

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**SCRUTINY & AUDIT COMMITTEE – 23 JUNE 2015**

**ANGUS COUNCIL LOCAL SCRUTINY PLAN 2015/16**

**REPORT BY JANINE WILSON, SERVICE MANAGER-GOVERNANCE AND CONSULTANCY**

**ABSTRACT**

This report considers the Angus Council Local Scrutiny Plan 2015/16.

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Scrutiny and Audit Committee note the scrutiny risk comments and the planned external scrutiny activity detailed in the Angus Local Scrutiny Plan 2015/16.

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/ COPORATE PLAN**

This report supports services in the delivery of all local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016.

**3. BACKGROUND**

Following the publication of the Crerar Report in September 2007, the Scottish Government undertook to develop a simplified and more coherent approach to delivering local government scrutiny, a key aspect of this being to better co-ordinate and streamline scrutiny and achieve greater effectiveness.

Subsequently the Accounts Commission, as lead, together with other local government scrutiny bodies agreed to improve the planning and scheduling of scrutiny activity, by developing a single corporate assessment and implementing a shared risk assessment framework. Since 2008, all the main scrutiny bodies for local government have worked together through Local Area Networks (LANs) to share intelligence and agree the key scrutiny risks for each council. Annually, each LAN has produced an Assurance and Improvement Plan, setting out the planned scrutiny activity. The Angus Council Assurance and Improvement Plan 2014-17 was reported to this committee in August 2014 (report 359/14 refers).

A key development to the shared risk assessment process for 2015/16 has been to replace Assurance and Improvement Plans with much shorter Local Scrutiny Plans that are more clearly focused on the specific local scrutiny risks and responses identified by the LAN.

**4. ANGUS COUNCIL LOCAL SCRUTINY PLAN 2015/16**

The Local Scrutiny Plan 2015/16 is attached at Appendix 1. The plan summarises risk areas that the LAN has identified as requiring scrutiny, or where scrutiny is planned as part of a national programme. It does not identify all risks in the council. Some of the scrutiny bodies are still to determine their work programmes for 2015/16 and which specific council areas they will cover. Scrutiny activity involving Angus Council has been confirmed as follows:

- Audit Scotland will undertake Best Value activity to assess the impact of the council's leadership and change programme and provide independent assurance to the Accounts Commission on progress being made in delivering improvement since the council's last best value audit in 2010. A short life officer working group will be formed to prepare for this work and to support the smooth delivery of the audit activity.

- The Care Inspectorate and HMICS will be undertaking a joint thematic review of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) in Scotland during 2015. The joint review will cover the Angus Council area during June 2015.

In addition, routine, scheduled audit and inspection work will take place through the annual audit process and the ongoing inspection of school and care establishments by Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate respectively.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**NOTE:** No background papers, as defined by Sections 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

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### **List of Appendices**

Angus Council Local Scrutiny Plan 2015/16