

Governance Improvement Working Group – Scrutiny SWOT Analysis -

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment • Effective tool • Critical friend • Can guide, advise and forewarn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement • Inconsistency in quality • Wrong topics • Reduced resources • Follows work programme • Large amount of data and presentational issues, can result in lack of understanding of significance of data • not understanding what Members' roles are and lack of knowledge of what scrutiny does • isn't reactive to here and now but works to programme of work • has no executive power/ final say • lack of positive challenge • seen as oppositional rather than part of process
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be done well • Good outcomes • Opportunities for involvement • to be more forward looking • to be more challenging • to engage Members in scrutiny process • to have a better balance in the process/membership • to focus on performance / outcomes and what is better for the community • more efficient scrutiny to make services more efficient eg responding to peer reviews etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resources • Limited attendance and ownership • potential disengagement of Members • fear of constructive criticism (officer and Members) • Can be an over emphasis on policy rather than performance • potential disengagement of Members • fear of constructive criticism (officer and Members) • over emphasis on policy rather than performance

Recommendations

- Retain HOSC & GOSC
- More use of sub-committees
- Task & Finish of short duration
- Separate statutory functions

Governance Improvement Working Group – Public engagement SWOT Analysis -

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written questions • Petitions • Access to information • Can guide, advise and forewarn • Public meetings and media /web etc. • Very few “exempt” reports • Open meetings • Questions from the public and propose items for future work plan • Earlier release of draft minutes • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ineffective questions • Advertising • Low response-rates • Over-dependence on on-line methods • Lack of public knowledge of politics / council business • Misunderstood open-ness • Limited focus of where questions are directed • Number of clicks to web-site topics
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation • Engagement of members • Opportunities for involvement • Questions to Cabinet & Scrutiny • Transparency • Opportunity to use I.T to increase accessibility - webcasting and use of social media. • Varied ways of involving the public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perception of level of members’ knowledge about specific issues – engagement without undue influence. • Members existing commitments • Non engagement of members and public

Recommendations

- Opportunity to ask questions at all meeting.
- Remove deputations
- Set clear guide lines for public participation
- Develop consistent process
- Include a Public Participation section in the Constitution

Governance Improvement Working Group – Committee SWOT Analysis -

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structures in place • Opportunity for clarity • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of clarity • Workload/planning •
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be done well • Good outcomes • Opportunities for involvement • to be more forward looking • to clarify Terms of Reference • to have a better balance in the process/membership • for more informal meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resources • Limited attendance and ownership • potential disengagement of Members • fear of constructive criticism (officer and Members) • Can be an over emphasis on policy rather than performance

Recommendations

- Should Health & Wellbeing Board be included in the Constitution?
- Should SACRE be included in the Constitution?
- West Mercia Police and Crime Panel to be included in the Constitution
- To consider the size of committees
- Where should Performance Monitoring be placed