

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Resolution**

**Report to:** Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 17 May 2023  
Council – 17 May 2023

**Subject:** Proposed changes to the remit of Scrutiny Committees

**Report of:** The City Solicitor

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**Summary**

This report details proposed changes to the remits of the Council's Scrutiny Committees and the renaming of the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee in order to reflect its full scope.

**Recommendation – Constitutional and Nomination Committee**

The Constitutional and Nomination Committee is requested to

- (1) Recommend that Council agree the proposed changes to the remits of the Council's Scrutiny Committees as set out in Appendix 2.
- (2) Recommend that Council agree the renaming of the Economy Scrutiny Committee to the Economy and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee to Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee

**Recommendations – Council**

Council is recommended to:

- (1) Agree and adopt the proposed changes to the remits of the Council's Scrutiny Committees as set out in Appendix 2 with immediate effect.
  - (2) Agree the renaming of the Economy Scrutiny Committee to the Economy and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee to Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee.
  - (3) Authorise the City Solicitor to make any amendments to the Council's Constitution that are consequential to the changes to the remits of the Council's Scrutiny Committees and the renaming of the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee.
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**Wards Affected:** All Wards

**Environmental Impact Assessment** - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

Not applicable

<b>Our Manchester Strategy outcomes</b>	<b>Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS</b>
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Not Applicable
A highly skilled city: world class and home-grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Not Applicable
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Not Applicable
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	Not Applicable
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Not Applicable

**Contact Officers:**

Name: Fiona Ledden  
Position: City Solicitor  
Telephone: 0161 234 3087  
E-mail: [fiona.ledden@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.ledden@manchester.gov.uk)

Name: Mike Williamson  
Position: Governance and Scrutiny Support Manager  
Telephone: 0161 234 3071  
E-mail: [michael.williamson@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:michael.williamson@manchester.gov.uk)

**Background documents (available for public inspection):**

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

None

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This report details proposed changes to the remit of some of the Council's Scrutiny Committees, following consultation with all six Scrutiny Chairs, the Executive Leader and Strategic Directors

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 Whilst each of the six Scrutiny Committees have a wide remit of areas that come under their individual area of responsibility, it has been recognised that some of the Committees have a greater number of areas than others.
- 2.3 Although each Committee is responsible for developing and determining its own work programme for a Municipal Year, capacity has to be built into this to allow for items of business to be submitted that can not be foreseen far in advance which require Scrutiny Committees to consider in advance of any decisions being taken.
- 2.2 Whilst acknowledging that effective scrutiny does not require every area within a Committee's remit to be scrutinised in any given Municipal Year, for those Committees that have a large number of areas that it is responsible for scrutinising, this places a greater strain on their ability to ensure the Committee is fulfilling its role to the best of its abilities.

## **3.0 Proposals**

- 3.1 It is recognised that the current demands across the committees vary and an element of alignment is necessary. Appendix 1 details the current remit of the Council's Scrutiny Committees.
- 3.2 As such it is proposed that a small number of items move committee, for example aligning all compliance in one place to enable an improved alignment of areas of responsibility. Appendix 2 details the proposed revised remit of the Council's Scrutiny Committees.
- 3.3 In addition it has also been recognised that names of committees should reflect the areas they are responsible for. Economy Scrutiny committee also covers all areas of regeneration and housing and should be reflected in its title. The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee also has responsibility for Scrutinising areas within the Council's Neighbourhood Services Directorate such as waste, recycling, parks and green spaces and as such, it is felt that this should be accurately reflected in the Committees title.

## **4.0 Recommendations**

- 4.1 The recommendations are set out at the beginning of this report.

## Appendix 1 – Current Scrutiny Committee remits

### SECTION E: RESPONSIBILITY FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Pursuant to Article 6 of Part 2 of this Constitution, the Council has established 6 Scrutiny Committees to discharge the functions set out in Section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 and in Article 6.

The Scrutiny Committees, membership and the specific remit of each committee is as set out below:

Committee	Membership	Remit
Children and Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> <li>▪ One representative of the Diocese of Manchester</li> <li>▪ One representative of the Diocese of Salford and Shrewsbury</li> <li>▪ Three elected parent governor representatives</li> <li>▪ Two teacher representatives as non-voting co-opted members</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to the Council’s Children’s Services functions and other matters affecting children and young people, including –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ School Standards and Improvement</li> <li>▪ Children and Families</li> <li>▪ Early Years (0-5’s) and Play</li> <li>▪ CAMHS</li> <li>▪ Children with Special Educational Needs</li> <li>▪ Safeguarding Arrangements</li> <li>▪ Education and Skills Development (for ages 0-15)</li> <li>▪ Transition at 16</li> <li>▪ Disabled Children</li> <li>▪ Valuing Young People</li> </ul>
Communities and Equalities (the designated Crime and Disorder Committee)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to matters concerning citizenship and inclusion, including –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community Cohesion</li> <li>▪ Respect Agenda</li> <li>▪ Equality and Inclusion</li> <li>▪ Older People</li> <li>▪ Information and Advice Services</li> <li>▪ Youth Offending/Disorder</li> <li>▪ Domestic Violence/Abuse</li> <li>▪ Crime and Policing</li> <li>▪ Culture, Libraries and Theatres</li> <li>▪ Leisure and Sport</li> <li>▪ Voluntary Sector</li> <li>▪ Homelessness</li> <li>▪ Compliance (excl Planning)</li> </ul> <p>To review and scrutinise decisions or actions taken in connection with the</p>

		<p>discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions, namely-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduction of crime and disorder (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment)</li> <li>▪ Combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and reducing re-offending</li> <li>▪ To review the provision of services to homeless people within the city and to consider services provided to rough sleepers</li> </ul>
Environment and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to matters concerning environment and climate change (communities and neighbourhoods), including –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental issues concerning the City</li> <li>▪ The Climate Change Strategy</li> <li>▪ Waste</li> <li>▪ Street Management</li> <li>▪ Carbon Emissions and Climate Change</li> <li>▪ Neighbourhood Working</li> <li>▪ Flood Management</li> <li>▪ Planning policy and related enforcement</li> <li>▪ Parks and green spaces</li> </ul>
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to matters relating to the economy, employment and skills, including –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Economic Growth</li> <li>▪ Strategic Transport</li> <li>▪ Employment</li> <li>▪ Regeneration</li> <li>▪ Tourism</li> <li>▪ City Region</li> <li>▪ Core Cities</li> <li>▪ Skills Development (aged 16+)</li> <li>▪ Worklessness</li> <li>▪ Street management</li> <li>▪ Highways</li> <li>▪ Housing</li> </ul>

Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in Manchester, to issues affecting the health and well-being of the community, including -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adult Social Care</li> <li>▪ Aspiration and Well-being</li> <li>▪ Health Services</li> <li>▪ Health Inequalities</li> <li>▪ Health Protection and Safeguarding</li> <li>▪ Public Health and Healthy Living</li> <li>▪ Mental Health and Well-being</li> <li>▪ Patient and Public Involvement</li> <li>▪ CQC Inspections of Health and Social Care Provision</li> <li>▪ Any matter relating to health or social care services or providers referred by Healthwatch</li> </ul>
Resources and Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to resources and governance including those not falling within the remit of the other Scrutiny Committees and -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Finance and Budget Setting</li> <li>▪ Capital Programme</li> <li>▪ Procurement &amp; Commissioning</li> <li>▪ Property Management</li> <li>▪ Human Resources</li> <li>▪ Corporate and Partnership Governance</li> <li>▪ City Region Governance</li> <li>▪ Revenue and Benefits</li> <li>▪ ICT</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2 – Proposed revised remit of the Council’s Scrutiny Committees .

Committee	Membership	Remit
Children and Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> <li>▪ One representative of the Diocese of Manchester</li> <li>▪ One representative of the Diocese of Salford and Shrewsbury</li> <li>▪ Three elected parent governor representatives</li> <li>▪ Two teacher representatives as non-voting co-opted members</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to the Council’s Children’s Services functions and other matters affecting children and young people, including –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ School Standards and Improvement</li> <li>▪ Children and Families</li> <li>▪ Early Years (0-5’s) and Play</li> <li>▪ CAMHS</li> <li>▪ Children with Special Educational Needs</li> <li>▪ Safeguarding Arrangements</li> <li>▪ Education and Skills Development (for ages 0-15)</li> <li>▪ Transition at 16</li> <li>▪ Disabled Children</li> <li>▪ Valuing Young People</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To review the provision of services to homeless people within the city and to consider services provided to rough sleepers</li> </ul>
Environment, Neighbourhoods and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to matters concerning environment and climate change (communities and neighbourhoods), including –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental issues concerning the City</li> <li>▪ The Climate Change Strategy</li> <li>▪ Waste</li> <li>▪ Street Management</li> <li>▪ Carbon Emissions and Climate Change</li> <li>▪ Neighbourhood Working</li> <li>▪ Flood Management</li> <li>▪ <b>Compliance (excl Planning)</b></li> <li>▪ Planning policy and related enforcement</li> <li>▪ Parks and green spaces</li> </ul>
Economy and Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to matters relating to the economy, employment and skills, including –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Economic Growth</li> <li>▪ Strategic Transport</li> <li>▪ Employment</li> <li>▪ Regeneration</li> <li>▪ Tourism</li> <li>▪ City Region</li> <li>▪ Core Cities</li> <li>▪ Skills Development (aged 16+)</li> <li>▪ Worklessness</li> <li>▪ Street management</li> <li>▪ Highways</li> <li>▪ Housing</li> <li>▪ <b>Culture (including galleries and theatres)</b></li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least ten elected members of the Council</li> </ul>	<p>To exercise scrutiny functions in relation to any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in Manchester, to issues affecting the health and well-being of the community, including -</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adult Social Care</li> <li>▪ Aspiration and Well-being</li> <li>▪ Health Services</li> <li>▪ Health Inequalities</li> <li>▪ Health Protection and Safeguarding</li> <li>▪ Public Health and Healthy Living</li> <li>▪ Mental Health and Well-being</li> <li>▪ Patient and Public Involvement</li> <li>▪ CQC Inspections of Health and Social Care Provision</li> <li>▪ Any matter relating to health or social care services or providers referred by Healthwatch</li> </ul>
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