

Joint Committee	Date 17 th September 2018	Item No. 8
Title Overview & Scrutiny Arrangements	Authority All	
Decision Classification N/A	Notice Period N/A	
Chief Officer Client Relationship Director	All	

Recommendation:

To recommend to the Full Councils of each authority forming the partnership that the Five Council's Joint Scrutiny Committee be dissolved and the scrutiny function detailed within the attached Terms of Reference be returned to each individual authority.

1 Introduction

The Joint Scrutiny Committee was set up in 2016 with the Terms of Reference as defined in the appendix to this document.

Whilst the Five Councils Partnership Corporate Services Joint Committee carries out the strategic, financial and operational functions delegated to it by the partner authorities, any decisions taken remain decisions of each individual partner authority. It is therefore proposed that the Joint Scrutiny Committee is dissolved in favour of individual authorities scrutiny arrangements.

2 Further Context

The Five Authorities whom are party to the Contract with the shared external provider do not constitute a new or different legal entity when working with the suppliers. The five authorities are individual legal entities working together governed through the Inter Authority Agreement. Each Authority remains responsible for its own decisions and is accountable for them.

With limited powers, the Joint Scrutiny Board Members agree that their services add best value when deployed through the five authorities individual scrutiny arrangements where they can call-in decisions and scrutinise performance.

Should any authority Overview and Scrutiny members wish to scrutinise any aspect of the contract or its delivery it can do so through local O&S arrangements.



3 Conclusion

It is therefore recommended that the committee recommend to the full councils of each authority that the joint scrutiny committee be dissolved and that any scrutiny of the Contract or Client Team be undertaken through individual authorities O&S Plans. Officers recommend that O&S activity is coordinated across the authorities to reduce duplication of resources.