

**TITLE OF REPORT:** Role and Remit

**REPORT OF:** Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive  
Mike Barker, Strategic Director,  
Corporate Services and Governance

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### Summary

The report sets out the remit and terms of reference of the Committee as previously agreed by the Cabinet and the Council.

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### Background

1. Article 6 of the Council's Constitution sets out the aims and objectives of the scrutiny function in Gateshead Council. In particular it should be an integral part of the Council's framework and a constructive process which works alongside other parts of the Council's structure, contributing towards policy development. Importantly it will enhance rather than duplicate activity and it will look to broader issues affecting local people rather than just internal Council issues.

### Remit/ Terms of Reference

2. Within the above principles, all Overview and Scrutiny Committees will
  - Review decisions, holding decision makers to account
  - Call - in executive decisions in accordance with the procedure set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Committee rules
  - Contribute to the policy making process
  - consider Councillor Calls for Action in line with the Council's protocol

⇒ carry out Policy reviews agreed as part of the service planning cycle

⇒ Advise Cabinet as part of the Council's performance management system

⇒ have a role in scrutinising and developing the Council's Improvement Programme

⇒ Examining the Schedule of Decisions

  - Ensure other agencies, public and private, play their part in achieving a better quality of life for Gateshead residents.

3. To perform the Overview and Scrutiny role in relation to:
  1. all the functions of the Council as a social services authority except those services provided to children and young people;
  2. health service for adults and an Overview of health services for children and young people and
  3. An overview of functions discharged under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 or any other enactment in relation to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area.

Membership: Eighteen members of the Council.

### **Recommendation**

4. The Committee is asked to note its remit and terms of reference.

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