

FOR INFORMATION

Briefing Note to Strategy & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee

24 September 2009

The Buckinghamshire Model

Members have asked for a short outline of the scrutiny model introduced in Buckinghamshire.

1. Buckinghamshire had a similar scrutiny structure to Oxfordshire's current one. Buckinghamshire reviewed their structure to achieve the following aims:

- Strengthen the role of members
- Agendas more member led
- Improve enthusiasm and commitment of members
- Ability to take on new tasks/issues as and when they arrive
- Quicker to organise
- Higher attendance record
- Far more flexible
- Make witnesses more at ease
- Same cost envelope as current structure, or less
- Far more mobile

2. The amended scrutiny structure in Buckinghamshire is as follows:

- Health O/S the same (mirrors ours)
- One commissioning committee (in addition to health)
- Members of the commissioning committee chair task and finish groups.
- Task and finish groups made up from lists of members
- Each task group takes an average of three months.
- All call-ins dealt with by commissioning committee.

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