



The role of scrutiny in relation to future generations

16 and 25 January 2018, Swalec Stadium, Cardiff

Workshop 1 outputs - Environment

What is the 1 thing you will do differently following this workshop?

Delegates to write this down on a post-it and stick to the wall/flipchart.

Idea

Find themes that matter to your residents.

Engaging with the public to help produce the scrutiny agenda, then scrutinising what is relevant to the community.

Better – two way communication with those that count – i.e. the communities.

Encourage others to participate or take more meetings to the people.

Make it more accessible and inclusive for all parties involved.

Work across areas / listen / engage / more consultation. Why do we undertake certain services?

I'm going to take the scrutiny committees out on the road to talk to the electorate about the key issues that they would like councillors to scrutinise. I want them to bring forward issues and opinions that they have independently sought. I want the councillors to discuss their items on their work programme with the electorate and canvass views and opinions.

When auditing consultation processes put a greater focus on how wide the consultation has been ensuring that 'real people' had a chance to input their views.

Need to consult and bring everyone on board to enable success.

"People before process" consider emotional as well as financial support.

Discuss with my Scrutiny Committee how we can more effectively engage with members of the public.

Make meetings a focused debate / discussion not a dry committee meeting. Make it participative for public and other stakeholders – questions asked and voices heard.

Think more about how we connect our decision makers to local people and what further arrangements we need for direct involvement.

Involve others earlier.

To think about how to start a conversation on what matters most to people which we can use to inform our scrutiny development.

Need to improve the way we involve citizens in scrutiny process so that their voice is heard. Current methods aren't working.

Look at how to move away from the routine – provides 'space' to dig deeper and focus on impact.

Suggest my Council asks me which 3 topics I'd like to be informed or consulted on in my community – do this on electoral register form to make it easy!

Conditions – sufficient, useful information – help to make decisions and understand impact. Mutual respect – everyone is in it together.

The 15 minute public open forum is not an effective way to involve people in shaping their futures!

Involvement of wider partners and their active participation on future scrutiny.

Involving others in scrutiny (public / communities etc) 3rd sector.

How we share good practice and innovative ways of working about how we scrutinise in a collaborative environment.

Less focus on budget and more on decision making that matters.

Be clear 'on purpose' – what are we trying to achieve and why?

Give more feed-back on why decisions and policies have been made.

Consider methods to actively feedback decisions to the public following engagement.

Feedback to community from results of scrutiny.

Scrutiny needs to be (challenge) throughout the organisation.

Evaluate the stage at which scrutiny is applied to a process (before decision / after).

Re-define 'scrutiny' to better align it with the well-being outcomes of those we serve and the 'five ways of working' in general.

Scrutiny laterally as well as horizontally.

Scrutiny should not be linked to annual budgets. The work and plans should aim to work long term with regard to but not limited to annual budgets. You can't make progress / impact for future generations when you are working in 12 month restrictive stretches.

Need to simplify what we need to do. Do not over complicate with governance.

Need to work with partners to improve understanding and work of scrutiny.

Like the idea of having joint training with partner organisations – joint outcomes – joint training.

Scrutiny throughout the organisation – not just at the top. Also – scrutiny within organisations but also scrutiny between organisations. As we are all working using 5 ways of working to address common goals – seven well-being goals.

Scrutiny embedded throughout organisations. All bodies fully aware of role of scrutiny.

Look into creating an innovation fund to 3rd Sectors organisation to try new ideas in line with GSC Act (& learn from them).

Greater training and support for elected members regarding the implications of the WBFG Act.

Less items to Scrutiny to enable WBFG Consideration of items and more involvement.

Improve understanding of how 5 W.O.W can be used / should be used to shape and inform the decision making process at the earliest stage.

Develop a forward work plan for scrutiny committee based on executive work plan and risk register – more focus.

Need for a change in culture at all levels – WG down to LAs and PSBs. If WFG is going to work. Scrutiny must have a longer voice that is listened to.

Change of culture is required for effective scrutiny i.e. thinking long term.

How do we use scrutiny to change culture? How is scrutiny past of the process and not just focused on outcomes?

Scrutineers to be aware of the importance of their role and the power scrutiny has to influence.

I will gain clarity regarding when, where and how scrutiny takes place and by whom in the organisation to be a 'constructive disruption'.