play parks. Councillors from all parties have raised the issue but, yet no practical, lasting solutions have been found.

I believe that in Brownsover we have the solution, which has successfully been in place for over 25 years. The iconic mural/relief artwork in the Crowthorns underpass was inspired and created by the late Helga Windle, a prolific artist. Helga was heavily involved with school/youth/community projects and created this with students from local schools and members of community groups. This artwork, along with examples across the country, show that, where the community have been involved in its creation, it remains untouched and has become the subject of community pride.

A community group led by an Art Teacher in Nuneaton and Bedworth worked with recognised, respected street artists and local groups. This approach has significantly reduced unsightly “tagging” and successfully engaged with local youths and wider community.

Council requests that a cross party task and finish group be established. This group should investigate solutions and seek out extra funds for arts projects in the Borough of Rugby. It should work in partnership with the Arts Council and others to produce an action plan with short, medium and long-term goals.”

Council resolved that a cross party task and finish group be established. This group should investigate solutions and seek out extra funds for arts projects in the Borough of Rugby. It should work in partnership with the Arts Council and others to produce an action plan with short, medium and long-term goals.

2. SCOPE OF THE REVIEW

A draft scope and terms of reference for the task group is set out in Appendix 1 for which approval is sought.

3. TASK GROUP MEMBERSHIP

A call for non-executive members to volunteer for the cross-party task group has been made and Councillors Douglas, Ellis, Rabin and Ms Watson-Merret have come forward. Ideally a task group should consist of a small number of councillors to allow a focused specific piece of work to be carried out. In line with guidance from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny it is suggested the task group should consist of between four and six members.

4. CONCLUSION

The Committee is asked to:

- a) consider the focus for the review and approve the attached one-page strategy; and
- b) agree that a task group be formed and commence work.

At the end of the process the task group's review report and recommendations will be presented to the Committee for approval and submission to Cabinet for adoption.

Name of Meeting: Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 22 November 2021

Subject Matter: Motion from Council – Graffiti

Originating Department: Leisure and Wellbeing

DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY YES NO

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Doc No	Title of Document and Hyperlink

GRAFFITI TASK GROUP

ONE-PAGE STRATEGY

What is the broad topic area?

To investigate solutions and explore funding opportunities aimed at reducing incidents of graffiti.

What is the specific topic area?

To review the direct and indirect costs of graffiti and the impact on Council resources. Consider ways of reducing the level of unwelcome graffiti by looking at the data and information available and exploring possible solutions. The review will help identify the Council's role for graffiti removal and what preventative measures could be utilised, what part volunteer services, the community and external organisations can play in the reporting or removal of graffiti. What enforcement action or volunteer, art-led or community solutions exist?

What should be considered?

Financial aspects including cost of graffiti removal to the Council.

The impact on Council resources?

To assess the environmental and social impacts.

To identify arts-led funding or solutions.

Benchmark the current service provision. What enforcement activity takes place?

What preventative steps and proactive measures can be taken.

Clarification of the legal powers that exist.

What intelligence of the problem exists, including any data on the type and scale of graffiti?

How graffiti is reported and what the Council's role in removal is.

Definition of graffiti – art vs vandalism.

Examples of best practice, to compare the Council's policies with other similar local authorities, police or community schemes.

Who shall we consult?

Arts Council

The Police

Young people and those involved in graffiti and aerosol art to discuss their perspective.

Public – how do people feel about graffiti?

How long should it take?

The suggested timeline is four meetings:

- 1) Background and agree a programme of steps
- 2) Evidence gathering
- 3) Identify potential funding sources and solutions
- 4) Next steps, action planning and review recommendations.

What will be the outcome?

Recommendations that will result in the reduction of the level of unwelcome graffiti and the associated costs of removal.

Improvement to the local street scene and make affected areas more attractive.

Service improvements for the reporting and removal of graffiti.

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme

Date of meeting 2021/22	Item	Report Description
All meetings	Motions referred to scrutiny	
All meetings	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	Long-term rolling work programme.
24 January 2022	Finance and Performance Monitoring 2021/22 Q2	
24 January 2022	Discussion with Portfolio Holder/s and Chief Officer/s	Committee is asked to decide which portfolio holder/s it would like to invite to the meeting.
24 January 2022	Scoping paper for a review on the topic of Emergency Health Care Provision	As agreed at the meeting held on 13 September 2021. The report will outline the scope for a review on: 1. An understanding of what health care provision is available and the options for residents that are currently available 2. How information for residents can be shared and how residents can be better encouraged and signposted towards choosing the most appropriate care option or access for support; and 3. Who will provide that service.
28 March 2022	Crime and Disorder	Annual overview to scrutinise decisions made, and actions taken, by the responsible authorities that make up the Rugby Community Safety Partnership in connection with the discharge of their crime and disorder functions.
28 March 2022	Draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report	An overview of the work carried out by scrutiny during 2021/22.
28 March 2022	Discussion with Portfolio Holder/s and Chief Officer/s	The Regulation and Safety Portfolio Holder and the Chief Officer – Regulation and Safety to attend.

Items to be scheduled

Item	Report Description/Notes
Review of Managing Arrears (Council Tax)	Progress or final review report.
Annual review of Member training and development	Annual overview.
Motions to Council	Progress of Motions submitted to Council.
Review of Graffiti	Final review report.
Street Cleansing	
Planning Enforcement	

Task Groups

Topic	Responsible Officer	Notes
Managing Arrears of Council Tax	Revenues Manager	Work commenced in April but was delayed due to work on business rates and grants taking priority. The review is due to recommence and a meeting is being arranged to include a discussion with external partners and the Council's enforcement agents.
Managing Housing Arrears	Chief Officer – Communities and Homes	Due to the extension of furlough arrangements and to allow time to assess the impact of job losses this review was put on hold.

Future work programme Items carried over from 2020/21 to be scheduled

Topic	Timescale	Notes
Corporate Strategy	To be agreed	

Topic	Timescale	Notes
Health and Wellbeing	To be agreed	Linked to recovery of the Covid-19 pandemic. A place-based Health and Wellbeing Strategy has had initial conversations between Chief Officer for Leisure & Wellbeing and Chief Officer Communities & Homes to outline the development of the new strategy. External advice is currently being sought to support the development of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership arrangements and the creation of a place-based Rugby strategy.
Digital Inclusion	To be agreed	The Digital Strategy is currently in development and alongside the Corporate Strategy outcomes 3 and 4, supported by the developing ICT Strategy, Communications Strategy and Customer Access Strategy there is particular reference and associated actions within service action plans to tackle the issue of Digital Exclusion.

Forward Plan

The topics currently listed in the Forward Plan for the period December 2021 – March 2022 are available to download [here](#)