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Overview and Scrutiny Handbook



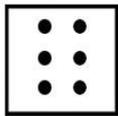
All you need to know about Overview and Scrutiny
in Durham County Council

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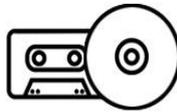
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Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.

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The Handbook

This handbook has been designed to provide information and guidance on Durham County Council's overview and scrutiny arrangements. It is aimed at members, officers, the public, our partner organisations, regional and national organisations and agencies. It will assist those who give evidence as part of scrutiny review work, or who are interested in overview and scrutiny generally.

An annual report is also produced each year which sets out the work undertaken by overview and scrutiny in County Durham. It is available on the council's website.

The term 'scrutiny' refers to both overview and scrutiny in this handbook.

What is Overview and Scrutiny?

Overview and scrutiny was introduced by the Local Government Act 2000 which brought in new executive governance arrangements for local authorities.

The purpose of overview and scrutiny is to scrutinise decisions of the executive; to hold them to account and make recommendations on policy development and implementation.

Local government has changed a great deal since scrutiny was first introduced. New statutory guidance for overview and scrutiny was issued in May 2019 and aims to ensure the purpose of scrutiny is better understood. We hope this handbook will help with this understanding.

Scrutiny supports the council by remaining focussed on the four key principles of good scrutiny. These have been defined by the Centre for Public Scrutiny:

- To provide a constructive "critical friend" challenge to executive policy-makers and decisions-makers.
- To amplify the voice and concerns of the public.
- To ensure scrutiny is carried out by 'independent minded governors' who lead and own the scrutiny role.
- To drive improvement in public services.

Members have agreed to ensure that these principles underpin all the work scrutiny does in County Durham.



Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Durham County Council appoints six committees each year to carry out the work of overview and scrutiny. These are aligned to the priorities within the current council plan which are the key improvement areas for the council.

The County Durham Partnership has agreed a new vision for the future of County Durham, and the Council is in the process of reviewing the current council plan to reflect this. Once this is complete, the remits of scrutiny

committees will be reviewed to ensure they effectively cover the new vision and council plan aims and objectives.

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee oversees and co-ordinates the work of overview and scrutiny and the five thematic committees:

- Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Economy and Enterprise overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

General responsibilities of overview and scrutiny committees

- Review and/or scrutinise decisions or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the council's functions
- Make reports and/or recommendations to full council or the executive in connection with the discharge of any functions
- Consider and make reports or recommendations on any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants
- Exercise the right to call-in decisions made but not yet implemented by the executive.

- Work to ensure that communities are engaged in the scrutiny process; and consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options.
- Promote equality and diversity across all of its work and the work of the County Council.

Statutory Responsibilities

Three of the thematic overview and scrutiny committees have statutory responsibilities.

The [Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) has a statutory role in scrutinising local health services.

The [Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) has statutory responsibility to scrutinise flooding and coastal risk management functions of the council and external bodies.

The [Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) has powers to scrutinise work being undertaken by the statutory crime and reduction partnership: The Safe Durham Partnership.



Main Legislation - Overview and Scrutiny

There are two main pieces of legislation relating to overview and scrutiny in local authorities in England – the Local Government Act 2000 and the Localism Act 2011. Along with these Acts are associated regulations and guidance. It is useful to understand the development of the legislative framework around scrutiny and this is summarised below.

Local Government Act 2000 (LGA 2000)

The LGA 2000 obliged local authorities to adopt political management arrangements with a separate executive. In a reflection of Parliament which operates a system of select committees, overview and scrutiny arrangements were introduced to local authorities. Their purpose was to scrutinise the executive by holding them to account for their policies and implementation of decisions. Overview and scrutiny was given the power to call-in decisions of the executive to consider whether decisions should be reviewed before implementation.

Health and Social Care Act 2001

Under this Act, scrutiny was extended to include local health services.

Police and Justice Act 2006

This Act introduced powers for scrutiny committees to investigate work being undertaken by Community Safety Partnerships.

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

This expanded and enhanced the remit of overview and scrutiny by the introduction of 'Councillor Call for Action'. Issues of local concern can be raised with overview and scrutiny committees. The Act encouraged a more mature and constructive relationship with the executive to enhance the policy development role. Overview and scrutiny was given the appellate role in an authority's petitions process. The Act also stated that recommendations from scrutiny must now be responded to by council and the executive within two months.

Localism Act 2011

The Localism Act gave local authorities the general power of competence eg that they have the power to do anything that an individual generally may do.

- For scrutiny the Act sought to consolidate existing scrutiny legislation.
- Councillors were given the power to refer a matter to scrutiny.
- It increased the scope of scrutiny to hold partners to account for a broader range of issues that relate to the local authority area.
- Overview and scrutiny committees were given the power to review and scrutinise floods and coastal erosion risk management functions.

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

This Act introduced changes to policing governance with the creation of elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) who are held to account by Police and Crime Panels

Health and Social Care Act 2012

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 - impacting upon health scrutiny:

- Conferred review and scrutiny powers upon local authorities as a corporate entity
- Extended local authorities' formal powers to review and scrutinise all relevant NHS bodies and relevant health service providers
- Enabled review and scrutiny functions to be discharged by an overview and scrutiny committee of the authority - Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Local authorities can refer proposals for any substantial service change to the Secretary of State for Health.

The Council's Constitution and Scrutiny

The scrutiny procedure in Durham County Council is contained in the council's constitution.

The constitution sets out:

- How the council operates
- How decisions are made
- The rules and procedures which are followed to ensure that these

are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people.

The constitution is reviewed each year at the annual council meeting and as new legislation is introduced.

For scrutiny the two main sections of the constitution which set out the powers it has are as follows:

Article 5 of the constitution sets out the overview and scrutiny arrangements – the appointment of committees, their role and functions.

Part 4 of the constitution includes the overview and scrutiny procedure rules - who can sit on scrutiny committees, who chairs and how agenda items can be requested.

It also includes details on call-in, Councillor Call for Action and the role of scrutiny in considering requests to review how petitions have been dealt with.

Call-in

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has power to call-in decisions made by the executive (which also includes a joint committee) but are not yet implemented. The purpose is to consider recommending whether a decision should be reviewed by the executive.

This is a power which should only be used in exceptional circumstances and cannot be used in respect of day-to-

day management and operational decisions.

Co-opted Members (and other interested parties)

Non-councillors may be co-opted onto overview and scrutiny committees and working groups and can help scrutiny to engage with the public.

Co-optees are offered the same development opportunities as council members including in-house training and development relevant to their role and the remit of the overview and scrutiny committee on which they serve.

Opportunities are available for co-optees to attend site visits relevant to the remit of the overview and scrutiny committee on which they serve. However, they may also attend site visits of all scrutiny committees subject to the approval of the relevant chair or vice chair and the availability of spare capacity on the visit. Members and co-optees who serve on the respective overview and scrutiny committee will have priority when allocating spaces for visits.

Co-optees must abide by the respective sections of the council's constitution in relation to committee procedure and act with due propriety according to standards laid down for conduct in local government via the Code of Conduct for members.

Co-opted members:

- Act as a voice for those who live or work in County Durham.
- Bring specialist knowledge, skills and an element of external challenge to the overview and scrutiny process.

- Take an interest in, attend and contribute to the committees or working groups to which appointed.
- Establish good relations with other members, officers and co-optees.
- Where co-optees are representatives of any organisation or group, to feed back any appropriate discussions or decisions of the relevant committee or working group to their respective organisation or group.

Non- statutory, non-voting co-optees

There is a co-optees protocol and recruitment procedure in place to assist with appointments. Non-statutory co-optees are appointed to five overview and scrutiny committees with the exception of the COSMB.

Parent Governor and Faith Representatives

Local authorities with responsibility for education issues can co-opt parent governor representatives and faith representatives onto committees and working groups.

Faith representatives are appointed via the Diocesan Board of Education and a specific appointment process is in place for parent governor representatives.

The role of the representative is to:

- Act as the voice for parents in the area; representing to the local education authority the main education issues which concern parents of pupils attending schools maintained by the authority (parent governor representatives).
- Liaise with church schools operating in the area to ensure that their views and interests are represented during any scrutiny of education matters (faith representatives).

- Liaise with other parent governor representatives on their own local education authority (parent governor representatives).
- Attend and contribute to the committees to which appointed.
- Establish good relations with other members and officers.
- Feedback the local education authority's discussions of and decisions on education to parents and faith communities.

Councillor Call for Action

The Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) is a process for a local councillor to act on behalf of residents to resolve a local issue of concern and is to be used as a last resort for people who cannot get issues resolved in other ways.

Local councillors should be looking to identify CCfAs in their community, but CCfAs can also be raised by local people directly with them, or with the and Scrutiny team.

It is the responsibility of councillors to recognise whether an issue is a CCfA and whether it is appropriate for them to champion that issue.

The CCfA process may not resolve the issue immediately but will act as a spur for members and officers to work together to jointly develop policies to overcome the issues concerned.

To date, Durham County Council has not had a CCfA as the processes and procedures already in place have resolved any issues

Details of the process to be followed for a CCfA are contained in the council's constitution on the website.

Petitions

Durham County Council has a petitions process which can be found on the website.

The Council has a range of courses of action it can take following the receipt of a petition. One of these is a referral to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration.

In this case officers may be called to the committee to answer questions about the delivery of council services.

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has another role in respect of petitions which is the appellate role in reviewing how a petition has been dealt with by the council.

The chair of COSMB in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and the Statutory Scrutiny Officer determine if any request for a review of the way in which a petition has been dealt with merits consideration by a meeting of COSMB.

If the request is agreed, the petition will be considered at a meeting of either COSMB or the relevant thematic overview and scrutiny committee.

Details of how to submit a petition and the procedure to be followed for a review of how a petition has been dealt with are included in the petitions scheme on the website.

An update on petitions received by the council is regularly considered at meetings of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

Joint Working Arrangements A joint working arrangement is in place between the Council's Safer and Stronger Communities Committee and

Darlington Borough Council's Monitoring and Co-ordinating Group with the Durham Police and Crime Panel (PCP). This is crucial to provide communication between the PCP and responsibilities of scrutiny of crime and disorder matters with respective councils.

The arrangement includes receiving update reports from the PCP at each committee meeting. The agreement also ensures that discussions take place between both the chairs of the PCP and committee and the secretariat to avoid duplication of effort and resources on in-depth reviews.

Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The overview and scrutiny committees are aligned to the six key priority themes within the County Council's current plan.



Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB) is responsible for overseeing and co-ordinating the work of overview and scrutiny and its committees:

- To ensure effective liaison across the work of the committees on cross cutting issues.

- To be the strategic driver of the overview and scrutiny function.
- To consider as appropriate scrutiny member involvement in regional scrutiny arrangements within the context of any regional strategies.
- The establishment of appropriate liaison with the executive in the interests of achieving common aims and continuous improvement for the council.
- To encourage appropriate community involvement in the overview and scrutiny role.
- Putting the customer first.
- Working with our communities.
- Effective use of resources.
- Support our people through change.

Membership

Comprising 26 members of the council including the chairs and vice chairs of the other five scrutiny committees.

If an educational matter is called-in the seven non-voting faith and parent governors will be invited to attend the Board.

Chair: Councillor Rob Crute

Vice chair: Councillor Alison Batey.



Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

The committee is responsible for the following:

- Reduce health inequalities and early deaths
- Improve the quality of life, independence and care and support for people with long term conditions
- Improve the mental health and physical wellbeing of the population
- Supporting people to die in the place of their choice with the care and support they need

Membership

Comprising 21 members of the council plus up to two non-voting co-optees.

Chair: Councillor John Robinson

Vice chair: Councillor Jean Chaplow.



Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee

The committee is responsible for the following:

- Helping children and young people realise and maximise their potential
- Helping children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life
- A Think Family approach is embedded in our support for families.

Membership

Comprising 21 members of the council including the chair or vice chair of Corporate Parenting Panel plus seven voting faith and parent governor representatives and up to two non-voting co-optees including young people.

Chair: Councillor Heather Smith

Vice chair: Councillor Christine Potts.



Economy and Enterprise Overview & Scrutiny Committee

The committee is responsible for the following:

- Thriving Durham City
- Vibrant and successful town
- Sustainable neighbourhoods and rural communities
- Competitive and successful people
- A top location for business

Membership

Comprising 21 members of the council and up to two non-voting co-optees.

Chair: Councillor Malcolm Clarke

Vice chair: Councillor Richard Manchester.



Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

The committee is responsible for the following:

- Deliver a clean, attractive and sustainable environment
- Maximise the value and benefits of Durham's natural environment
- Reduce carbon emissions and adapt to the impact of climate change

Membership

Comprising 21 members of the council and up to two non-voting co-optees.

Chair: Councillor Eddy Adam

Vice chair: Councillor Olga Milburn



Safer and Stronger Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

The committee is responsible for the following:

- Reduce anti-social behaviour
- Protect vulnerable people from harm
- Reduce re-offending
- Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction
- Counter terrorism and prevention of violent extremism
- Casualty reduction
- Embed the Think Family approach

Membership

Comprising 21 members of the council with up to two non-voting co-optees, plus co-opted employees or officers of a responsible authority or of a co-opting person or body, in accordance with Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

Chair: Councillor David Boyes

Vice chair: Councillor Heather Liddle.

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme

At the centre of the overview and scrutiny function is the work programme.

Each year the work programme is developed within the context of the County Durham vision the Council Plan, other plans and strategies and in consultation with a wide range of members, partners and officers.

Following the consultation process the work programmes are agreed by each committee. The programmes are developed to ensure flexibility and

capacity to deal with any issues which may arise in year.

The majority of detailed in-depth reviews are carried out by the scrutiny committees, but smaller working groups may be set up to carry out light touch reviews.

One important element of scrutiny is to ensure appropriate input from members of the public who are recipients of the council's services.

When members receive representations from the public on a matter these can be fed in to the development of the work programme.



Once a subject area has been identified for review the committee will follow a process to ensure their review will be effective.

Scrutiny officers work closely with the chairs, vice chairs and relevant senior officers to scope out and agree a project plan prior to embarking on a review.

Review Process



Evidence

Evidence can be collected from various sources, including County Council officers, employees from other partner organisations and agencies, and voluntary organisations.

Evidence can be written, oral or acquired via site visits. It can be gained by research and use of best practice.

Evidence from those that work with the council to provide services or receive services from the council can be constructive critical friends.

Reporting

On completion of the evidence gathering, a report is drafted with conclusions and recommendations for cabinet or partner organisations such as the NHS to consider and agree where appropriate.

Any reports from the Adults Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Committee on health consultations are taken to cabinet for information.

Completed reports are shared with everyone involved in the review process and the findings are made public.

Recent reviews are available on the council website's overview and scrutiny pages.

Examples of subject areas for overview and scrutiny reviews:

- Cybercrime
- The role of the social worker from a child's perspective
- Support provided to the retail sector
- Allotments policy

Smaller working groups may be appointed for some topics to

- Establish the current position
- Seek help from experts
- Invite members of the public to give their views
- Look at what is happening in other councils
- Examine how we compare to others
- Produce a report
- Make recommendations to Cabinet and or Council
- Monitor progress and report progress

Performance

Performance reports are submitted to each scrutiny committee. The reports are structured around a set of key questions aligned to the six priorities in the current council plan. The reports include key performance messages from quarterly data along with visual summaries and data tables. Key risks and how they are managed are also included.

Two types of performance indicators are used in the reports – key target indicators and key tracker indicators. We also compare against both national and north east benchmarking for our performance.

The quarterly reports are presented in their full form to Cabinet and the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

Each thematic overview and scrutiny committee receives the performance report relevant to their committee remit.

Medium Term Financial Plan and Budget outturn

Each scrutiny committee receives quarterly budgetary outturn reports relevant to their committee.

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board's main focus each year is the council's Medium Term Financial Plan. Scrutiny plays an important role in scrutinising and commenting on Cabinet's MTFP proposals which forms part of the statutory consultation process.

Guidance for contributors to overview and scrutiny

An important element of overview and scrutiny is the contribution from others to the work we do. This might involve providing information and expertise to a committee or working group.

To help those who contribute to our work we have drawn up some guidelines to ensure the process runs smoothly. See overleaf.

Summary of guidance

Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All contributors will receive sufficient notice to attend the meeting.• Contributors must give notice of any technical equipment required.
Courtesy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contributors will be treated with courtesy and respect by all those involved.
Non-political and fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meetings will be conducted in a non-political, fair and professional manner that seeks out information rather than apportioning blame.
Positive and objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contributors can expect a positive and objective style from the committee which will be jargon free wherever possible.
Accurately recorded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contributors views will be accurately recorded.
Publicly available	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written information is publicly available.• Confidential evidence must be discussed with the scrutiny officer.
Draft reports shared	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drafts will be shared with contributors to check accuracy.• Final report circulated to contributors for information and action where necessary.
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If a contributor has not been treated fairly, or without courtesy or respect - contact the Scrutiny Officer at the meeting.
Familiarity with the topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contributors should familiarise themselves with the topic to ensure information is useful to the review.

A full copy of the guidance is available on the website.

Regional Scrutiny

The North East Regional Employers' Organisation hosts a Joint Member/Officer Scrutiny Network to foster regional and sub-regional scrutiny.

The network:

- Provides a mechanism to share information on scrutiny best practice, outcomes of scrutiny investigations, benchmarking, service planning; performance indicators; conference feedback and funding streams
- Allows members and officers to share ideas on improving scrutiny processes and enhancing effectiveness
- Provides a link between the north east local authorities and the Centre for Public Scrutiny for sharing information and inviting speakers to talk about recent national policy developments
- Provides a forum for elected members who have a scrutiny role to network with other members and officers and share experiences.

Durham County Council's scrutiny councillors and officers play an active role in the Regional Network.

Regional Health Scrutiny

North East Regional Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

A joint North East Regional Health Scrutiny Committee with representation from all 12 local authority health scrutiny committees it provides a mechanism for scrutiny oversight, and in-depth reviews on health and health

inequalities issues in the north east region, and feeds into statutory health scrutiny consultations which impact upon all north east local authorities.

The Committee's work may include activity in support of carrying out:

- Discretionary health scrutiny reviews where health issues may have a regional or cross boundary focus
- Statutory health scrutiny reviews to consider and respond to proposals for developments or variations in health services that affect more than one health authority area, and that are considered "substantial" by the health overview and scrutiny committees for the areas affected by the proposals
- Monitoring of recommendations previously agreed by the Joint Committee.

For each separate review the Joint Committee will prepare and make available specific terms of reference, and agree arrangements and support, for the enquiry it will be considering.

The Committee also aims to scrutinise:

- NHS organisations that cover, commission or provide services across the north east region, including and not limited to, for example, the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System, NHS foundation trusts, clinical commissioning groups, mental health trusts and specialised commissioning groups.
- Services commissioned and/or provided to patients living and working across the north east region.
- Specific health issues that span across the north east region.

However, individual authorities will reserve the right to undertake scrutiny of any relevant NHS organisations on matters relating specifically to their local population.

The North East Regional Health Scrutiny Committee meets regularly to consider important health issues which affect the region, including proposals by NHS Commissioners and service providers which are considered to be substantial variations in or developments to health services.

The committee has considered proposals for potential service changes in respect of:

- Northumberland, Tyne and Wear Sustainability and Transformation Plan
- Durham, Darlington and Tees; Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Sustainability and Transformation Plan
- North East Urgent and Emergency Care Vanguard
- North East and Cumbria Learning and Disabilities Fast Track Transformation Plan
- North East Commissioning Support - Regional Back Pain Programme
- Specialised Commissioning – NHS England North
 - Congenital Heart Disease – Adults and Children
 - Neo-Natal Intensive Care
 - Paediatric High Dependency Care (Winter Pressures)
 - Vascular Surgery

Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Scrutiny) Regulations –

Provision for Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 require the formation of a joint scrutiny agreement, where an NHS body or relevant health service provider consults more than one local authority on proposals to make substantial variations or developments to services.

They provide that all the local authorities whose residents receive such services must participate in the joint scrutiny arrangement for the purpose of responding to the consultation, using the method most appropriate to the areas and issues being considered.

The following joint health overview and scrutiny committees have been established involving Durham County Council.

- A joint committee consisting of Durham County Council, Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council, Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Borough Council, Northumberland County Council, South Tyneside Borough Council and Sunderland City Council was established in June 2018 to oversee the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham Sustainability and Transformation Plan.
- This work is ongoing and has developed in to the scrutiny of the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System and the Northern and Central Integrated Care Partnerships.
- A joint committee consisting of Darlington Borough Council, Durham County Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Borough Council, North Yorkshire County Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council was established in July 2016 to oversee the Darlington, Durham Teesside,

Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

- This work is ongoing and has developed in to the scrutiny of the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System and the Central and Southern Integrated Care Partnerships.
- A joint committee consisting of Durham County Council, South Tyneside Borough Council and Sunderland City Council was established in September 2019 to oversee the Path to Excellence Programme Phase 2. This work is ongoing.

North East Combined Authority (NECA) scrutiny arrangements

The North East Combined Authority (NECA) is comprised of the four councils of Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland. It has agreed three broad areas of focus:

- * Transport
- * Employability and Inclusion
- * Economic Development and Regeneration

NECA has an Overview and Scrutiny Committee which enables local councillors, on behalf of their communities, to scrutinise and challenge all matters within its remit.

The committee investigates matters of significant importance to residents across the areas covered by the four councils with a view to influencing decisions.

As transport is of such strategic importance to the North East, both NECA and the North of Tyne Combined Authority work collaboratively to ensure effective decision making across the region takes place. A Joint Transport

Committee Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been established with representatives from all seven authorities.

Both scrutiny committees meet at varying locations across the NECA area and meetings are open to the public. The chair and vice chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board sit on both of these regional scrutiny committees. The chair and vice chair of the Economy and Enterprise scrutiny committee are substitute members.

Overview and Scrutiny Team

The Overview and Scrutiny team is part of the Resources Directorate.

Jenny Haworth, the Head of Strategy is Durham County Council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer and has responsibility for

Tom Gorman is the Corporate Scrutiny and Strategy Manager and Stephen Gwilym the Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer.

Diane Close, Jonathan Slee and Ann Whitton are Overview and Scrutiny Officers. Clare Luery is the Scrutiny Support Assistant.

Contact details of the Scrutiny team are overleaf.

We can also be contacted via our scrutiny email account:

scrutiny@durham.gov.uk

and on the website:

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/scrutiny>

Scrutiny Team – contact details



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