

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Scrutiny Committee

23 September 2015

UPDATE ON FOURTH SCRUTINY REVIEW – MEMBER/OFFICER WORKING GROUPS**Report by Head of Democratic Services****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report provides the Committee with a further update on the progress made to date on the recommendations from the Fourth Scrutiny Review on Member Officer Groups (MOGs).

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on 17 September 2008, agreed to develop the role of the Committee in relation to the scrutiny element of the Council's performance management framework and outlined proposed measures for improvement. This included agreement to routinely undertake reviews.
- 1.2 On 30 November 2012, the Scrutiny Committee agreed that their fourth review would focus on MOGs. The purpose of the review was to consider the effectiveness of these groups and to identify improvements to support better outcomes for our communities.
- 1.3 The final report from the Fourth Scrutiny review of MOGs (Report 14/87 refers) was submitted to Council on 26 February 2014. The Council agreed that a full progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the review be submitted to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.4 An interim report was provided to the Scrutiny Committee on 1 October 2014, and a more detailed report (15/259) was considered by the Committee on 17 June 2015. It was agreed that a further update on the outstanding actions be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROGRESS MADE TO DATE

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Committee report made 13 recommendations. The completed actions were reported on at the June Committee meeting and progress made against the outstanding actions is detailed below:
 - v. An annual process is established to test the relevance and membership of existing MOGs and convene new MOGs or other appropriate engagement mechanism.

Update – This action is ongoing. MOGs will continue to be asked to review their remit and membership on an annual basis. A mapping exercise has begun which will take into account areas for improvement

identified in the annual performance report and also any new risks identified through the corporate risk management process.

- vi. A mapping exercise is carried out to identify the spectrum of potential options for member/officer working.

Update – This action is still in progress. Work is ongoing with services in line with the above mapping exercise taking account of council strategic priorities identified in the Single Outcome Agreement and also taking account of Audit Scotland's report on the overview of local government.

- viii. As our journey towards partnership continues and the new CPP structures develop, it is recommended that we maintain a watching brief on the connection between MOGs and Outcome Delivery Groups.

Update – This action will continue to be taken forward as part of our mapping exercise however the CPP structure is currently being revised to reflect the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

- ix. Training is made available and is compulsory for elected members who have the responsibility for chairing MOGs.

Update – This action is complete. Training sessions on chairing meetings will be held on Wednesday 30 September 2015 which all elected members have been invited to attend although there will be scope to hold further sessions as required.

- x. MOGs should consider developing an annual forward planner to support a project management approach to meetings.

Update – This action is ongoing. Democratic Services are working with Services to develop committee forward planners which will assist with the development of further planners in relation to MOGs.

- xiii. Leaders introduce mechanisms to encourage greater communication between MOG members and non-MOG members within their group.

Update – This action is complete. Group Leaders have advised that discussions take place within group meetings on relevant issues from various meetings including committees, sub-committees, partnerships and MOGs.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee considers and comments on this report.

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Approved

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Gillian Taylor	Head of Democratic Services	11 September 2015

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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	None
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	None
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	None
Strategic Environmental Assessment	None
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	None
Legal and Governance	None
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	None
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 Whilst the Chief Executive's Service supports all of the Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement strategic objectives this report does not directly support a particular objective.

Corporate Plan

- 1.2 Whilst the Chief Executive's Service supports all of the Corporate Plan objectives this report does not directly support a particular objective.

2. Resource Implications

2.1 Financial

- 2.1.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

2.2 Workforce

- 2.2.1 There are no direct workforce implications arising from this report.

2.3 Asset Management (land, property, IT)

2.3.1 There are no direct asset management implications arising from this report.

3. **Assessments**

Equality Impact Assessment

3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

This section should reflect that the proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.2 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report. This is because the Committee are requested to note the contents of the report only and the Committee are not being requested to approve, adopt or agree to an action or to set the framework for future decisions.

Sustainability

3.3 N/A

Legal and Governance

3.4 N/A

Risk

3.5 N/A

4. **Consultation**

Internal

4.1 N/A

External

4.2 N/A

5. Communication

N/A

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

3. APPENDICES

None