

ERW JOINT COMMITTEE

19 MARCH 2020

PROTOCOL FOR PRE-DECISION/CONSULTATION SCRUTINY ERW JOINT COMMITTEE DECISIONS

Purpose: The protocol seeks to enable scrutiny councillors to better engage with the agendas of the Joint Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

Joint-committee members to consider the content and purpose of the protocol and formulate a written response to the ERW Scrutiny Councillor Group

REASONS:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ERW JOINT COMMITTEE

19 MARCH 2020

Pre-decision Scrutiny Protocol

Protocol for Pre-decision/consultation Scrutiny ERW Joint Committee decisions

1. Pre-decision scrutiny provides the ERW Scrutiny Group the opportunity for consultation with the Joint Committee on fully developed proposals where a clear recommendation exists before that decision is taken by the ERW Joint Committee.
2. The purpose is to enable the ERW Councillor Group to gain information and develop an understanding of the matter, and, act as a 'critical friend' by asking questions and commenting on the proposals. This gives scrutiny a valuable opportunity to inform and influence decision-making through debate and challenge.
3. The ERW Scrutiny Councillor Group will identify items for pre-decision scrutiny from the ERW Joint Committee Forward Work Plan or from information given by the ERW Managing Director or ERW Joint Committee on key up and coming decisions.
4. In terms of key questions, the ERW Councillor Group may consider:
 - The rationale for the report/decision
 - Robustness of the proposed decision and process
 - Potential impact and implications (including policy/performance/budget issues) and risks
 - How different options have been considered
 - The extent of consultation undertaken
5. The Councillor Group will share its views with the Joint Committee on the decision, which may include giving support, providing other suggestions on the way forward, or flagging up any concerns.
6. The ERW Councillor Group (through the Chair) will present its views, conclusions and recommendations about the report/decision to the Joint Committee by email to the Chair of the Joint Committee when time is limited (this will be followed up in a letter from the Chair of the ERW Scrutiny Councillor Group).

The views of the ERW Councillor Group is formally considered by the Joint Committee before it makes the decision on the proposals. Feedback should be given to the ERW Councillor Group including explanation for any rejection of views expressed.

The creation of a Joint Scrutiny Committee is also to be considered.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

NO



IMPLICATIONS

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities NONE	Legal YES Local Government Measure 2011 Local Government Act 1972	Finance NONE	Risk Management Issues NONE	Staffing Implications NONE
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CONSULTATIONS

Details of any consultations undertaken are to be included here: **N/A**

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
N/A	N/A	N/A

