

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Chief Executive

Council: 29 August 2007

Subject: Scrutiny Arrangements and the Role of the Audit & Performance Review Committee

1. Purpose

- 1.1** This report updates Council on progress with the review of Scrutiny arrangements, and proposals for discussion at the Audit & Performance Review Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1** At its meeting on 27 June 2007, Council agreed revised structures for decision making. As part of this decision it was agreed that "the Chief Executive prepare a report that presents proposals for revised Scrutiny arrangements to the first meeting of Council following the recess."
- 2.2** The review of Scrutiny had been underway prior to this decision and the findings are now available.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** Although Council had requested a report immediately following the recess, this was prior to the development of the new committee timescale. The review of Scrutiny had been due to report to the Audit and Performance Review Committee in the first instance, however the new committee timescale did not include a meeting of the Audit & Performance Review Committee prior to the first Council meeting after the recess.
- 3.2** The review of Scrutiny will also have implications for the remit of the Audit & Performance Review Committee.
- 3.3** It is proposed that the meeting of the Audit & Performance Review Committee on 18 September should be asked to give detailed consideration to the results of the review of Scrutiny, and also, linked to this, the draft remit for the committee. This will also allow new elected members the opportunity to input. The Audit & Performance Review Committee should then be requested to make a recommendation to Council on the most appropriate approach.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1** There are no Personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 A risk analysis is not required, although it will be essential to ensure that the Council develops an appropriate approach to Scrutiny. This will be done by means of discussion at the Audit & Performance Review Committee in the first instance.

7. Conclusions

7.1 The review of Scrutiny is complete, however it is proposed that both the results of the review and the draft remit of the Audit & Performance Review Committee are considered by this committee in September prior to final agreement by Council.

8. Recommendations

8.1 Council is invited to note that it will receive recommendations on both the approach to Scrutiny, and the remit of the Audit & Performance Review Committee, following discussion by that committee on 18 September 2007.

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Date: 17 August 2007

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Appendices: None

Background Papers: Report to Council 27.6.07 – Review of Decision Making Structures

Wards Affected: All