

Proposed Constitution amendments

5. Policy Development and Overview

- a) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may make proposals to the Council or Cabinet for developments in so far as they relate to matters within their Terms of Reference.
- b) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may hold enquiries and investigate the available options for future direction in policy development and may appoint advisers and assessors to assist them in this process. They may go on site visits, conduct public surveys, hold public meetings, commission research and do all other things that they reasonably consider necessary to inform their deliberations. They may ask witnesses to attend to address them on any matter under consideration. ~~and may pay to any advisers, assessors and witnesses a reasonable fee and expenses for doing so (subject to their own budget as agreed by Full Council).~~

6. Reports from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- a) Once the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has completed its deliberations on any matter, it will prepare a formal recommendation or report and submit it to the Council, the Cabinet, Regulatory Committee or other body as appropriate.
- b) The Council, the Cabinet, the Committee or Regulatory Committee shall consider the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee within one Committee cycle of receiving it. Within two months of their first consideration of a report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Council, Cabinet, the Committee or Regulatory Committee will report back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with their findings. The report will provide a reasoned argument for their findings, particularly where those differ from the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Their report will also include, where appropriate, an action plan and timetable to facilitate future scrutiny.
- c) For task and finish group reports, the draft report and recommendations will be sent to the relevant manager, and the Council's statutory officers for their comments prior to finalising the recommendations (a copy will also be sent to Cabinet members for information). Once the report/recommendations have been finalised it will be sent to a meeting of Cabinet for a formal response. The final report with the Portfolio Holder/Cabinet response will go to the next O&S Committee. Cabinet's response will be required within 2 months in line with the requirements Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.