

Section 4 - Scrutiny Functions

The council is required to appoint one or more scrutiny committee. This section details those arrangements.

3.4.1 Scrutiny functions

3.4.2 The committees have the power:

- (a) to review, influence policy or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (b) to make reports or recommendations to the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (c) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (d) to make reports or recommendations to council with respect to the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (e) to make reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area
- (f) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and to make reports or recommendations to the council with respect to the discharge of those functions. In this regard crime and disorder functions means:
 - (i) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
 - (ii) a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and
 - (iii) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area
- (g) to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in its area and make reports and recommendations to a responsible person on any matter it has reviewed or scrutinised or to be consulted by a relevant NHS body or health service provider in accordance with the Regulations (2013/218) as amended. In this regard *health service* includes services designed to secure improvement—
 - (i) in the physical and mental health of the people of England, and
 - (ii) in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of physical and mental illness

(iii) And any services provided in pursuance of arrangements under section 75 in relation to the exercise of health-related functions of a local authority.

(h) to review and scrutinise the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management functions or coastal erosion risk management functions which may affect the local authority's area.

(i) To track actions and undertake an annual effectiveness review.

3.4.3 Scrutiny rules

3.4.4 When the scrutiny committees are exercising scrutiny functions the scrutiny rules in part 4 section 5 must be followed.

3.4.5 Scrutiny committee remits

3.4.5a The following is not an exhaustive list and if the remit of the committee is unclear the scrutiny management board have the responsibility for deciding which committee should scrutinise a matter.

3.4.5b Additionally forward plan and coordination meetings will take place informally, with the leader as chairperson to discuss the forward plan with Scrutiny Committee Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons.

Committee	Scrutiny of:
Health Care and Wellbeing scrutiny committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult social care (including adult safeguarding) • Health and wellbeing board • Housing • Adults mental and physical health & wellbeing • Safe Herefordshire campaign • Outbreak control plan • New models of care accommodation • Talk Communities • Homelessness • All ages whole system commissioning strategy • Independent living services and Assistive technology plan • Adults and Communities budget and policy framework • Statutory health scrutiny powers including the review and scrutiny of any matter relating to the planning provision and operation of health services affecting the area and to make reports and recommendations on these matters

Committee	Scrutiny of:
Children and Young People scrutiny committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s social care including safeguarding • Online teaching & home learning • Signs of Safety • Children and families policy framework items • Statutory education scrutiny powers • Children’s mental and physical health & wellbeing • Schools investment programme • Children’s Improvement Board and the oversight of the required improvement journey.
Connected Communities scrutiny committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk Business programme, advice and support • Development Investment plans – town, market town, rural, Hereford City • Hereford Enterprise Zone • Higher education development • Adult and community learning programme • Apprenticeships • Fastershire programme • Digital connectivity • Heritage, culture & tourism • Social Value procurement policy • Planning • Licensing • Regulatory • Capital highway maintenance, Asset management & infrastructure repair • Council housing • Statutory community safety and policing scrutiny powers
Environment and Sustainability scrutiny committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core strategy • Waste & recycling • Transport incl. active travel • Climate & ecological emergency • Climate and nature impact assessment on infrastructure proposals • Environmental and energy efficiency standards • Nature strategy - Stewardship of natural resources & green spaces • Integrated wetlands & water quality

Committee	Scrutiny of:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory flood risk management scrutiny powers
Scrutiny Management Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To undertake the scrutiny role in relation to areas which are cross cutting nature eg. Corporate Strategy and Finance (Budget), People and Performance and Corporate Support. • Where a matter falls within the remit of one or more Scrutiny Committees, decide which Committee will consider it and whether a spotlight, task and finish or standing panel review is appropriate • Budget • Treasury Management • Approve an annual work programme for itself and the other scrutiny committees • Oversee communications to members and public in relation to scrutiny matters • The coordination of an annual effectiveness review • Oversight of performance of Council's companies, e.g. Hoople