

PROPOSAL FORM FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEES	
NAME OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Partnerships Scrutiny Committee
DATE OF MEETING / TIMESCALE FOR CONSIDERATION	September 2013
TITLE OF REPORT	Developing Scrutiny arrangements for the Conwy and Denbighshire Local Service Board (LSB)
PURPOSE	<p>1. Why is the report being proposed? (see also the checklist overleaf)</p> <p>At the December 7th, 2012 Conwy and Denbighshire LSB meeting a report was presented (attached). The purpose of the report was to provide options on the future Scrutiny arrangements of the Conwy and Denbighshire LSB as to ensure democratic accountability for Partnership actions. The report set out how the LSB scrutiny function fitted into the Welsh Government's legislative and public service reform agenda; described existing practices; and provided LSB members with 5 possible options of delivery. The preferred option of the LSB was Option 2 – utilise existing separate Partnership Committees with co-option.</p> <p>The report also recommended that the LSB consult with appropriate Members on the preferred option.</p> <p>The report was presented to CCB Cabinet on Feb 12th, 2013.</p> <p>The need for robust democratic accountability runs as a clear theme throughout the Welsh Government's public service reform agenda as a vital mechanism to improve service quality and delivery. Failure to address this need could result in the following risks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The statutory requirements relating to Shared Purpose – Shared Delivery will not be met. 2. There may be dilution of councillors' community leadership role, regarded by the Simpson Report as a important force in bringing about transformational change. 3. Fragmented collaboration and engagement as organisations would be left unchallenged by elected members about their commitment and contribution to tackling entrenched social problems. <p>We therefore ask that this report be presented to Partnership Scrutiny to consult with appropriate Members on the preferred option.</p>

<p>2. What issues are to be scrutinised?</p>	<p>It has been identified that the following will be required to be scrutinised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Plans (One Conwy and The BIG Plan) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Strategic Needs Assessment o Information Strategy o Engagement Strategy - European Projects including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Workforce Development (Conwy led) o Financial Inclusion and Anti-Poverty Project(Denbighshire led) - Annual Report - Joint Partnership Performance (Community Safety Partnership and the Local Safeguarding Childrens Board) 					
<p>3. Is it necessary/desirable for witnesses to attend e.g. lead members, officers/external experts?</p>	<p>Alan Smith – Head of Business Planning & Performance Diane Hesketh – Partnerships & Communities Manager</p>					
<p>4. What will the committee achieve by considering the report?</p>	<p>By consulting with appropriate Members on the preferred option it is hoped that an agreement be reached on the delivery option. In turn, that this will then initiate the start-up of an effective LSB Scrutiny mechanism.</p>					
<p>5. Score the topic from 0 – 4 on aims & priorities and impact (see overleaf)*</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="619 1108 1054 1144">Aims & Priorities</th> <th data-bbox="1054 1108 1404 1144">Impact</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="619 1144 1054 1279">3</td> <td data-bbox="1054 1144 1404 1279">3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Aims & Priorities	Impact	3	3	
Aims & Priorities	Impact					
3	3					
<p>ADDITIONAL COMMENTS</p>	<p>Welsh Government has recently released a report called ‘Establishing a baseline of LSB Scrutiny in Wales’ (attached). The report presents the findings of a research project into Local Service Board (LSB) scrutiny activity across Wales.</p> <p>The report presents views which members may like to consider, related to LSB Scrutiny and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership • The importance of co-optees having voting rights • The future provision for LSB Scrutiny support and training to ensure that all scrutiny members have necessary skills/knowledge and understanding of the LSB to enable effective scrutiny. 					
<p>REPORTING PATH – what is the next step? Are Scrutiny’s recommendations to be reported elsewhere?</p>	<p>Scrutiny’s recommendations will be reported at the next LSB meeting.</p>					
<p>AUTHOR</p>	<p>Beverley Moore (LSB Development Officer) Diane Hesketh (Partnerships and Communities Manager)</p>					

Please complete the following checklist:

	Yes	No
Is the topic already being addressed satisfactorily?		x
Is Scrutiny likely to result in service improvements or other measurable benefits?	x	
Does the topic concern a poor performing service or a high budgetary commitment?		x
Are there adequate resources / realistic possibility of adequate resources to achieve the objective(s)?	x	
Is the Scrutiny activity timely, i.e. will scrutiny be able to recommend changes to the service delivery, policy, strategy, etc?	x	
Is the topic linked to corporate or scrutiny aims and priorities?	x	
Has the topic been identified as a risk in the Corporate Risk Register or is it the subject of an adverse internal audit or external regulator report?		x

*The following table is to be used to guide the scores given:

Score	Aims & Priorities	Impact
0	No links to corporate/scrutiny aims and priorities	No potential benefits
1	No links to corporate/scrutiny aims and priorities but a subject of high public concern	Minor potential benefits affecting only one ward/customer/client group
2	Some evidence of links, but indirect	Minor benefits to two groups/moderate benefits to one
3	Good evidence linking the topic to both aims and priorities	Moderate benefits to more than one group/substantial benefits to one
4	Strong evidence linking both aims and priorities, and has a high level of public concern	Substantial community-wide benefits

SCORING

Aims & Priorities

4	Possible topic for Scrutiny – to be timetabled appropriately	Priority topic for Scrutiny – for urgent consideration
3		
2	Reject topic for Scrutiny – topic to be circulated to members for information purposes	Possible topic for Scrutiny – to be timetabled appropriately
1		

0

1

2

3

4

Impact