



Councillor Wendy Nichols – Chair of Scrutiny Committee

The Scrutiny Committee has not met since the previous update given to Council in July 2018.

However, I will take this opportunity to update Members on the progress of the review and improvements to scrutiny at the Council.

Members may recall that at their last meeting on 17 July 2018 that they agreed to adopt role profiles for the Chairs of Scrutiny, Policy Review and Audit and Governance Committee for inclusion in the Constitution, and also agreed that the arrangements for scrutiny at Selby be reviewed again after the 2019 elections. These role profiles now appear in the Constitution as published on the Council's website.

The quarterly liaison group set up between the Executive and the Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees, to discuss work programming, met for the first time in late July; it was a productive meeting with a number of ideas and topics for scrutiny being discussed. The work plans of the committees have now been updated to reflect the suggestions made at the meeting. The next meeting of the liaison group will be in November.

Training for scrutiny Members is being arranged by officers, with two sessions scheduled to be delivered on 23 October (one in the morning, one in the afternoon). The content will include some 'back to basics' information, looking at how scrutiny is done at Selby and how to ensure it is effective, and analysing information. Those Members on Scrutiny, Policy Review and Audit and Governance Committees who have not already done so are asked to let Democratic Services know which session they would like to attend – morning or afternoon.

The Scrutiny Committee has agreed that a representative of the committee will be present at each Executive meeting; it was also agreed that Executive Members would be invited to attend Scrutiny Committee when appropriate, but could also attend without a formal invite if they so wished.

Work to strengthen scrutiny at Selby is progressing steadily and will be ongoing throughout the rest of the 2018-19 municipal year.

The next meeting of the Committee will be on 27 September 2018.

Councillor W Nichols
Chair, Scrutiny Committee