

County and Unitary Councils' Officer Overview and Scrutiny Network

Friday 2nd December 2022 Starting at 11.00 am

This will be a virtual meeting using Microsoft Teams

Chair: John Cade
Secretary: Paul Thistlewood - Isle of Wight Council
Minutes: Megan Tuckwell - Isle of Wight Council

Agenda

1. Introduction by the Chairman and housekeeping for the meeting
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2022
3. Progress with the Health and Care Act

To discuss progress with elements of the Act. Rachel Skingle, from the Department for Health and Social Care, will be in attendance for this item.
If there are any issues that you wish to seek clarification on then please let Paul Thistlewood, paul.thistlewood@iow.gov.uk, know so Rachel can be advised.

4. Centre for Governance and Scrutiny Update

To receive an update from the Centre on its current activities together with those planned for 2023.

5. Budget, Cost of Living Crisis and S114 notices

The 2023-24 budget looks like it will be a challenge for all Councils. The pandemic had an impact upon council finances and now with the impact of prices rises budgets are being stretched even further. A number of authorities are also looking at issuing a Section 114 notice due to the inability to meet future expenditure requirements. How can scrutiny ensure that Council finances are effectively looked at?

6. Ask the Network

An opportunity to seek the thoughts of other network members to help overcome that small niggling problem that you may be experiencing.

7. Scrutiny Christmas List

What would feature on the wish list for Father Christmas to deliver for your new scrutiny year. Mine would be a recognition of the role that can be played by scrutiny in the development of council policies, plans and strategies.

8. Future meetings and support arrangements

The suggested dates for meetings in 2023 are :-
10 March ; 30 June; 8 September and 1 December. To commence at 10.30am and to be virtual.

It will also be necessary to consider arrangements for the appointment of a new secretary to the Network as Paul Thistlewood will be retiring at the end of March 2023.