

**City of Doncaster Council**

**Overview and  
Scrutiny  
Annual Report  
2022/2023**

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# Introduction

I am delighted to present this report on the work of Overview and Scrutiny for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to April 2023 and to highlight some of the issues that will be considered over the coming year.

I would particularly like to thank the Scrutiny Officers for their continuing excellent support for the scrutiny process. Scrutiny continues to support and contribute to the delivery of Doncaster priorities by holding Officers, Executive Councillors, and the Mayor to account and through taking in evidence from a wide range of sources.

I would like to thank all partners, Officers and Members that contributed to our work and particularly residents with lived experience of issues that we have scrutinised to inform our recommendations. These include people who have lived with alcohol and substance misuse, carers, Headteachers from schools, representatives from the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) network and a parent who shared their experiences of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) process.

Councillor Jane Kidd  
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.



**Councillor  
Jane Kidd**  
  
**Chair of the  
Overview and  
Scrutiny  
Management  
Committee  
2022/2023**



**Councillor  
Jake Kearsley**  
  
**Vice Chair of the  
Overview and  
Scrutiny  
Management  
Committee  
2022/2023**

# Purpose and Structure of Overview and Scrutiny

**Purpose** - The activities of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) and the standing Panels include holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance arrangements, policy review and external scrutiny. Work plans are agreed early in the municipal year and reviewed at each meeting, to track progress and ensure they take account of emerging issues and decisions. The work plans and OSMC/Panel remits reflect the six wellbeing goals and the Great '8' priorities outlined in Doncaster's Corporate Plan and Doncaster Delivering Together.

**Structure** - The structure and remit of OSMC and the Panels are detailed below.

**Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC)** - The membership of OSMC includes the Chairs of standing Panels and other Members. This ensures cross party representation, greater co-ordination of Overview and Scrutiny activity and alignment to the corporate goals. The Committee meets approximately once a month to consider performance, pre-decision scrutiny, reviews undertaken by the panels and areas of strategic importance.

- Wellbeing Goals and Outcomes: Focusing on the Regenerative Council, cross cutting all wellbeing goals and outcomes and Great 8 priorities.

**Health and Adult Social Panel (H&ASC O&S)** – Considers issues that fall within the remit of Public Health, adult social care, and health services. The Chair of the Panel also represents the Authority on Regional Health Scrutiny bodies.

- Wellbeing Goals and Outcomes: Healthy and Compassionate.
- Great 8:
  - No. 4 Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all.

**Children and Young People's Panel (CYP O&S)** – considers improved outcomes for Children and Young People including Learning and Opportunities, services provided by Doncaster Children's Services Trust and other relevant partners.

- Wellbeing Goals and Outcomes: Skilled and Creative and Healthy and Compassionate
- Great 8:
  - No. 2 Developing the skills to thrive in life and work.
  - No. 6 Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough.

**Regeneration and Housing Panel (R&H O&S)** – Considers issues relating to regeneration, economic development, strategic transport, and housing.

➤ Wellbeing Goals and Outcomes: Skilled and Creative and Prosperous and Connected.

➤ Great 8:

- No. 2 Developing the skills to thrive in life and work.
- No. 3 Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs.
- No. 7 Building transport and digital connections fit for the future.

**Communities and Environment Panel (C&E O&S)** – Considers neighbourhood issues, street scene and highways, community safety as well as environmental issues.

➤ Wellbeing Goals and Outcomes Greener and Cleaner and Safe and Resilient.

➤ Great 8:

- No. 1 Tackling Climate Change.
- No. 5 Creating safer, stronger, greener, and cleaner communities where everyone belongs.
- No. 8 Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting and heritage opportunities.

# Overview and Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs 2022/2023



Councillor Jane Kidd  
Chair of Overview and  
Scrutiny Management  
Committee



Councillor Jake Kearsley  
Vice Chair of Overview and  
Scrutiny Management  
Committee



Councillor  
Leanne Hempshall  
Chair of Children and  
Young People



Councillor  
Tim Needham  
Vice Chair of Children and  
Young People



Councillor  
Gemma Cobby  
Chair of Community  
and Environment



Councillor  
Nigel Cannings  
Vice Chair of Community  
and Environment



Councillor  
Sarah Smith  
Chair of Health and  
Adult Social Care



Councillor  
Martin Greenhalgh  
Vice Chair of Health and  
Adult Social Care



Councillor Majid Khan  
Chair of Regeneration  
and Housing



Councillor Sue Farmer  
Vice Chair of Regeneration  
and Housing

# Overview and Scrutiny Membership 2022/2023

## Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Chair – Councillor Jane Kidd	Vice-Chair - Councillor Jake Kearsley
Councillor Sarah Smith*	Councillor Gary Stapleton
Councillor Majid Khan*	Councillor Gemma Cobby*
Councillor Richard A Jones	Councillor Leanne Hempshall*
Co-optee - Antoinette Drinkhill	Co-optee - Bernadette Nesbit
Invitee (Work force Representative) – Post Vacant. *Vice Chairs of Panels substitute as Committee Members with full voting rights if Chairs are unable to attend	

## Health and Adults Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Chair – Councillor Sarah Smith	Vice-Chair – Councillor Martin Greenhalgh
Councillor Linda Curran	Councillor Jake Kearsley
Councillor Sue Knowles	Councillor Tracey Moran
Councillor Yetunde Elebuion	Councillor Glynis Smith
Councillor Sean Gibbons	Invitee: Jim Board (UNISON)

## Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Chair – Councillor Leanne Hempshall	Vice Chair – Tim Needham
Councillor Bob Anderson	Councillor David Nevett
Councillor Susan Durant	Councillor Charlie Hogarth
Councillor Laura Bluff	Councillor Steve Cox
Councillor Rob Reid	Invitee: Georgina Lightfoot (UNISON)
Co-optee - Antoinette Drinkhill	Co-optee - Bernadette Nesbit

## Regeneration and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Chair – Councillor Majid Khan	Vice-Chair – Councillor David Nevett
Councillor Duncan Anderson	Councillor Iris Beech
Councillor Sue Farmer	Councillor Sophie Lui
Councillor John Mounsey	Councillor Steve Cox
Councillor Gary Stapleton	Invitee: Steve Whitehouse (UNITE)

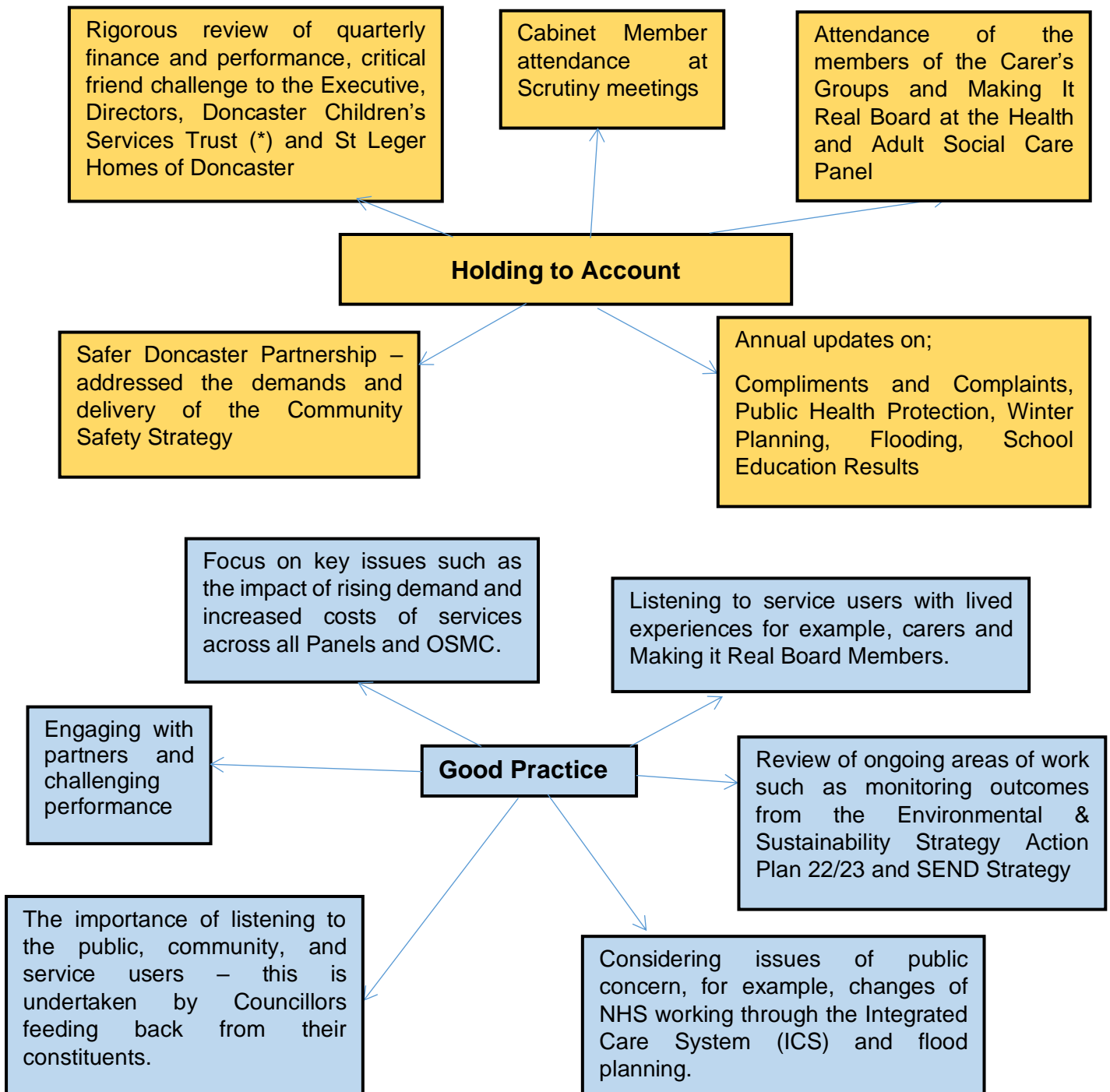
## Communities and Environment (Crime and Disorder) Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Chair – Councillor Gemma Cobby	Vice-Chair – Councillor Nigel Cannings
Councillor James Church	Councillor Debbie Hutchinson
Councillor Emma Muddiman-Rawlins	Councillor Barry Johnson
Councillor Julie Grace	Councillor Gary Stapleton
Councillor Tracey Moran	Invitee: Jim Board (UNISON)

Education Co-optees: Bernadette Nesbitt (Diocese of Hallam Roman Catholic Church) and Antoinette Drinkhill (Diocese of Sheffield Church of England) are entitled to attend meetings of OSMC and CYP O&S to vote on any education matters, which are the responsibility of the Authority’s Executive. They may also participate in panel discussions relating to children’s issues (although not able to vote on non-educational matters).

# Impacts and Added Value 2022/2023

Detailed below are some examples where scrutiny has added value to decision-making and supported good governance. Further information is provided later in the report within each of the individual OSMC or Panel sections:

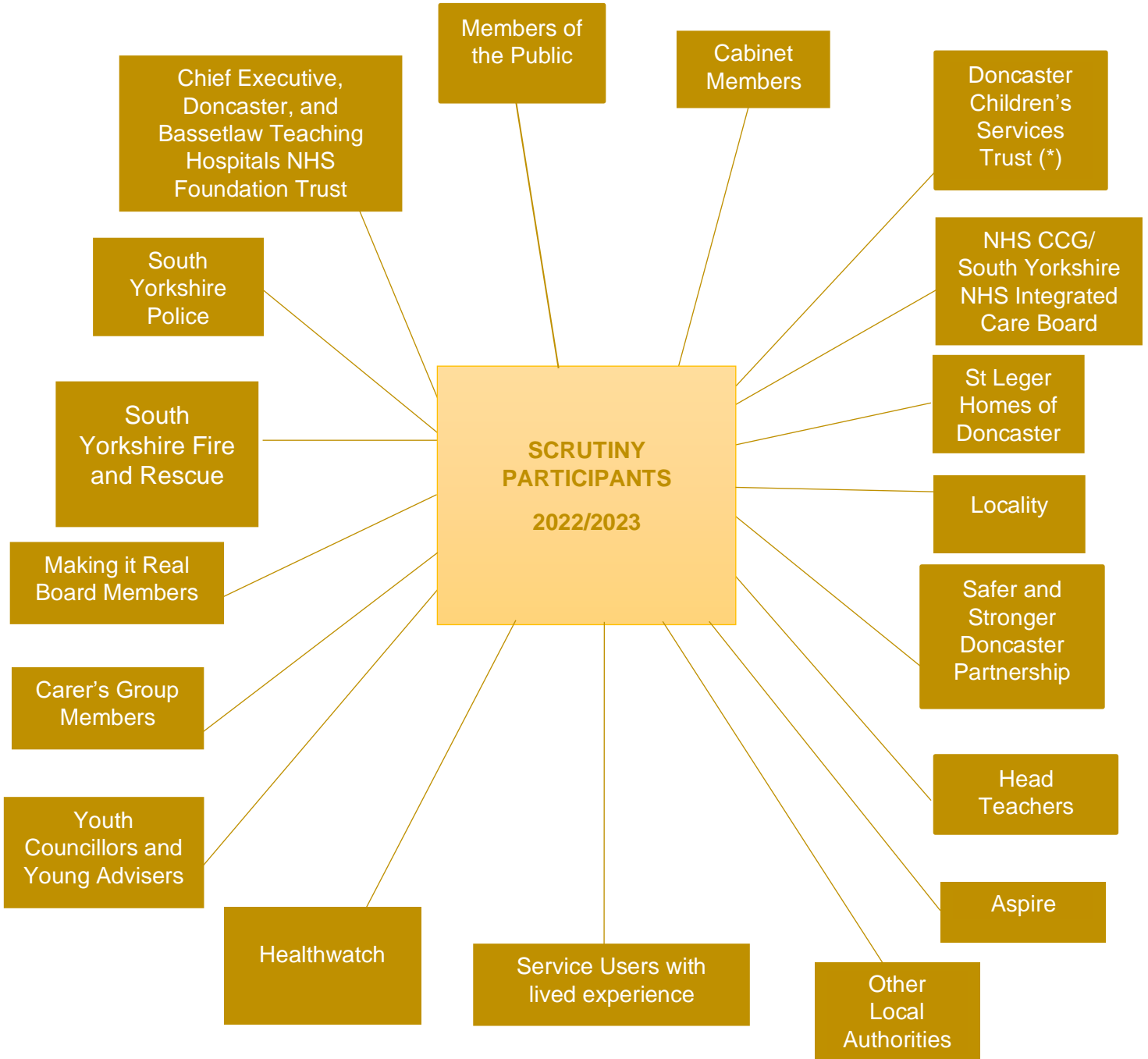


(\*) prior to the transition of children's social care from the Doncaster Children's Services Trust to the City of Doncaster Council



# The Public and Partners 2022/2023

For the purposes of gathering evidence and holding to account, the following public and partners have taken part in scrutiny meetings:



(\*) prior to the transition of children's social care from the Doncaster Children's Services Trust to the City of Doncaster Council.

# Giving the Public a Voice through Overview and Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny has a key role in giving a voice to and engaging with the public and service users. This is a challenge nationally, although during 2022/2023, Overview and Scrutiny started to hold formal meetings face to face following the pandemic. However, where possible the Panel also held meetings remotely, providing additional opportunities for individuals to attend and engage with Overview and Scrutiny.

The following examples highlight ways in which Overview and Scrutiny has engaged with the public during the last year.

**Service Users** – Meetings were held with service users and commissioners to consider good practice and gaps relating to services for people who live with drug and alcohol abuse. The service users provided a massive insight into the lived experience and difficulties individuals faced but more importantly the positive outcomes through the support they had received.

**Doncaster Carers** – The Panel held a meeting to consider the progress made on the Carers' Action Plan 2022-23 for the All-Age Carer's Strategy for Doncaster (2022 - 2025). The meeting was attended by individuals with lived experience and representatives from key partner organisations. Those in attendance provided statements, an overview of the completed actions and next steps to be delivered across the partnership.

**Making It Real Board Members** – The Panel was presented with an overview of 'Your Care and Support Doncaster: Adults, Health and Wellbeing Local Account 2023'. It was reported that 'Your Care and Support Doncaster', had been coproduced by the Making it Real Board (MIRB). This document provided strategic oversight to Adults, Health, and Wellbeing, influencing and challenging decisions and agreeing priorities for improvements and developments.

**Young Advisors (aged between 16 and 24)** – Doncaster's Young Advisors are invited to Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel meetings, where they aid discussion and bring unique insight and knowledge about a number of areas including service delivery and evaluation. An example of this is when they contributed and asked questions around Elective Home Education, Children Missing in Education and Alternative Provision in Doncaster

**SENCo Representatives** - Prior to an update on the Special Educational Needs Strategy 2022-2025, the Panel met with SENCo representatives which helped ensure that Members were better informed about the process and were able to have an interesting and informative debate. Issues raised included recruitment and retention, the training offer and Education, Care and Health Plans (ECHPs).

**Members of the Public** – A parent of a child attended a meeting when the Panel received an update on the SEND Strategy to outline the journey and challenges her child had experienced.

**Highlights and Achievements –  
Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**

Topic Area	Added Value/Impact	DDT Areas
Budget & Policy Framework	<p><u>Providing assurance and contributing to policy decisions</u> - A number of Statutory Plans which make-up the Council's policy framework were considered prior to their adoption by Full Council. This allows Members an opportunity for early engagement to help shape proposals. During the year, consideration has been given to the Corporate Plan and Youth Justice Plan.</p>	All DDT Areas
Quarterly Performance and Finance Management	<p>OSMC continued to review quarterly performance and financial management of the Council, St Leger Homes of Doncaster (SLHD) and Doncaster Children's Services Trust (DCST)*. This is a key role for the Committee and supports the Council's performance management arrangements by reviewing the extent to which the Council and its key partners are operating within resources and delivering value for money. It is also used as a means of identifying future work plan issues and understanding key service issues.</p> <p>Members acknowledged the potential risks in relation to the budget, particularly relating to the unprecedented number of children being referred to Children's services, the collection and payment of business rates, Council Tax and fees and charges. With regard to performance, the Committee seeks clarity on the actions in place to bring about improvements to key performance and service issues.</p> <p>The Committee has also considered how key partners work together to address cross cutting issues which impact on the delivery of a range of services, for example, rising costs, overspends, Out of Authority Placements and Capital Programme risks. This regular review and oversight of budget and Council performance provides public accountability and transparency around the Council's financial health and the effectiveness of its service delivery.</p>	All DDT Areas

(\*) prior to the transition of children's social care from the Doncaster Children's Services Trust to the City of Doncaster Council

Budget Review	<p><u>Providing assurance and commentary on future resources</u> - OSMC undertook a holistic view of the 2022/23 budget proposals ensuring they were evidence based and supported corporate and city-wide priorities. In addition, the Committee considered the capacity and risks around deliverability and implementation of the proposals. The work being undertaken to propose a balanced budget in line with Doncaster Delivering Together, Central Government policy and a challenging programme of service transformation and savings targets, was addressed during the process.</p>	All DDT Areas
Annual Complaints and Compliments Report 2021/2022	<p>The Committee considered a report summarising the Annual Complaints and Compliments Report for 2021/22 for Doncaster Council and its partners. This is an important document for raising awareness of the types and volumes of complaints, identifying trends, communicating lessons learned and service improvements. The report also enables Councillors to understand the extent to which service complaints impact on performance detailed within the quarterly performance and finance meeting.</p> <p>The following areas were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in complaints (compared to a period when the volume of complaints and communications from the public had significantly decreased during the pandemic).</li> <li>• Particular peaks in complaints.</li> </ul> <p>The Committee later received information about the Customer Experience Strategy prior to consideration by Cabinet.</p>	All DDT Areas
Localities	<p>As this has a significant impact on many areas, the Committee wished to consider how the Local Authority and partners were working to deliver local deals and locality plans. A detailed presentation brought to life excellent examples, demonstrated by each locality, from health and wellbeing, economic inclusion to community safety and getting a decent start in life. This provided the Committee with a real picture of the positive work taking place across the whole of the city where services are delivered to meet local needs.</p>	All DDT Areas

<p>Commissioning - Drug and Alcohol Abuse Services</p>	<p>The Committee reviewed commissioning services for people who lived with drug and alcohol abuse. As part of the Committee's consideration, a meeting was held with service users, where good practice and service gaps were considered. Service users provided an important insight into the lived experience and difficulties they faced, but more significantly, the positive outcomes through support they had received. A number of recommendations were made including the continued promotion and support of the current services provided and to encourage an additional focus on engagement with hard-to-reach groups. The recommendations and findings from the review were supported by the Executive.</p>	<p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>
<p>Cultural Strategy</p>	<p>The Committee reviewed and supported the Cultural Strategy, which highlighted the rich activity available across Doncaster's communities from art production to gardening. The Committee was inspired with the proposals and hoped to see them developed across grass roots organisations. The Committee's enthusiasm for the Strategy and its importance was strongly conveyed and issues such as future proofing, access, barriers, places to undertake cultural activities and funding were discussed in depth. The Committee welcomed the opportunity to shine a spotlight on the wealth of opportunities that exist in the city and requested an update in the future.</p>	<p>8. Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting and heritage opportunities</p>

**Highlights and Achievements –  
Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel**

<b>Topic Area</b>	<b>Added Value/Impact</b>	<b>DGT Themes/Wellbeing Goals</b>
Adult Mental Health Overview	<p>The Panel received an overview of support and services available to Doncaster people experiencing mental health problems. As part of the information received, the Panel heard the story of an individual both with lived experience and of supporting others. The Panel considered the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health ambulance pilot scheme.</li> <li>• Support for Members involved in ongoing cases where people were living with mental health but refusing help.</li> <li>• Mental health predictions.</li> <li>• Co-designing local core community services.</li> </ul> <p>The Panel expressed its wish to continue to monitor this issue as part of its ongoing work plan. The opportunity to hear from those with lived experiences was welcomed as a positive method of enabling Members to fully understand some of the challenges faced by an increasing number of residents in our communities.</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2022	<p>The Panel received information highlighting the work undertaken to date on the 2022 JSNA, the forward plan and the enabling infrastructure. The discussion looked at future challenges such as the Cost of Living crisis and increasing health problems. Members heard that it was about understanding the drivers behind these issues as well as feeding information into the wider policy work and those areas that needed it most. Members recognised how valuable the JSNA was for the Panel in identifying future issue to be addressed through the work plan.</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>

Winter Planning	<p>The Panel considered the partnership plans in place to ensure that Doncaster people received joined-up health and social care over the winter. The Panel questioned measures described to support the wellbeing of Doncaster people over the winter against the great pressure on health and care services. Issues raised during consideration included need for additional beds, urgent community response and pathways, mental health of children and younger people, cost of living crisis and funding. Considering these issues provided the Panel with assurance that robust plans are in place to address an area with increasing demands on services and to ensure that there is an appropriate response.</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>
Update from Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals	<p>An annual update from the Chief Executive of Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals provided the current position on a range of strategic issues, future aspirations, challenges, and impacts. Members considered a number of specific topics that included; Urgent and Emergency Care, Ambulance Data, Transfer of Care, Elective, Cancer and Diagnostics, Finance, Winter Planning, Health and Wellbeing and finally, Estates and Infrastructure.</p> <p>As part of the debate, the following areas were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treatment of Carers in Hospital.</li> <li>• Ambulance/Handover Waiting Times.</li> <li>• Did Not Attend (DNA).</li> <li>• Recruitment and Staffing.</li> <li>• Virtual Wards.</li> </ul> <p>This annual item provides the Panel with a recurring opportunity to review and gain a greater understanding of Doncaster hospitals and specific areas that feature on the work plan, such as the Carers Strategy and Action Plan as well as other areas of concern.</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>
Access to Primary Care (CQC)	<p>The Panel gave consideration to a comprehensive set of data and information, which covered:</p> <p>a. The findings of the latest GP Patient Survey.</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p>

	<p>b. Current access to primary care across Doncaster.  c. National, South Yorkshire and Local approaches to improvement.  d. Primary Care Estate development across Doncaster.</p> <p>The Panel also discussed the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role of Nurse Practitioners being recognised and rewarded appropriately for their additional responsibilities and role within the practice.</li> <li>• Impact of new housing developments on local GP Practices and how those practices would be able to meet increasing demands.</li> <li>• Telecommunication Systems in GP Surgeries.</li> </ul> <p>The Panel was able to form a good understanding on the present position, ongoing challenges and future opportunities faced by Primary Care and further their knowledge of the potential impacts on our communities moving forward.</p>	<p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>
<p>Carers Strategy Update Action Plan</p>	<p>Further to considering the Carers Strategy 2022-25 earlier in the year, the Panel received an update on completed actions and next steps to be delivered across the partnership (Carers' Action Plan 2022-23). There was input from both people with lived experience and partner representatives with those in attendance providing an overview of their experiences of being a carer and supporting others who were carers.</p> <p>The Panel considered a range of issues including locality working, treatment of carers (within hospitals) and communication. The Panel noted and supported the information provided by Carers and partners and requested a future update. The Panel also identified this as an area, where actions could be further investigated through other items on the work plan, such as the update from Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital.</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>
<p>Integrated Care Partnership Strategy Development</p>	<p>Members were previously provided with an outline of the changes around how the NHS operated in England and how the CCG's (Clinical Commissioning Groups) would become part of the Integrated Care Strategy (ICS) and possible impacts on local provision.</p> <p>As part of an update, the Panel learnt more about:</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The national planning context for 2022/23 and beyond.</li> <li>• The Doncaster and South Yorkshire approach.</li> <li>• Next steps.</li> </ul> <p>This update was essential for the Panel to keep up-to-date on major changes affecting residents and services across Doncaster and South Yorkshire. The Panel look forward to future updates which will also assist in the development of the Panels work plan.</p>	healthier, happier, and longer lives for all
Links with Social Care and Housing.	<p>Members were provided with an overview and update on the approach being taken around housing for people who may need care and support in Doncaster at some point in their lives. Members were informed that work had been ongoing for a number of years and there was now a focus to bring this together into a more structured approach and build on the existing provision. Areas discussed included quality of data used, adults with specialist needs housed outside of Doncaster, downsizing, the proposed governance model and finally, present and future challenges</p> <p>The Panel welcomed a future update on the Health Impact Assessment of the Stock Condition report and consultation around the next Housing Strategy. This is to help ensure that Adult Social Care issues and health inequalities (being addressed through housing) will be accounted for and embedded.</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>
Local Account Adult Social Care perspective (for 2024)	<p>The Panel was provided with an overview of 'Your Care and Support Doncaster: Adults, Health and Wellbeing Local Account 2023'. It was reported that 'Your Care and Support Doncaster', had been co-produced by the Making it Real Board (MIRB) and provided strategic oversight to Adults, Health and Wellbeing, influencing, and challenging decisions and agreeing priorities for improvements and developments. The Panel was provided with an overview of experiences from MIRB members who were also carers.</p> <p>A discussion took place that included the following areas; feedback on local account,</p>	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p>

	<p>payment policy (to those with lived experience), Occupational Therapy assessments, active and supportive communities, involvement with those with lived experiences and medical discharges.</p> <p>The Panel welcomed a mid-year update and to be involved where Officers felt appropriate to ensure the report was accessible and included as many resident voices as possible.</p>	
Health Protection Assurance Annual Report 2022/23 Update	At a formal meeting of the Panel, Members supported and noted the Annual Report. Detailed discussion mainly focused on key areas of health protection including emergency preparedness, resilience and response, infection prevention and control and sexual health. Information provided would contribute to areas the Panel wished to address in the forthcoming year.	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p> <p>Safe And Resilient</p>
Bentley and Rossington Primary Care estate developments – Integrated Care Board (ICB)	The Integrated Care Board (ICB) gave early notice of and consulted with the Panel on a proposed substantial variation to GP Surgeries at Rossington and Bentley and the Panel supported the proposals. During discussion Members addressed travel to and from the new community hubs and parking, consultation documents used - for example, the easy ready material, digital solutions for GP access and navigation of the new buildings. Healthwatch attended the Scrutiny meeting and confirmed it had been fully consulted and its comments taken on board, particularly with regard to changes in the survey. The ICB proposed it would discuss the primary care recovery plan with the Panel at some stage in the future.	<p>Healthy and Compassionate</p> <p>4. Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all</p> <p>Safe And Resilient</p>

**Highlights and Achievements –  
Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel**

<b>Topic Area</b>	<b>Added Value/Impact</b>	<b>DGT Theme</b>
Education White Paper	Members received a briefing updating them on the Education White Paper, which included policy changes and recommendations from three avenues (Children’s Commissioner, Schools White Paper and SEND Green Paper) which all inter-relate and have implications for Doncaster. This provided important information and knowledge for Members when considering areas with the remit of the Panel.	Skilled & Creative
Elective Home Education/ Children Missing Education and Alternative Provision	<p>The Panel considered a report detailing an increased demand in Elective Home Education, Children Missing in Education and Alternative Provision areas since the start of the pandemic. Members were able to find out more and explore the work undertaken to ensure suitability and quality of education for young people. The debate that took place included the following areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children missing in education case closures i.e., identifying those re-registered with a school having moved into or left the area, to ensure they are safe and receiving an education.</li> <li>• Reduced school timetables.</li> <li>• Virtual school.</li> <li>• Education and Health Care Plans (EHCP).</li> <li>• Nurturing a family and child friendly borough.</li> <li>• Pressures on social workers.</li> </ul> <p>This provided the Panel with an opportunity to review an area that had significantly affected many young people in recent years and developed the Panel’s understanding of key issues that should be borne in mind when considering wider aspects of educational attainment and improving children’s welfare and well-being.</p>	Skilled & Creative

Education Achievement Outcomes for all Key Stages 2022	The Panel received a summary of the action taken, changes made to learning improvement and an update in relation to the data, achievement and improvement across the education phases included Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, 2, 4 GCSE, (A Level), T Levels and Applied General. The Panel asked questions based on the provisional data and discussed phonics, attainment for Children and Young People with Educational Health and Care Plan and the different Strategies involved including a future Schools Implementation Strategy, to be shared with the Panel in the future. This item provided the Panel with an opportunity to receive information on educational achievement outcomes and ask questions in relation to the data provided. Improving educational attainment contributes to so many of the city's priorities this will therefore continue to be reviewed by the Panel moving forward.	Skilled & Creative
Children and Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	This provided the Panel with information around the age groups being tracked and monitored with targeted support allowing them to gain knowledge and access to education, employment and training opportunities that will improve life chances. Members discussed areas relating to NEET that included age ranges, care leavers, those in Elective Home Education and SEND. Highlighting these issues and understanding the processes in place is of major importance to Members in order to raise attainment throughout the city.	Skilled & Creative
SEND Strategy	The Panel received an update on the progress of the refreshed Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy, which was approved by Cabinet in November 2022. Key highlights from the Panel meeting included the importance of hearing the voice of young people and parents, the increase in the number of assessments and Educational Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) monitoring and reporting, transport, recruitment, and retention/workforce skills. The Panel recommended that training be made compulsory in the future for drivers on school transport routes for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and this was accepted by the Executive for further consideration. The Panel will also continue to monitor the outcomes from the refreshed SEND Strategy as part of their future workplan.	Skilled & Creative

<p>Post Covid - Impact on Children to include Children's Mental Health (Strategy Update)/0-3 Year Olds</p>	<p>The Panel received an overview of continuing impacts upon children and young people following the Covid pandemic. This included updates on the response from key services, particularly in the areas of Family Hubs, the early years sector, (including support from the Early Years Inclusion team), and children and young people's mental health. Areas that were highlighted during the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of support for children including School Mental Health First Aider, online support (Kooth App) and Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).</li> <li>• General Development Assessment (GDA) referrals.</li> <li>• Early Intervention funding system.</li> <li>• Social and mental health needs.</li> </ul> <p>This has provided the Panel with an opportunity to review a cohort that had been significantly impacted in recent years and better informed the Panel's understanding of the wider issues arising from the pandemic.</p>	<p>Skilled &amp; Creative</p>
<p>Youth Council representatives</p>	<p>Members welcomed the opportunity to meet with Youth Councillors and receive a presentation that covered;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities during the last year including update on Domestic Abuse Campaign</li> <li>• Cost of Living and Health Campaign</li> <li>• Eating Disorders Awareness Campaign</li> </ul>	<p>Skilled &amp; Creative</p>
<p>Briefings</p>	<p>The Panel was provided with briefings that included the transition of Children's Social Care to the Council, Stable Homes, 'Built on Love' Social Care Reform 2023 (Implementation Strategy and Consultation), SEND inspection framework and the Government Response to the SEND Green Paper.</p>	<p>Skilled &amp; Creative</p>

**Highlights and Achievements –  
Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Panel**

<b>Topic Area</b>	<b>Added Value/Impact</b>	<b>DGT Theme</b>
Section 106 Agreements	Members were provided with information on Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), which enabled them to develop a better understanding of how it was monitored, what it was used for and variations to Section 106 agreements.	Prosperous and Connected
Housing Allocations Policy Review 2022/2023	The Panel was involved from an early stage on the Housing Allocations Review 2022/2023 and considered the outcomes of the review and robustness of the extensive public and stakeholder consultation. Members were keen to understand more about the findings of the consultation process and how they had affected the housing policy and fourteen proposed changes to Doncaster Council’s Housing Allocations Policy. The Panel provided their support to the recommendations for changes to the policy.	5. Creating safer, stronger, greener & cleaner communities where everyone belongs
Housing Stock Conditions Survey 2022 (Private Sector)	Members were provided with an overview of the new Housing Stock Condition Survey 2022, which will provide the Council with evidence of current private sector housing condition. This helped provide important information to the Panel and enhanced Members’ knowledge around future issues and challenges that the Council may face.	5. Creating safer, stronger, greener & cleaner communities where everyone belongs
Economic Strategy	The Panel received the Doncaster Economic Strategy 2030. The strategy builds on the Inclusive Growth Strategy 2018-2021 and is designed to deliver on the ambitions set out in Doncaster Delivering Together and to transition towards a wellbeing economy that locally will be regenerative and inclusive. This approach focusses on good economic growth as a catalyst for improving the wellbeing of people, places, and planet. The Panel held a discussion and included consideration of the risks presented in delivering the strategy including monitoring arrangements. It was noted that the targets set for the Economic Strategy would be reported annually to the Panel.	Prosperous and Connected  Skilled and Creative
Employment: Special	The Panel had agreed that they would specifically focus on what was being done to overcome barriers and support those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	Prosperous and Connected

Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)	(SEND) into employment. A summary was provided which included relevant employment data, strategy drivers and an overview of employment provision and key strands of activity in Doncaster (delivered by the Council, partners, and the Department of Work and Pensions and Job Centre Plus locally).	Skilled and Creative
Doncaster A Great Place to Invest	The Panel was provided with an outline detailing the City Centre development and issues highlighted including connectivity to make Doncaster a central development hub, the City Centre gateway and the £24m Town Deal providing the opportunity to move forward with these proposals. An overview was provided on the funding terms that must be adhered to and the consultation undertaken in line with specific criteria including the formation of a Board which would be private sector led. The discussion also covered a number of other sites and issues across the city that included local transport networks, increasing footfall and spend in local shops (alongside changes in shopping habits) and housing in the town centre.	Prosperous and Connected
Local Plan	The Panel was provided with an update on the Doncaster Local Plan 2015-2035. The main issues addressed included Nationally Described Space Standards (NDSS), Homes and Communities, planning appeal performance, National Planning reforms and also longer-term considerations. The Panel found the update useful and will continue to receive annual updates on the Local Plan.	Prosperous and Connected
Member Briefing	In order to support Members' understanding of actions to improve Council housing stock, a briefing was provided on how St Leger Homes Doncaster (SLHD) will ensure Value for Money (VFM) and work standards on improvement programmes; Repairs Excellence phase 2.	Prosperous and Connected

<b>Highlights and Achievements – Community and Environment Scrutiny Panel</b>		
<b>Topic Area</b>	<b>Added Value/Impact</b>	
Crime and Disorder Committee	<p>As the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee, the Panel annually reviews the work of the local partnership responsible for Crime and Disorder Reduction. This year, the Panel considered the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership's performance enabling it to hold key partnership arrangements to account by questioning South Yorkshire Police and Local Authority representatives on it's priorities. The Committee's review focused on the following areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on Community Safety Strategy priorities.</li> <li>• Domestic Abuse.</li> <li>• Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy.</li> <li>• Safer Streets.</li> <li>• Impacts from the cost of living crisis on crime.</li> </ul>	<p>Safe and Resilient</p> <p>5. Creating safer, stronger, greener &amp; cleaner communities where everyone belongs</p>
Community Assets/Community Asset Transfer Review	<p>The Panel undertook a review of the Community Asset Transfer Process, over a number of evidence gathering sessions and consideration was given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The process, how it works and legal considerations.</li> <li>• Challenges and issues, including examples of good practice of Community Asset Transfers shared by Ward Members, Officers, and another Local Authority.</li> <li>• Research from Locality (a national membership network supporting local community organisations).</li> <li>• Lessons learnt.</li> </ul> <p>A number of recommendations were agreed as part of a future review of the Council's Community Lease and Asset Transfer Strategy. It was agreed all the points raised from the review would be considered and incorporated into the future review as appropriate.</p>	<p>5. Creating safer, stronger, greener &amp; cleaner communities where everyone belongs</p>



Environmental and Sustainability Strategy Action Plan 22/23 Update	The Panel received an update on activity around the Environment and Sustainability Strategy including headlines from the last 12 months and challenges for 2023. A discussion took place that included an update on the 111 Actions, Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Points, 1 Million Tree Target, Balancing Economic Development and Aspirations within the Strategy, Legislation around Waste and Recycling Rules, Supporting Businesses in this Agenda and the use of Climate Champions.	1. Tackling climate change
Environment/Climate Change and Lessons Learnt from The Summer Heat Wave	The Panel was provided with an overview of the Council's plans and arrangements for responding to the heatwave experienced in July 2022. Information was provided on how the Council helped partner agencies and the welfare arrangements in place to ensure responding staff were kept safe. It also outlined how the Council and its partners supported vulnerable residents and presented recommendations for future preparedness and response. A discussion took place that also included the provision of Water, Wildfires, High Rise Flats, Road Conditions, Role of Residents, Resources, Risk of Open Water, Animal Welfare and Air Quality.	1. Tackling climate change
Flood Planning Preparation	Over recent years the Panel has undertaken reviews into the effects of flooding across the city. As part of its overview role, Members were provided with an update on the work carried out by the Council's Flood Risk Team, the Local Authority's winter readiness arrangements and the city's overall flood risk. The challenges faced in delivering flood alleviation schemes, including funding projects, was also addressed. As fluctuations in climate change continue to be a significant issue both nationally and locally the Panel will continue to monitor the position moving forward.	Safe and Resilient  1. Tackling climate change  5. Creating safer, stronger, greener & cleaner communities where everyone belongs.
Environment (Biodiversity Net Gain - Biodiversity Offsetting)	Biodiversity Net Gain is an approach to development that seeks to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was before the development occurred. The Panel received an insight into what was taking place within the Council and in particular, looked at its bearing on planning decisions, consultation feedback, current housing developments, impact of S106 and land viability.	1. Tackling climate change

# Overview and Scrutiny Priorities for 2023/24

## **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee will:**

- Receive and monitor reviews undertaken by Panels and consider their effectiveness and impact.
- Receive quarterly finance and performance monitoring reports.
- Contribute to the Budget Process 2023/24 and beyond.
- Undertake pre-decision scrutiny of key policy issues such as Youth Justice Plan and Corporate Plan.
- Review Compliments and Complaints (DMBC/SLHD)
- Receive a Localities Update
- Consider the Equalities and Diversity Strategy
- Receive updates on Doncaster Sheffield Airport
- Consider the Assets Rationalisation and Strategy
- Receive a Cultural Strategy Update
- Consider St Leger Homes Doncaster's future priorities and services

## **Children and Young People's Panel will consider;**

- Child Poverty (overarching theme)
- Child Exploitation
- Educational Outcomes
- Youth Council
- Child Neglect
- Inclusion Update

## **Regeneration and Housing Panel will consider;**

- Local Lettings Policy
- Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Allocation Policy
- Transport
- Local Plan Annual Update
- Housing biodiversity retrofit moving towards net zero
- Update on the market and corn exchange
- Housing
- Regeneration and Economy

## **Communities and Environment Panel will consider**

- Environmental Issues including;
  - Suez Contract 2018-2026
  - Waste and Recycling – reference made to Waste Regulations
  - Biodiversity/Climate Change/Green Spaces/Air Quality Action Plan
  - Extreme Weather – flooding/heatwave
- Communities Issues including;
  - PSPO Review
  - Community Assets (Outcomes of Panels Review Recommendations) as part of Corporate Asset Policy Review
  - Future Parks/Street Scene
- As the Crime and Disorder Committee (CDC) to consider areas including;
  - Annual Update on Priorities and Performance of Safer Doncaster Partnership.

- Specific areas of focus;
  - Domestic and Sexual Abuse (Sexual Abuse Strategy being developed 2023/2024)
  - Retail Crime

**Health and Adult Social Care Panel will consider;**

- Public Health Protection Update
- Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC)
- Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA)
- Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital Trust (DBHT)
- Winter Planning
- Integrated Care Board (ICB)
  - Primary Care Access recovery plan for Doncaster area
  - Pharmacy access, demands and national position
  - Oral health to include Dentistry access, demands and national position
- Consultations from Directorates
  - Age Friendly City
  - Dementia
  - Children and Young People Health

## Contacting Overview and Scrutiny

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All reports considered at Overview and Scrutiny Panel meetings (unless exempt items) are available to the public and are published on Doncaster Council's Website.

**The Governance Services Team is happy to respond to any enquiries about the work of Overview and Scrutiny. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more about the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and the Panels' work programmes for the forthcoming year, or if you have any comments that you would like to make.**