

## **Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey**

### **Key stats**

- Survey was open from 27<sup>th</sup> February to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- **39/81 Councillors** responded
- **14/23 Council officers** responded
- **6/14 External stakeholders** responded
- **33/59 of the total respondents** provided a written comment at the end of the survey on how Cheshire East Council's overview and scrutiny function could be improved

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny has a <b>clearly defined role in the council's improvement arrangements?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	15.3%	23.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	57.6%	46.2%	85.7%	66.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	8.5%	10.3%	7.1%	0.0%
Disagree	8.5%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	5.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	5.1%	0.0%	7.1%	33.3%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny has a <b>valued role in the council's improvement arrangements?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	20.3%	23.1%	14.3%	16.7%
Agree	42.4%	30.8%	71.4%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	10.2%	12.8%	7.1%	0.0%
Disagree	13.6%	20.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	8.5%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	5.1%	0.0%	7.1%	33.3%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny committees <b>build trust with a wide variety of internal and external stakeholders?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	13.6%	17.9%	7.1%	0.0%
Agree	37.3%	33.3%	42.9%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	27.1%	17.9%	42.9%	50.0%
Disagree	16.9%	23.1%	7.1%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	5.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny committees <b>build good relationships with a wide variety of internal and external stakeholders?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	15.3%	20.5%	0.0%	16.7%
Agree	40.7%	35.9%	57.1%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	30.5%	25.6%	35.7%	50.0%
Disagree	10.2%	12.8%	7.1%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	3.4%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny committees <b>provide viable solutions to recognised problems?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	10.2%	15.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	45.8%	46.2%	57.1%	16.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	25.4%	17.9%	28.6%	66.7%
Disagree	11.9%	10.3%	14.3%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	6.8%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny committees <b>provide well-evidenced solutions to recognised problems?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	15.3%	23.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	37.3%	35.9%	50.0%	16.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	25.4%	17.9%	35.7%	50.0%
Disagree	16.9%	15.4%	14.3%	33.3%
Strongly disagree	5.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that <b>meetings of the overview and scrutiny committees are well planned?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	16.9%	15.4%	7.1%	50.0%
Agree	62.7%	59.0%	78.6%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	13.6%	15.4%	14.3%	0.0%
Disagree	5.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	1.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that <b>meetings of the overview and scrutiny committees are chaired effectively?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	27.6%	23.1%	30.8%	50.0%
Agree	41.4%	33.3%	61.5%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	20.7%	28.2%	7.7%	0.0%
Disagree	5.2%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	5.2%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that decision-makers (portfolio holders and senior officers) give public account for themselves at overview and scrutiny committees for their portfolio holder responsibilities?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	16.9%	15.4%	28.6%	0.0%
Agree	47.5%	35.9%	64.3%	83.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	8.5%	7.7%	7.1%	16.7%
Disagree	15.3%	23.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	10.2%	15.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	1.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny committees deal with sensitive political issues, tension and conflict in an effective manner?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	11.9%	15.4%	7.1%	0.0%
Agree	32.2%	20.5%	57.1%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	18.6%	15.4%	28.6%	16.7%
Disagree	20.3%	28.2%	0.0%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	13.6%	20.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	3.4%	0.0%	7.1%	16.7%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that scrutiny inquiries (undertaken as a full committee or a task and finish group) are methodologically sound?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	11.9%	15.4%	7.1%	0.0%
Agree	54.2%	53.8%	64.3%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	18.6%	17.9%	21.4%	16.7%
Disagree	10.2%	12.8%	7.1%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that scrutiny inquiries (undertaken as a full committee or a task and finish group) are non-political?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	11.9%	15.4%	7.1%	0.0%
Agree	40.7%	30.8%	71.4%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	15.3%	17.9%	14.3%	0.0%
Disagree	16.9%	23.1%	7.1%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	8.5%	10.3%	0.0%	16.7%
Don't know	6.8%	2.6%	0.0%	50.0%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that scrutiny inquiries (undertaken as a full committee or a task and finish group) incorporate a wide range of evidence?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	16.9%	20.5%	14.3%	0.0%
Agree	49.2%	43.6%	71.4%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	20.3%	25.6%	14.3%	0.0%
Disagree	6.8%	7.7%	0.0%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	1.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that scrutiny inquiries (undertaken as a full committee or a task and finish group) incorporate a wide range of perspectives?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	6.8%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	54.2%	43.6%	92.9%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	23.7%	30.8%	7.1%	16.7%
Disagree	6.8%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	3.4%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%



Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that information provided to the overview and scrutiny committees is of high quality?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	11.9%	10.3%	21.4%	0.0%
Agree	64.4%	59.0%	78.6%	66.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	13.6%	17.9%	0.0%	16.7%
Disagree	6.8%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	1.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that information provided to the overview and scrutiny committees is submitted in a timely manner?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	13.6%	7.7%	35.7%	0.0%
Agree	49.2%	43.6%	57.1%	66.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	23.7%	33.3%	7.1%	0.0%
Disagree	8.5%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	1.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that information provided to the overview and scrutiny committees is submitted in a consistent manner?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	6.8%	5.1%	14.3%	0.0%
Agree	44.1%	38.5%	64.3%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	30.5%	35.9%	21.4%	16.7%
Disagree	10.2%	12.8%	0.0%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	3.4%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	5.1%	2.6%	0.0%	33.3%

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that members of the overview and scrutiny committees are in control of their work programmes?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	20.3%	23.1%	21.4%	0.0%
Agree	44.1%	33.3%	64.3%	66.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	6.8%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Disagree	16.9%	23.1%	7.1%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	6.8%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	5.1%	0.0%	7.1%	33.3%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that members of the overview and scrutiny committees are in control of deciding how best to carry out their work?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	10.3%	15.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	44.8%	33.3%	76.9%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	13.8%	15.4%	7.7%	16.7%
Disagree	20.7%	28.2%	7.7%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	5.2%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	5.2%	0.0%	7.7%	33.3%

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that stakeholders have the ability to contribute to the development and delivery of overview and scrutiny work programmes?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	5.1%	5.1%	7.1%	0.0%
Agree	35.6%	38.5%	21.4%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	28.8%	28.2%	42.9%	0.0%
Disagree	15.3%	12.8%	21.4%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	8.5%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	6.8%	2.6%	7.1%	33.3%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that the work programme process takes into account the views of the public?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	5.1%	5.1%	0.0%	16.7%
Agree	28.8%	25.6%	28.6%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	23.7%	25.6%	21.4%	16.7%
Disagree	25.4%	28.2%	28.6%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	8.5%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	8.5%	2.6%	21.4%	16.7%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that the work programme process takes into account the views of partners?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	5.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	33.9%	33.3%	28.6%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	39.0%	41.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Disagree	10.2%	10.3%	7.1%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	5.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	6.8%	0.0%	14.3%	33.3%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

How strongly do you agree or disagree that the work programme process takes into account the views of regulators?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	5.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	37.3%	46.2%	21.4%	16.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	35.6%	38.5%	35.7%	16.7%
Disagree	10.2%	2.6%	28.6%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	3.4%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	8.5%	0.0%	14.3%	50.0%

How strongly do you agree or disagree that the work programme process takes into account community concerns?	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	6.8%	5.1%	7.1%	16.7%
Agree	28.8%	30.8%	14.3%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	25.4%	23.1%	35.7%	16.7%
Disagree	20.3%	23.1%	21.4%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	10.2%	15.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	8.5%	2.6%	21.4%	16.7%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that the work programme process takes into account issues of strategic risk and importance?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	8.5%	10.3%	7.1%	0.0%
Agree	54.2%	43.6%	71.4%	83.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	22.0%	28.2%	14.3%	0.0%
Disagree	5.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	6.8%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	3.4%	0.0%	7.1%	16.7%

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny councillors have the training and development opportunities they need to undertake their role effectively?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	3.4%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	23.7%	23.1%	21.4%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	28.8%	28.2%	42.9%	0.0%
Disagree	22.0%	23.1%	21.4%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	13.6%	20.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	8.5%	0.0%	14.3%	50.0%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that the scrutiny function has the dedicated support it needs from officers?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	20.3%	25.6%	14.3%	0.0%
Agree	47.5%	30.8%	78.6%	83.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	16.9%	23.1%	7.1%	0.0%
Disagree	11.9%	17.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	1.7%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that the scrutiny process receives effective support from the council's corporate leadership team?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	11.9%	7.7%	28.6%	0.0%
Agree	40.7%	30.8%	57.1%	66.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	18.6%	25.6%	7.1%	0.0%
Disagree	15.3%	23.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	6.8%	10.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	6.8%	2.6%	7.1%	33.3%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny makes the best use of resources available (e.g. undertaken site visits, holding meetings in the community etc)?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	3.4%	2.6%	7.1%	0.0%
Agree	49.2%	48.7%	64.3%	16.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	22.0%	28.2%	14.3%	0.0%
Disagree	11.9%	15.4%	7.1%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	3.4%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	10.2%	0.0%	7.1%	83.3%

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny is recognised by the executive (cabinet) and corporate leadership team as an important council mechanism for community engagement?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	15.3%	15.4%	21.4%	0.0%
Agree	32.2%	25.6%	50.0%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	8.5%	10.3%	7.1%	0.0%
Disagree	23.7%	30.8%	14.3%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	11.9%	17.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	8.5%	0.0%	7.1%	66.7%



Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny is characterised by effective communication to raise awareness of, and encourage participation in, democratic accountability?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	8.5%	10.3%	7.1%	0.0%
Agree	30.5%	23.1%	42.9%	50.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	23.7%	20.5%	35.7%	16.7%
Disagree	20.3%	25.6%	14.3%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	13.6%	20.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny regularly engages in evidence-based challenge of decision-makers and service providers?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	6.8%	5.1%	14.3%	0.0%
Agree	50.8%	41.0%	71.4%	66.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	16.9%	15.4%	14.3%	33.3%
Disagree	16.9%	25.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Strongly disagree	8.5%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b>How strongly do you agree or disagree that overview and scrutiny function enables the 'voice' of the local people and communities across the area to be heard as part of the council's decision-making and policy development?</b>	Overall response	Response – elected members	Response – council officers	Response – external stakeholders
Strongly agree	3.4%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Agree	30.5%	23.1%	50.0%	33.3%
Neither agree nor disagree	28.8%	23.1%	42.9%	33.3%
Disagree	15.3%	17.9%	7.1%	16.7%
Strongly disagree	18.6%	28.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	3.4%	2.6%	0.0%	16.7%

## Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

<b><u>How do you feel the overview and scrutiny process could best be improved?</u></b>
more engagement by local people and communities
In my opinion, the Committess might benefit form enhanced guidance from their support officers in planning meetings and assessing agenda items in advance
Engage in more topics that the general public are interested in or concerned about
Better resourcing and more training for members, including chairmen
Better communication / information sharing
Chaired by councillors from opposition groups. Adopt the recommendations of the CHLG select committee enquiry into local government scrutiny that was published a year or so ago and has been largely ignored to date by CEC.
Chairman from opposition groups. They are allowed to make decisions rather than portfolio holders. Consistently high standard of chairmanship. Better training for chairs and committee members
With reference to para 27 of <a href="https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcomloc/369/369.pdf">https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcomloc/369/369.pdf</a> we have concerns that sometimes chairs can be chosen so as to cause as little disruption as possible for their Leaders. It is vital that the role of scrutiny chair is respected and viewed by all as being a key part of the decision-making process, rather than as a form of political patronage. Scrutiny chairs should be from the opposition or elected by the committees in secret ballot (as recommended in para 35 of the Parliamentary report. Resourcing of Scrutiny should be reviewed as its role is reviewed I did like Cllr Brian Roberts's comment that he has more teeth than Cheshire East Scrutiny. Task & Finish Groups seem to work well, but there are very few of them.
Support for all councillors to understand the role of scrutiny and further specialist training for members of scrutiny committees
Scrutiny is controlled and packed by the ruling party, their members are present but do not contribute. Chairs should be from Opposition groups if they are to be effective

## Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

Chairman and Vice Chairman of Scrutiny Committees should be from opposition parties. Recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee are ignored by Cabinet without an adequate explanation
There is little input by Members into policy development at the embryonic stage
<p>Firstly please be assured that any criticism levelled is not towards the officers specifically Joel and Katie - who are both excellent.</p> <p>We are continually "told" that scrutiny is NOT political or has to be apolitical - but I am sorry we have to sit there and "scrutinise" (which is really levelling criticism) at other public services and organisations that are facing as many challenges and difficulties as local authorities due to the actions of a "political" government - to say that this is not political is in my opinion contrary!</p> <p>The purpose of the scrutiny committees should be to overlook the work of the Council whereas specifically in some of the committees we find ourselves scrutinising outside bodies and organisations more. There is little scrutiny levelled at the Portfolio Holders.</p> <p>Too many decisions or policies are directed to Cabinet and do not even get to Scrutiny. Whilst I am critical of Scrutiny generally at least there may be a chance of some worthy questioning from "opposition" members whereas Cabinet.</p> <p>The process could be improved by Scrutiny Committees being able to "Scrutinise" policies, documents etc BEFORE they get to Cabinet. Cabinet would then be assured it had been scrutinised before they ratify.</p> <p>The process could be improved by having opposition Chairs and Vice Chairs. Opposition Chairs and Vice Chairs of Task and Finish Groups. In respect of the democracy question and political representation - the numbers would still be heavily in favour of the "leading political group". But having opposition Chairs and Vice would provide a variance.</p> <p>Scrutiny needs to be improved also with more engagement with local people and communities. Meetings primarily at 10am or 2pm prevents the inclusion of many "local people".</p> <p>Through my own conversations with my own residents - they are not even aware of the Scrutiny Committees, their existence or their purpose. And if by chance they were aware - they did not know these meetings were public.</p> <p>If I were being honest - again stressing the commitment of the officers - Scrutiny often feels as it is just the Local Authority going through the motions. These committees need to have the ability to make decisions.</p>
More support from overworked staff. Cabinet to listen and be more forthcoming with information
Put opposition Cllrs as Chairs or reduce the ruling groups seats to no more than 50%
<p>By their recommendations to reverse Cabinet and Portfolio decisions are acted upon and not ignored.</p> <p>There is much overview but little effective scrutiny. Opposition chairmen would help to redress the balance and bring a more effective challenge to the process</p>

## Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

Wider publicity of investigations in progress available to all members, partners and public. Quicker response to national issues and concerns that affect CE Confirmed budgetary commitments and timelines to agreed findings
Possibly meet more often with more practical integration with various services where practically possible
Be less politically motivated and focus on the needs of the entire population
The officers who support the scrutiny system are excellent in their support to members of the committees. The fact that all committees are chaired by the Conservative group is not good practice the practice in parliament of opposition members chairing select committees should be introduced to Cheshire East. I have attended many committees where some members have not asked one question, one wonders why they attend
All scrutiny members should undertake relevant training in their respective OSC areas. Some OSC are excellent others are less well known to me hence some of my neither agree nor disagree answers. All Portfolio Holders must attend their respective OSC's BUT where their responsibilities cover more than one, OSC committees may all be best served by holding joint OSC meetings to cover the more generic subject areas - this would avoid repetition, duplication and save on officer time. OSC should NOT be used for party political grandstanding as this is not the role of OSC debate, nor would non-agenda items be raised during a meeting. (This require good, strong chairmanship and officer support as its getting too common and wastes valuable discussion time).
More training for members, more emphasis on task & finish groups, chairs allocated to opposition groups
Enhanced interface with CLT and Cabinet. This has improved more recently, but needs to become embedded
Change it's structure and membership
More evidence gathering capability provided and more public advertisement of its work
Perhaps a greater understanding of the issues before making any decisions would be helpful?
Needs to be more open, given more publicity, explained to the public
More calls for evidence of need from our service users when scrutinising service delivery or policy implementation
Introduce a CPD system so that training and knowledge is regularly updated and improved

## Appendix B (1) – Scrutiny Healthcheck Survey Results

Progress on actions should be reviewed to ensure they had an impact. Timeliness is less of an issue than quality, so no reason not to take longer to analyse and assess the decisions they scrutinise
More training and regular training. More site visits, more talking to communities.
If chairs were changed to opposition groups, there would be more opportunity for effective scrutiny.
A change of administration to one who is fairer to members and more transparent