

Select Committee Work Programme Suggested Review – Pro Forma

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Scrutinise use of vapes by young people including its prevalence in the borough, environmental impact and the related impacts on health, education and finances.

Clarify why the Directors of Public Health in Cheshire and Merseyside and the LGA are calling for a ban, and other limitations, on disposable vapes but North East Public Health Directors and FRESH are not.

Clarify the form and function of both disposable and reusable vapes.

Clarify the current position and available evidence regarding:

- The legal position re vapes relating to age of users, sales, advertising etc
- The short, medium and long term impact on the health of young people
- The impact, if any, on education of vaping
- The prevalence of use by young people in the borough/nationally
- The financial implications of use by young people
- Any information relating to vapes leading to tobacco use
- The impact of single use vapes and their often illegal disposal on the environment e.g. their collection and disposal by CFYA and the EFW facility
- The implications for Trading Standards in enforcing legislation
- Clarify the Government's position re vapes and actions taken to date/proposed actions
- The effectiveness of disposable vaping as a tobacco quit tool for adults and the implications of a ban or other limitations e.g. flavour free compared to the implications for young people in retaining the status quo

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS.
PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION.

Public interest justification:

There is growing concern by people about the impact of vaping particularly on the young and on the environment.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

Vaping has potentially serious implications relating to health, personal finances and the environment as well as concerns regarding the anti social aspects of vaping.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

The potential impact on the health, finances and education of vaping on young people has direct implications for Council services as well as the NHS. Vape sales impact on Trading Standards. Environmental impact on the Council includes issues around disposal of disposable vapes

including the health and safety of staff and impact on Council equipment and for the EFW facility. There are also issues for Enforcement Officers in policing illegal disposal of single use vapes.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

None known.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

The topic helps support the following Council priorities:

- Making the Borough a place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm
- Making the Borough a place with a thriving economy where everyone has opportunities to succeed
- Making the Borough a place that is clean, vibrant and attractive

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

Outcome

A greater more evidence based understanding of the implications of the use of vapes by young people in the borough.

Consideration as to whether the current positions taken by NE Directors of PH and FRESH are supported.

Signed:



Date: 30/7/2023

Please return to:

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PICK Priority Setting

P for Public Interest

Members' representative roles are an essential feature of Scrutiny. They are the eyes and ears of the public, ensuring that the policies, practice and services delivered to the people of the District, by both the Council and external organisations, are meeting local needs and to an acceptable standard. The concerns of local people should therefore influence the issues chosen for scrutiny. This could include current issues. For example, dignity is consistently cited as a high priority for service users (e.g. Mid Staffordshire Enquiry, care in Winterbourne hospital) and scrutiny committees are well placed to influence the agenda locally and drive forward better quality services). Members themselves will have a good knowledge of local issues and concerns. Surgeries, Parish Councils, Residents Associations and Community Groups are all sources of resident's views. Consultation and Surveys undertaken by the Council and others can also provide a wealth of information.

I for Impact

Scrutiny is about making a difference to the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area. Not all issues of concern will have equal impact on the well-being of the community and there may be issues which are important to residents but where the Council can exert little or no influence. This should be considered when deciding the programme of work, giving priority to the big issues that have most impact and where scrutiny can tangibly influence the outcome. To maximise impact, particularly when scrutinising external activity, attention should also be given to how the committee could influence policy and practice.

C for Council Performance

Scrutiny is about improving performance and ensuring the Council's customers are served well. With the abolition of external inspection regimes, scrutiny has an even more important role to play in self-regulation. Members will need good quality information to identify areas where the Council, and other external organisations, are performing poorly. Areas where performance has dropped should be our priority. As well as driving up Council performance, scrutiny also has an important role in scrutinising the efficiency and value for money of Council services and organizational development. In the current financial climate, the challenge for scrutiny is investigating whether improvements can be made within existing resources or with less resource and identify ways that demand for services can be reduced.

K for Keep in Context

To avoid duplication or wasted effort priorities should take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered. Is there another review happening or planned? Is the service about to be inspected by an external body? Are there major legislative or policy initiatives already resulting in change? If these circumstances exist Members may decide to link up with other approaches or defer a decision until the outcomes are known or conclude that the other approaches will address the issues. Reference should also be made to proposed programmes of work in the Council's plans and strategies and whether topic suggestion is in line with the Council's four policy principles.

Council Plan

All topic suggestions should be in line with the Council Plan.

Outcome

Greater weighing will be given to those suggestions where it is clear that scrutiny will make a tangible difference, can exert influence, achieve savings and reduce pressure on demand for services.

Scoring System

- **P**ublic Interest: the concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen

Score	Measure
0	no public interest
1	low public interest
2	medium public interest
3	high public interest

- **I**mpact: priority should be given to the issues which make the biggest difference to the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area

Score	Measure
0	no direct impact
1	low impact
2	medium impact
3	high impact

- **C**ouncil Performance and efficiency: priority should be given to the areas in which the Council, and other agencies, are not performing well or proposals will identify efficiencies/ savings and reduce pressure on demand for services.

Score	Measure
0	'Green' on or above target performance
1	'Amber',
2	low performance 'Red'

- **K**eep in Context: work programmes must take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort.

Score	Measure
0	Already dealt with/ not a Council/ public sector priority
1	Longer term aspiration or plan
2	Need for review acknowledged and worked planned elsewhere
3	Need for review acknowledged

In addition, extra weighting will be given to suggestions which are in line with the Council's priorities and where it is clear that scrutiny can achieve a positive outcome:

- **C**ouncil Plan Priority

Score	Measure
0	Not a Council Plan priority
1	Council Plan priority but worked planned elsewhere
2	Council Plan priority and need for review acknowledged

- **O**utcome

Score	Measure
1	Low value added
2	Medium value added
3	High value added

